

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION HELD AT GIMLI, TUESDAY, March 24th, 2026, 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:

ADMINISTRATION: Mr. Hill, Superintendent, Ms. Worden, Director of Programs and Student Services, 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 Helgason

Motion 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 Mosher

Motion that the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 10th, 2026, be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

3. VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS:

- Dr. Zach Groshell – Leadership Development

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

4a. MOVED BY: Trustee Yorga
SECONDED BY: Trustee Kohler

Motion that the Board approve the Superintendent's Department Reports.

CARRIED

4b. MOVED BY: Trustee Auer
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Helgason

Motion that the board approve the February cheque listing for the operating account cheques 31980 to 31999 inclusive which total \$64,617.61 and electronic funds transfer which total \$588,067.82 and the electronic funds transfer from payroll account in December which total \$1,092,081.70 be approved.

CARRIED

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

Motion that the Board approve the 2026-27 School Bus Order which totals \$404,603.36.

CARRIED

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

Motion that the Board approve the Second and Third reading of Borrowing By-Law 1/25.

CARRIED

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

Motion that the Board Chair contact Manitoba Premier, Minister of Education and other Ministers to invite them to Evergreen School Division to view our schools and programs.

CARRIED

4f. MOVED BY: Trustee Mosher
 SECONDED BY: Trustee Yorga

Motion that the Board approve Promissory Note LTPS0867 for \$120,000. for Dr George Johnson Middle School Ventilator Upgrade and Gimli High School Roof Replacement.

CARRIED

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE of the WHOLE BOARD RECOMMENDATION

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

Motion from Board to indicate show of support for FTE Reduction Request from Employee 14640.

CARRIED

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMENDATION

5b. MOVED BY: Trustee Yorga
SECONDED BY: Trustee Auer

Motion that the Board approve the 2026-27 Budget as presented at the March 10, 2026 Board Meeting.

CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION PACKAGE:

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

Motion that the Correspondence & Information Package be received.

CARRIED

6b. MOVED BY: Trustee Davies
SECONDED BY: Trustee Auer

Motion that Trustees are asked to attend April 23, 2026 or September 8, 2026 Treaty Training.

CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT:

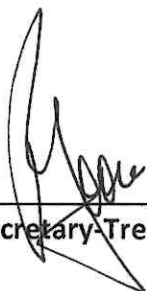
7a. MOVED BY: Trustee Mosher

Motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

CARRIED



Chairperson



Secretary-Treasurer

Superintendent's Report to the Board – March 24, 2026

5.1 Superintendent Report

1. **Presentation: Dr. Zach Groshell, Instructional Coach, Author, Podcast Host...**

2. **Budget 2026-2027**

Highlight: In my view, the highlight of this budget is the board's support to create equitable non-contact time for K-6 teachers. Our K-6 teachers will now have similar non-contact time as our high school teachers which will facilitate time for planning, collaboration, assessment & diagnostics, providing additional support to students and colleagues – these are just some examples of all the amazing things that our teachers do to ensure that kids can experience the best possible context for teaching and learning. Supporting an investment such as this, on top of the significant investments already added related to single-grade classrooms, smaller class sizes, full time kindergarten and the purchase of a significant array of teaching resources, says everything one needs to know about the division's commitment to elementary years education. Every teacher wants to be at their best for students and colleagues, and this investment will help provide support to our teachers as they continue to embrace *My Evergreen Classroom* and our education plan priorities. Additionally, this investment also means an increase in programming for K-6 students in areas such as music / arts / physical education. I'm grateful for the board's support of these investments which will improve the learning context for our youngest students!

3. **Manitoba School Boards Association Convention / Annual General Meeting**

It was a pleasure to join the Board at the annual general meeting of the MSBA. Every year this event reinforces my appreciation for the opportunity to lead in Evergreen. Our board continues to set a shining example for boards in this province in ways that may not be obvious to our staff and our families. At this convention, the MSBA passed a resolution which established its first ever Statement of Integrity to guide the conduct of boards across our province – the President of MSBA acknowledged that this resolution came from your advocacy work. As you know, your aim, and the effect of this resolution will be to help safeguard respect, equity and fairness for staff, students, and communities across the province, and especially for those from equity-deserving groups. Another highlight was Trustee Helgason being elected to the provincial executive of MSBA as Region 3 Director. In her speech and responses to elector questions, Penny highlighted her history of advocacy, and her unwavering commitment to ensuring safety and respect for human diversity. As you know it was also wonderful to see 4 of our trustees acknowledged for many years of service to public education: 12 years- Penny Helgason; 16 years- Dianna Auer and Sandra Davies; 30 years! – Gladys Kohler.

Finally, it was great to hear the positive comments offered by the Minister to our Board Chair in reflecting on the Minister's recent visit to our schools. I know we are eager to take her up on the offer to invite her back with the Premier to learn more about our innovative approaches!

