

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE GREATER ST. ALBERT ROMAN CATHOLIC  
SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION  
HELD on MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024 at 2:00 P.M.  
Meeting Held at the Division Services Centre  
St. Albert, AB**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT** Trustees Becigneul, Proulx, Radford, Schell, Shaw, Tremblay, and Yeomans

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT**

C. Moroziuk, superintendent; C. Giesbrecht, assistant superintendent; J. Dumont, assistant superintendent; I. Paulik, secretary-treasurer; S. Cunningham, manager – community engagement and communications (Recorder)

**OTHERS PRESENT** None

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Yeomans called the meeting to order at **2:00 p.m.**

**IN-CAMERA**

**01/25** **Trustee Shaw:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees move-in of camera at 2:00 p.m.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**OUT Of CAMERA**

**02/25** **Trustee Becigneul:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees move out of camera at 3:14 p.m. Meeting started at 3:30 p.m.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**Trustee Tremblay** offered the Opening Prayer.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We honour the spirit of the land, the land that has sustained us all since time immemorial. We acknowledge that we are gathering on Treaty 6 territory, meeting grounds and gathering place of the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene and Nakota Sioux, and the homeland of the Métis people of Alberta. We acknowledge, honour, and respect the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

Together we call upon all peoples to build a stronger understanding of those who dwell on this land we call home. The recognition of our collective histories on this land is a Meaningful act of reconciliation. We honour those who walk with us - we are all Treaty people.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**03/25** **Trustee Becigneul:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS**

No presentations

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES & SUMMARIES**

**04/25**                      **Trustee Radford:**    **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Board Organizational Meeting held on June 24, 2024, as circulated or as circulated and amended.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**05/25**                      **Trustee Proulx:**     **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 24, 2024, as circulated.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE & EVENT REPORTS**

No reports.

**GOOD NEWS**

No good news to report (first meeting of the year).

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Reader – explanation as to why these are here??**

1. Division requested a ministerial exemption on the maximum operating reserve limit from the province. They listed where they had earmarked that money, but what was not listed was helping support staff who have not seen a wage increase in over eight years. Will the trustees now commit to using reserve money to withdraw their two-tiered wage proposal and give all support staff an increase?

2. In the division's overall summary, GSACRD scores declined. In particular, there was a decline in Education Quality and Access to Supports and Services. How will hiring new support staff at as much as 10% less than existing support staff reverse these trends? How will hiring less experienced and dedicated staff impact these scores?

3. The Education Measurers report listed the measure of Studies for at Risk Students as intermediate. The report also listed this measure as experiencing "significant decline." How will hiring new EAs at 10% less pay impact these scores? Does the board think that this decline is related to not offering EAs a pay raise in over eight years? How will recruiting less qualified staff impact these scores?

4. Your 03 statement outlines that money was saved to the delayed hiring of staff and the timing around paying their benefits (CPP and EI). Will the division consider investing those savings that were meant to go to employees back into their frontline employees?

5. The Q3 update indicated that the division received extra savings due to high interest rates on their investments. Those savings were applied to new windows and doors and a parking

lot expansion at Division Office. Why didn't the division look at applying those savings to staff struggling from the inflation crisis driven by high interest rates?

6. Reviewing the previous board minutes, it appears trustees voted unanimously on approving a supplier for new furniture and equipment for the Division Office. Why was this expense not deferred so that support staff working with vulnerable children could get paid a living wage?

7. The school board voted to move \$1.6 million from their surplus to capital expenditures. And, we've noticed extensive renovations to the Division Office. Why did the board drain their surplus funds when they should have maintained surplus funds if wage increases were negotiated during the collective bargaining process?

8. The division has told support staff that we make too much money. We were told that there wasn't enough money to reverse the division's proposal to give new EAs a 10% pay cut. If that is the case why then have trustees found the money to give themselves a raise every year since 2020?

9. The School Division negotiated a two-tier agreement with UNIFOR where new employees now receive a pay cut of up to 10%. How has the school board allocated these savings?

10. The most recent collective agreement expired in August 2022. Why didn't the school board start budgeting for a wage increase for support staff? Or, was the intent all along to decrease wages?

11. In the 2023-2026 Board Strategic Plan, GSACRD lists as an external concern, the increasing competition for students due to new types of educational platforms and charter schools. How will this impact student enrolment, with GSACRD wages for new employees no longer as competitive with those in the area?

12. In the Boards 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, the board lists as an internal challenge that there are challenges with the recruitment and retention of teachers and staff. How will cutting wages for new EAs by 10% impact this challenge? How will recruitment challenges impact students and their families?

13. In the Board's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, the board lists as a threat that enrollment trends are flat or declining, particularly in Jr. and Sr. High. How will cutting wages for new support staff help the board impact this trend?

14. The Division's position at bargaining with Local 2550 is being guided by the provincial wage mandate. Where does the division predict savings achieved through the provincial wage mandate will be spent?

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

06/25

**Trustee Shaw:** THAT the Board of Trustees approve the use of the following locally developed courses:

- Filipino Language and Culture 3Y 15
- Filipino Language and Culture 3Y 25
- Filipino Language and Culture 3Y 35
- Hide Preparation and Tanning 15
- Musical Theatre 15 – 3 and 5 credits
- Musical Theatre 25 – 3 and 5 credits
- Musical Theatre 35 – 3 and 5 credits
- Tipi Making (Elder Chronicles) 15

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Board Policy Review Schedule**

07/25

**Trustee Becigneul:** THAT the Board of Trustees approve the 2024-2025 Board Policy Review Schedule as presented.

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**2024-2025 Board Monitoring Calendar**

08/25

**Trustee Radford:** THAT the Board of Trustees approve the 2024-2025 Board Monitoring Calendar as presented.

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**Laura Bird Memorial Beacon of Hope Award Recipient Name**

09/25

**Trustee Shaw:** THAT the Board of Trustees confirm the selection of Trish Lema as the recipient of the 2024 Laura Bird Memorial Beacon of Hope award that was presented on August 26, 2024.

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**Catholic Education Sunday**

10/25

**Trustee Becigneul:** THAT the Board of Trustees direct administration to organize for Catholic Education Sunday as discussed.

**CARRIED (7/7)**

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Report from the Chair**

The Board Chair provided a verbal report

**Report from the Superintendent**

Information updates from the Administration included the following items:

- Student use of personal mobile devices and social media update.

**11/25**                            **Trustee Proulx:         THAT** the Board of Trustees receive the superintendent’s report as information.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**12/25**                            **Trustee Tremblay:     THAT** the Board of Trustees receive the Public Engagement Highlights Report as information.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**CLARIFICATION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC AND MEDIA**

- Questions were asked regarding how the new cell phone and social media policies would impact support staff while working with vulnerable students. Dr. Moroziuk replied and read aloud information from Administrative Procedure 325 – Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media.

**TRUSTEE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

No information was requested.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Trustee Tremblay:** offered the closing prayer.

**IN-CAMERA**

**13/25**                            **Trustee Schell:        THAT** the Board of Trustees move-in of camera at 4:28 p.m.  
**CARRIED (7/7)**

**\*Trustee Schell left the meeting at 5:25 pm.**

**OUT Of CAMERA**

**14/25**                            **Trustee Becigneul:    THAT** the Board of Trustees move out of camera at 5:45 p.m.  
**CARRIED (6/6)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**15/25**                            **Trustee Tremblay:    THAT** the Board of Trustees adjourn the regular board meeting at 5:46 p.m.  
**CARRIED (6/6)**

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Secretary-Treasurer

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Chair