



September 17, 2024 Regular Meeting

**EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
6:30 PM – Division Office**

5:30 In-Camera

6:30 Regular Meeting

1. READING OF TREATY LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"We acknowledge the traditional territory Evergreen School Division resides upon as Treaty One and Treaty Two territory and the Homeland of the Red River Metis.

We honour our partnership with Indigenous peoples and respect the gifts of history, culture and language of the original peoples. We commit to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous peoples and communities in a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation."

2. READING OF VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Vision

Learning today to improve tomorrow.

Mission

Evergreen School Division will engage students in learning to become contributing

citizens of a democratic society.

3. WELCOME TO GUESTS

4. AGENDA

4.1 Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: That the agenda be adopted as distributed.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST BOARD MEETING

5.1 Reading

5.2 Omissions and Errors

5.3 Adoption of Minutes

- a) Minutes from the Regular Meeting held September 3, 2024

Motion: That the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on September 3, 2024, be adopted as distributed.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS

6.1 Superintendent Report

- PD for Principals - Casey Sovo
- Residency Model - Structured Literacy

a) Staffing Reports

- Professional
- Support
- Operations

6.2 Timed item: Presentations

6.3 Secretary-Treasurer Report

Motion: That the Board approve the Superintendent's Department Reports.

Motion: That the Board approve the MONTH cheque listing for the operating account cheques ___ to ___ inclusive which total \$_____ and electronic funds transfer which total \$_____ and the electronic funds transfer from payroll account for MONTH which total \$_____.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Committee of the Whole Board (In-Camera)

Motion: That the Board approve the In-Camera recommendations.

- 7.2 Education Committee of the Whole Board
- 7.3 Finance Committee of the Whole Board
- 7.4 Board Development Committee
- 7.5 Audit Committee
- 7.6 Negotiations Committee
- 7.7 Advocacy and Public Relations Committee
- 7.8 Policy Committee
- 7.9 Scholarship Committee
- 7.10 Ad Hoc Committee Reports
- 7.11 Trustee Reports/Motions for Consideration

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION PACKAGE

a) MSBA

- i. Reminder - 2025 Call for Nominations & Resolutions
- ii. Learning Opportunities Calendar 2024-2025
- iii. MSBA Correspondence to Government
- iv. E-News - September 11, 2024

b) Media

c) Manitoba Education Correspondence

Motion: That the Correspondence and Information Package be received.

9. TRUSTEE SOUND-BITES

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at xx pm.

11. AVAILABILITY FOR QUESTIONS

Superintendent Report to the Board
September 17, 2024

5.1 Superintendent Report

- **September 3rd – Opening Day**

We welcomed Cadmus Delorme and Dianne Cross to our opening day gathering, and an impressive breakfast was provided by the Riverton & District Friendship Centre. We've received very positive feedback from this event. In our afternoon sessions, school staff completed their provincial requirement for Treaty Training (we are ahead of schedule relative to the provincial deadline for this), and other employee groups had role-specific training. With treaty training complete, we will likely return to role-specific training on the first day next year, as we move forward with our end-of-year celebration and employee recognition evening as an opportunity for all staff to be together.

- **September 4th**

On this "day before classes begin," school staff prepare for student arrival, have their initial staff meetings to review plans & procedures, and also receive URIS (United Referral and Intake System) training. Additionally, we offered some online Professional Learning for teachers in our school division who are piloting "JUMP Math," an evidence-based program to support math instruction, in Grades 7 & 8 (<https://jumpmath.org/ca/>). Operations staff receive role-specific training and prepare for our first day with students.

- **Provincial Collective Agreement – Teachers**

On September 6, Ron and I, along with Trustees Mosher and Davies, attended a walk-through of the new provincial contract with teachers, hosted by MSBA. There are many features that will require additional study and review in order to determine the impact on our practices and procedures. I submitted several questions to the MSBA contact seeking clarification on the implementation of specific clauses and am looking forward to a response.

