

**Prairie Rose School Division No. 8  
Regular Board Meeting**

**MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 12, 2010**

043

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**Present:** M. Peers - Chair, G. Westgard - Vice Chair, K. Cooper, P. Heller, A. Frank, G. Dennis, S. Angle, B. Wickens, D. Nicholls - Superintendent, B. Andjelic - D. Superintendent, B. Volkman - A. Superintendent, P. Cocks - Secretary-Treasurer, A. Baron - Communications

**Media:** J. Rieger - C. Courier, M. McKinnon - The Lounge

**Other:** M. Gogolinski

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**1. Call to Order**

M. Peers called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Additions to the Agenda:

7.1 Speak Out – Year in Review

Moved by S. Angle that the October 12, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED (2010- 80)**

**2. Approval of the Minutes**

2.1 Regular Board Meeting – September 14, 2010

Changes to the Minutes:

- Trustee Reports – Pancake breakfast was held at Senator Gershaw and not Burdett School
- Page 038 – Last Paragraph, last sentence deleted.

Moved by P. Heller that the September 14, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Minutes be approved as amended.

**CARRIED (2010- 81)**

### 3. Monitoring

#### 3.1 Trustee Reports

G. Westgard reported that it has been a good start to the year for all schools in her jurisdiction.

S. Angle reported on the Gershaw and Burdett school council meetings. Senator Gershaw School is using a new school photo company this year. The photos are available on the web for parents and the best shot can be selected. The school will be holding a fundraising fair this year instead of following the old fundraising model.

B. Wickens recently attended the Redcliff school council meetings.

G. Dennis reported that Seven Persons School held their back to school barbeque which was once again a great success, despite the weather. Also, the school has created a facebook group containing outgoing school information only. Ralston's first school council meeting will be held on Monday October 18, 2010.

A. Frank reported on a recent joint school council meeting in Redcliff. The main topic of discussion during the meeting was the ongoing busing issue in the community. It was also noted that IF Cox school has received a couple of grants recently... one of which is an arts grant and the other a \$10,000 Hellman's grant that will go towards a healthy eating program in the school. Also, a ten month pilot project is underway at IF Cox School through *Setting the Direction*.

P. Heller shared that she had recently attended the Irvine pancake breakfast. The event was well attended. Eagle Butte School produced their own yearbook last year instead of contracting the project out to a company. The cost was lower and there was more color compared to past years. The book was passed around for the Board to review. The Eagle Butte awards day previously scheduled for October 8, 2010, was moved due to November 5, 2010, due to the recent passing of a popular school teacher.

K. Cooper announced that the Foremost School is planning a large trip this year and that the recent school council meeting was well attended. She continues to have many inquiries regarding bussing in the area.

M. Peers reported that Oyen Public School is having trouble finding someone to take over on the executive. Warren Peers School is still dealing with basement clean-up issues.

3.2 Rutherford / RAP Scholarships

B. Volkman shared the 2009-2010 Rutherford Scholarship results. 93 out of 240 Prairie Rose students who applied received the scholarship for a total of \$172,000.

3.3 Enrollment Update

P. Cocks shared the 2010-2011 enrollment numbers with the board. New October figures show that the division has 26 students more than earlier projected. Still, the overall number of students within the division continues to decline gradually. On the kindergarten side the number of students is down partially this year by 6.15%.

**4. Action Items**

4.1 Early Childhood Development Project

B. Andjelic explained that kindergarten teachers are being asked to look at individual students in a number of areas and by using EDI technology share that information with the province. A number of divisions are already involved and it would be important for Prairie Rose to get on board. This requires additional substitute teacher time which will be covered by the province. Filling out the information for each student takes anywhere from 20-30 minutes.

Moved by G. Westgard that the Board approve the Division's participation in Alberta Education's ECD Mapping Initiative research project.

**CARRIED (2010- 82)**

4.2 Transportation Appeal – Seven Persons Bus Routes

P. Cocks provided an overview of the appeal meeting for information. Due to time restrictions, a decision on the appeal was made at the meeting and is now being brought forward for ratification. The request asked for a bus route change in the Manyberries area that would result in a child being picked up and dropped off at an earlier time.

A. Frank moved that the Board ratify its decision of September 28, 2010 to deny a request by a Seven Persons area parent to alter bus routes 406 and 417.

