

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION HELD AT GIMLI, TUESDAY, October 7th, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE EVERGREEN SUPPORT CENTRE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandra Davies (Chair), Jillian Yorga, Gladys Kohler, Penny Helgason, Amanda Mosher, Dianna Auer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Colette Banks

ADMINISTRATION: Mr. Hill, Superintendent, Mr. Moore, Secretary Treasurer

In accordance with the revised procedure by-law, all motions have a recorded vote. The recording occurs by noting on each motion those trustees opposed, abstained or absent. When no trustees are recorded it represents a unanimous vote.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

1a. **MOVED BY:** Trustee Kohler
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Mosher

That the agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING:

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2a. **MOVED BY:** Trustee Auer
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Helgason

That the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on September 23rd, 2025, be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

3. VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS:

Nicole Young, Principal of Dr. George Johnson School

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

4a. **MOVED BY:** Trustee Auer
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Mosher

That the Board approve the Superintendent's Department Reports.

CARRIED

4b. **MOVED BY:** Trustee Kohler
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Auer

That the Board accept, with regret, the resignation of Trustee Banks.

CARRIED

4c. MOVED BY: Trustee Kohler
SECONDED BY: Trustee Mosher

That the Board Chair participates in board committees as assigned for the 25-26 school year.

CARRIED

4d. MOVED BY: Trustee Yorga
SECONDED BY: Trustee Auer

That the Superintendent inquire with the provincial government about the guidelines and regulations re: vacancy on the board.

CARRIED

4e. MOVED BY: Trustee Yorga
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Helgason

That Board approve the June to September cheque listing for the operating account cheques 31639 to 31795 inclusive which total \$350,518.81 and electronic funds transfer which total \$3,156,922.02 and the electronic funds transfer from payroll account from June to September which total \$3,757,649.03.

CARRIED

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

5a. MOVED BY: Trustee Yorga
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Helgason

Motion that the MSBA region 3 resolutions and topics be reviewed at Board Planning and placed on the agenda for the regular board meeting on October 21st.

CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION PACKAGE:

6a. MOVED BY: Trustee Mosher
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Kohler

That the Correspondence & Information Package be received.

CARRIED

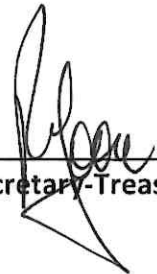
7. ADJOURNMENT:

7a. MOVED BY: Trustee Auer

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

CARRIED


Chairperson


Secretary-Treasurer

Superintendent's Report to the Board – October 21, 2025

5.1 Superintendent Report

1. **Presentation: Gibby Finnbogason, Buildings Supervisor; Brad Harding, ACI Principal; Erin Furgala, RCI Principal; Jamie Gilbert, GHS Principal**

The board will hear an update on the restructuring – moving grades 7 and 8 to the high schools. Mr. Finnbogason will talk about the physical changes to buildings across the division and the principals will talk about the student and programming experience.

2. **School visits**

It was a pleasure to accompany the trustees on a tour of our high schools last week. We were able to see the facilities and also watch teaching and learning in action. It was great to see teachers practicing the *My Evergreen Classroom* strategies – choral response, show me boards, cold-call, and turn & talks. In our debrief we talked about examples of calm, structured classroom environments in which it is clear that student learning is the priority.

3. **Continuous Improvement Report – Preview (recently appeared on our 'socials')**

☀️ Instructional Leadership That Makes a Difference

The biggest driver of student success? Great teaching. And in Evergreen, we're growing instructional leadership at every level.

In 2024–2025, we saw:

- 👤 All school leaders trained in updated “My Evergreen Classroom” strategies
- 🧠 83% of principals and division leaders in Steplab Ambassador Training
- 📅 Over 35% of professional staff attended highly regarded education conferences
- 📅 Four division-wide PD days focused on lesson design and student participation

We also launched:

- 👤 Teacher walkthroughs & coaching aligned to Rosenshine's Principles
- 👤 Leadership Development Program (15% of teachers joined!)
- 👤 Summer onboarding for 9 new hires in Evergreen's instructional model

This isn't surface-level change—it's cultural transformation.

Great teaching, every day, in every classroom. That's the Evergreen promise.