A few important highlights from the new contract that I find interesting, and/or that will require some adjustments to our practice and procedures:

- No significant change re: **Prep time**; no required adjustment this year; only a minor adjustment required to formal prep time next year, though this will likely require a change to how we timetable the school day.
- Several school divisions would have had a '**multi-grade allowance**' in their contracts which provided additional salary for teachers in a multi-grade context. There is no such allowance in the new provincial contract.
- **Term contracts** – there is a more granular process for hiring term contracts that may present some challenges in staffing
- **Principal Time** – this clause may affect our assignment of Principals and VPs next year.
- **Extra Curricular Leave** – opportunity for additional paid leave time for teachers as well as an opportunity to combine hours across two school years to earn leave time.
- **Religious Holy Leave and Indigenous Ceremonial Leave** are both confirmed as paid leave possibilities in the new contract.
- **Summer work and PD in the summer** may constitute a need for us to change our practice, as these are now tied to a higher threshold of 'in lieu' paid leave time.

- Several paid leave scenarios are now formally articulated as pending the availability of a substitute – divisions must create procedures that will determine related processes.
- **Transfer Process** for teachers and Principals is outlined with additional clarity.
- **55 Minute meal period** – this may require some adjustments to school timetables next year.

I am uncertain, at this stage, what the impact of the new collective agreement, or any potential change in the labour relations climate related to a provincial agreement, might mean for some of our practices related to the school calendar and days that close conference periods, and days that close schools just before the winter break and just before the summer break.

- **Interview with Anna Stokke for Chalk & Talk Podcast**

An interview that I did on this podcast was published on Friday, September 13th. I was proud to share the efforts of our school division in implementing our Education Plan priorities related to student achievement & well-being, indigenous education, and instructional leadership. I also spoke a little bit about cell phones, student behaviour, and the goals of public education.

- **Assistant Principals / Leadership Development Cohort**

On Sept 10, I hosted the first of six evening sessions with our “largest ever” Leadership Development Cohort, which includes VPs, APs, and teachers.

I taught the group a little bit about School Division Governance and our policy / procedures, and we spent some time discussing our mission, vision, and values.

We also discussed some of the ‘in-between’ spaces / tensions that are relevant to some challenges that face schools. These in-between spaces include:

- Public / Private
- Past / Future
- Collective / Individual
- Childhood / Adulthood

We have an impressive group of teacher-leaders in our school division and this process should build capacity, broaden engagement, contribute to a spirit of collaboration and teamwork, and put the division in good stead regarding succession planning. The future is bright for Evergreen!

- **Principal Mtg / PLC**

At our first meeting of Principals, we debriefed each school’s opening day gatherings and reflected on how these gatherings variously helped lay the groundwork for principals to move forward with their respective instructional leadership goals. We also welcomed Ron Moore for some operations and finance items, and Morgan Whiteway from MSBA to discuss supervision and evaluation.

A special online professional development session featured Mr. Casey Sovo, Education Program Director from the Bureau of Indian Education, Belcourt / Turtle Mountain, North Dakota. Mr. Sovo used the 7 sacred teachings as a framework for sharing the importance of evidence-based reading practices, direct instruction, and a tiered system of supports (RTI / MTSS) in meeting the moral imperative of improving student achievement & well-being. His story, lens, and references resonate with the work we’re doing through our education plan and we look forward to future opportunities to connect with Mr. Sovo and the work in his communities.

- **Open Houses**

I attended the open houses at Riverton Early Middle School on the 13th of September along with Ron Moore and Trustees Mosher and Yorga, and at Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School on the 16th of September along with Ron Moore and Trustees...

- **SISA** – I attended the regional meeting of Superintendents on September 14th

Secretary Treasurer Report
Sep 17th, 2024

GHS Donation

Contacted one of the donors and scheduling a date and time to meet and discuss the donation.

Change in Bank Signors

Additional change in signors for bank accounts.

Motion to Change Bank Signor at AEMS

Motion to modify Bank Signors at Access Credit Union for Arborg Early Middle School Bank Account, to add Jessica Vandersteen. The other named individual(s) on the account would retain their current status.

Motion to Change Bank Signor for Evergreen School Division

Motion to modify Bank Signors at Access Credit Union for Evergreen School Division Bank Account, to remove Diana Auer and remove Colette Banks and add Sanda Davies and add Jillian Yorga. The other named individual(s) on the account would retain their current status.

Meetings / Correspondence

- MASBO Secretary Treasurer Meeting to discuss MTS agreement
- GHS Donor
- REMS Open House
- SSES Open House
- Existing and New Auditors