**CARRIED (2010- 83)**

4.3 Attendance Area Appeal – Foremost to Burdett

P. Cocks explained that the division had received a request from a family who lives in the Foremost attendance area to have a route extended so that the bus could pick up their children and drive them to the Mennonite Program at Burdett School. The family is currently meeting a bus in the Burdett attendance area. D. Nicholls explained that any route change affects the transportation budget... an area many rural school divisions are having trouble balancing due to increased costs and lower populations.

Moved by A. Frank that a request for transportation services from the Foremost attendance area to Burdett School be denied.

**CARRIED (2010- 84)**

4.4 Sale of Teacherage Rental Unit F2

P. Cocks explained that the unit was put for sale through a sealed bid process. Only one bid was received for \$36,001.50. It was recommended that the bid be accepted. Some concern was raised about the fact that the bid was much lower than the initial appraisals that were conducted on the unit a few years ago. It was explained that the division already has another unit in the community that has been up for sale through a realtor and has not seen any movement, which could indicate that the market has changed. There is some concern that selling the unit at such a low price could create a larger problem for the Foremost housing market.

Moved by G. Westgard that the Board accept the bid on teacherage rental unit F2 located at 407 -1<sup>st</sup> Street, Foremost, as presented.

**CARRIED (2010- 85)**

4.5 Policy GP#19 – Student / Board Advisory Committee

P. Cocks brought forward the drafted Student / Board Advisory Committee policy. K. Cooper suggested that it would be beneficial to ensure that schools from across the division are represented in the committee. The policy was amended to show that suggestion. B. Andjelic explained that at this point all the students who wish to be involved have been given a spot on the committee.

Moved by K. Cooper that the Board approve Policy GP#19 – Student / Board Advisory Committee as amended.

**CARRIED (2010- 86)**

4.6 Bow Island Elementary / Senator Gershaw PD Day

D. Nicholls explained that the school staff was planning to hold another Technology Conference this spring and would like to have an additional professional development day to plan the event.

Moved by S Angle that the Board approve on additional professional development day in the 2010-11 school calendars for Bow Island Elementary School and Senator Gershaw School to account for the technology conference hosted by the schools.

**CARRIED (2010- 87)**

4.7 Transfer of Ownership – Bindloss School Building

P. Cocks explained that the Bindloss Hall Board would like to assume ownership of the school as a community centre. The group has now asked for the Board to approve the sale of the school. The next step requires approval from the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure. The sale would result in a capital loss to the division due to a modernization project that was done to the building 20 years ago.

Moved by K. Cooper that the Board approve the transfer of ownership of the Bindloss School building to the Bindloss Hall Board, as is, subject to Ministerial approval and effective upon receipt of Ministerial approval.

**CARRIED (2010- 88)**

**5. Superintendents' Reports**

5.2 Superintendents' Reports

D. Nicholls explained that the Division was approached to take part in a research project, organized by the University of Lethbridge that would involve interviews with principals and division office staff around achievement. Prairie Rose is the rural division involved in the project.

B. Volkman explained that the Prairie Rose Induction Program has been identified as having promising practices. Throughout Alberta some divisions have a program and others don't. Due to this recognition an individual will be coming down to meet with us and talk about our program. A five minute promotional video has been promised for our time along with any sub costs that would be required up to a total of \$10,000.

**6. Other Reports / Information Items**

6.1 ASBA

A. Frank reported that the next ASBA – Zone 6 Executive Meeting will take place on October 13, 2010.

M. Gogolinski joined the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

6.2 PSBAA

No report.

**Superintendents' Reports Continued.**

5.1 I.F. Cox "Wondrous Places"

M. Gogolinski provided an overview to the Board about the "Wondrous Places" Workshop, which the entire staff of IF Cox School hosted at Medelta this past September. Individuals from all over Western Canada attended. IF Cox students were also involved... creating the cloth bags, artwork and pamphlet information for the workshop. The focus of the workshop was to assist teachers in setting up a learning environment that promotes deeper thinking and learning in the classroom. M. Gogolinski explained that it would have been wonderful to have more representatives from within our own division attending.

**7. Emergent Items**

7.1 Speak Out – Year in Review

P. Cocks presented a document from Alberta Education about the *Speak Out* initiative. The item was circulated and will be moved to the correspondence file.

**8. Correspondence**

The following items were provided as information:

8.1 Rural Education Conference

8.2 ASBA – Membership Summary Report

8.2 Rural Development Symposium

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by S. Angle at 11:50 a.m. to adjourn the October 12, 2010, Regular Board Meeting.

**CARRIED (2010- 89)**

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Marian Peers, Board Chair

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Pat Cocks, Secretary-Treasurer