👤 Learn more about the vision for education in Evergreen. Listen here:

👉 Chalk & Talk | Anna Stokke

#InstructionalLeadership #EvergreenEight #ProfessionalGrowth #EvergreenCulture

4. **Principals, Jessica Worden, and I conducted our 2nd School Walkthrough of the year at SSES last week.**

Here is an excerpt from the email I sent to teaching staff following our walkthrough:

“Your commitment to inclusive practice was evident throughout, and one technique that especially stood out was the subject of your current focus: choral response. It was inspiring to

see how this strategy is being implemented with such clarity and purpose.

We observed teachers modelling responses and using clear cues to signal when and how students should respond.

Lessons moved with great pace, keeping students engaged and focused, and we appreciated how teachers checked for understanding and provided corrective feedback to reinforce learning.

*It was clear that **100% participation** was the expectation—and the result—in your classrooms.*

It was awesome to see My Evergreen Classroom in action at SSES again today.

These practices not only strengthen recall and fluency but also build a classroom culture where every student feels seen and heard.”

As you know, we now combine the walk-through and the Principal PLC meeting. At each of these sessions this year, we:

- Hear from the host Principal about recently established goals and priorities for instructional leadership.
- Walk through classrooms to observe examples of *My Evergreen Classroom Strategies* / Rosenshine’s *Principles of Instruction* in action.
- Collaboratively debrief our observations.
- Hear from the Principal about planned next steps for their instructional leadership.
- One principal takes the lead on a collaborative protocol re: a challenge / problem of practice with instructional leadership – all members of the group participate to share divergent thinking to help imagine possible next steps, while reflecting on implications for each member’s own practice.
- Share school planning updates

Address topics for group decision-making or for clarifying direction.

Following the September meeting at GHS, I gathered all Principals to share a reflection on that first meeting to highlight all the component parts that went just as they should go in order that we keep our momentum as a team – collaborating and learning together, while upholding our commitments to one another.

5. Early Dismissals – October 10

On Friday, October 10 our schools held their first early dismissals of the year. This year, Principals will ensure that training and support is provided to teachers re: My Evergreen Classroom strategies at early dismissals, along with check-ins on progress in between early dismissals at other staff meetings. Division office staff, including clinicians, consultants, director and Superintendent attend at different schools throughout the school division and may collaborate with the Principal to facilitate this professional learning. This shift toward partial day professional learning helps us provide experiences that are ‘chunked’ and sustained over time, rather than counting on full days to address topics, which risks creating a sense of cognitive overload for learners.

6. Student Services Teacher Training

On Monday, Oct. 19, Jessica hosted training for Student Services teacher representatives from each school. As you know, Student Services Teacher is a new position description and so we are providing support as individuals adjust to the newer job description. These sessions also build on clinician team sessions that occur in each school – bringing the full division team to work collaboratively with school student services teams to support student services programming in

each school.

Jess Worden recently hosted a Student Services Administrator from another school division in our region who was encouraged by department staff to come to Evergreen to learn about our work, following the most recent Student Services programming review by MEECL (Dept of Ed).

7. What's challenging us?

At this time of year, we're facing some challenges with substitute teacher availability. There are many factors and considerations in contemplating this challenge and we continue to work on ways to support teacher leaves while also supporting continuity of programming for students.

8. Pre-Kindergarten Wellness Sessions

We've concluded our wellness sessions in each community for Pre-Kindergarten students. Jessica Worden will share a summary of how this strategy is evolving, and the benefits it provides to children, families and our schools.

9. Upcoming / Recent Meetings

Research Ed Halifax – our division will be represented next weekend at Research Ed Canada event in Halifax and presenting on our work. As you know, the investment in high calibre teacher professional learning has shown clear and significant benefits in our classrooms and in galvanizing a collaborative culture of continuous improvement.

Manitoba Right to Read Release Oct. 30

<https://dyslexiacanada.org/en/events/manitoba-right-to-read-release-event>

Secretary Treasurer Report
Oct 21st, 2025

Meetings / Correspondence

- MASBO Secretary Treasurer Monthly Meeting
- Auditors
- Board Meetings – Board Development, PR & Advocacy and Board Planning Session
- Department Meetings