4. **Visit from Zach Groshell, and hosting guests from around the province**

As part of our residency with Zach, we've offered educators some no-fee professional development to learn more about direct and explicit instruction on Wednesday of this week and to visit some of our classrooms on Thursday morning. We feel that everyone stands to benefit when we share our learning and invite collaboration and participation from across the province. [High-Yield Instructional Strategies to Improve Student Learning](#)

5. Signal Education Presentation

On Monday night, a team of Evergreen staff participated in an online panel discussion highlighting our efforts to improve outcomes in literacy. <https://sites.google.com/view/signalresearch/events> I was honoured to be joined by staff who stayed after hours in order to participate on our panel: Crystal MacDonald, Principal of SSES; Kim Angus, Interventions Teacher at DGJS; Kelly Croy, Student Services Teacher at DGJS; Kelly Milne, Indigenous Education Consultant; Della Magnusson, Literacy & Numeracy Consultant; Britney Morrish, SLP; Jessica Worden, Director of Programs and Student Services.

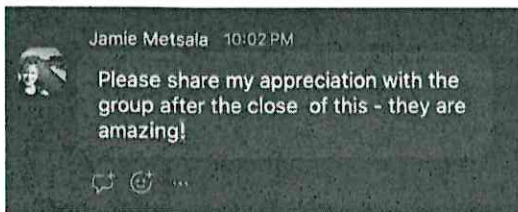
Thanks also to some staff and trustees who joined online to support us!

Dr. Jeanne Sinclair co-hosted the panel discussion, and shared the following examples of some early feedback this morning:

From the NL Deputy Minister of Education: *Thanks Jeanne, great session.*

From a curriculum leader in the NL government: *That was absolutely incredible! My phone was blowing up nonstop with people cheering! You could not have selected questions [that better] resonated with NL and current conversations. Incredible- just incredible!!*

From Jamie Metsala, co-author of the Ontario Right to Read Report:



From a NL school principal during Kelly Milne's part: ***Much respect to you Kelly - Thank you so so much.***

From a district-level instructional leader in Ontario: *The panel talk was incredible! It was like a bountiful strategy harvest for how to change practice system-wide. Congratulations to the team!*

From a reading specialist in NL: *The panel discussion last night was great! Congratulations to all involved! What a wonderful first event for Signal Education Research Network. The panellists all did a wonderful job relaying their experiences. I hope their messages resonated with those in the audience who really needed to hear them. I was looking through the attendees' list during the presentation and saw several names from the department/district. There should have been more, though, in my opinion.*

It was valuable to hear about the experiences. NL is right in the middle of this now, and the points they made about working together, having shared language, and working towards a common goal are the missing link, I think.

I wish everyone working in NL (K-6 and department, especially) could hear the presentation. I know they CAN. I guess it's more that I wish they were willing. There was so much to relate to. So many points were directly relevant to what we are going through.

Please pass along my congratulations and thanks to all involved. I'm glad they were willing to share their stories.

From an attendee: Your division is just an incredible change maker- honest - looking after every child - you give me hope that people can care and help every child to be a success! Thank you for getting back to teaching with intent!

6. Leadership Development Sessions

Last week we hosted a Leadership Development session after school for participants – one in the north and one in the south. Zach coached each group through demonstrations and rehearsals related to our My Evergreen Classroom documents. We continue to build capacity to support a highly professional culture of peer coaching among our staff. Thanks to all of our participants who continue to 'show up' even on their own time for this professional development series.

- 7. Early Dismissal** – On March 18, our principals joined an online session with Rachel Sewell of StepLab to help support preparation for the next early dismissal session, which is scheduled for April 24. These early dismissals have been integral to our efforts to support PD for teachers with our My Evergreen Classroom document and to build instructional leadership capacity.

Secretary Treasurer Report – Mar 24th 2026

2026-27 Budget

Motion: That the Board approve the 2026-27 Budget as presented.

Borrowing By-Law 1/25

Motion: That the Board approve the Second and Third reading of Borrowing By-Law 1/25

Promissory Note LTPS0867

Motion: That the Board approve Promissory Note LTPS0867 of \$120,000 for Dr George Johnson Middle School Ventilator Upgrade and Gimli High School Roof Replacement.

2026-27 School Bus Purchase

School Bus Order for 2026-27 School Year includes the following:

- 77 Seat – Wheel Chair Bus Purchase for \$239,729.28
- 34 Seat Bus Purchase for \$164,874.08

Motion: That the Board approve the 2026-27 School Bus Order which totals \$404,603.36.

February Financials

Provided on a separate document.

Cheques

Please find February payment recap:

Cheque listing for the operating account cheques 31980 to 31999 inclusive which total \$64,617.61 and electronic funds transfer which total \$588,067.82 and the electronic funds transfer from payroll account in February which total \$1,092,081.70.

Motion: That the Board approve cheque listing for the operating account cheques 31980 to 31999 inclusive which total \$64,617.61 and electronic funds transfer which total \$588,067.82 and the electronic funds transfer from payroll account in February which total \$1,092,081.70.

Accounts Receivable

As of February 28, 2026 ESD had accounts receivable outstanding of \$28,198.78. These have been analyzed and are deemed collectible.

Meetings / Correspondence

- Riverton Daycare
- Provincial Meeting to discuss Mar 31 Reporting
- MSBA AGM
- Division Meetings – Operations and Transportation