



**FRONTIER**  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
Excellence and Experience in Education

# FRONTIER SCHOOL DIVISION

BOARD ACTIVITY REPORT 2018-2019





**HOWARD  
SANDERSON**  
.....

**DARLENE  
OSBORNE**  
.....

**HILBERT  
MOSIONDZ**  
.....

**TANYA  
FRIESEN**  
.....

**GRAEME  
MONTGOMERY**  
.....

**LINDA  
BALLANTYNE**  
.....

**MARION  
PEARSON**  
.....

**KATHLEEN  
ETTAWACAPPO**  
.....

**DONNA  
CALVERT**  
.....

**MARG IMRIE**  
.....

# INTRODUCTION

Our Board's focus for the past year aligns with the theme we set for the 2019 Committee Conference – walking in the good way down our new path forward.

Our Board's focus for the past year aligns with the theme we set for the 2019 Committee Conference – walking in the good way down our new path forward.

Ten members, elected by our community, are responsible for the governance of Frontier School Division. This is a role we proudly fill, motivated by our passion for education. We carry out our responsibilities by developing policy, strategic planning and establishing and monitoring budgets. We ensure that we not only meet provincial and federal requirements, but also the needs of each of our schools and the communities they serve.

As we do this important work, our focus has been, and always will be, our children, our success and our future.

We recognize that education is not only about what students learn in the classroom. We are committed to building and maintaining relationships across the diverse communities that comprise Frontier, and we encourage our students to appreciate and respect this diversity. We also reflect this diversity in cultural activities and programs which enhance our students' knowledge and raises their awareness of their own and other cultures. We are fortunate to be able to blend traditional and innovative learning to reflect the needs and aspirations of our communities.

This report will share some of the activities and initiatives the Board of Trustees has been involved in over the past year. We are proud of these initiatives and we hope they demonstrate how we've been working to walk in the good way.

**Linda Ballantyne**, Chairperson  
Frontier School Division Board of Trustees

# ACCOUNTABILITY TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Our Board holds a significant role in governing our Division. As elected officials, their duties and responsibilities are outlined by *The Public Schools Act* of Manitoba. Our Board works to ensure that all Frontier policies and practices are compliant with provincial and federal laws, and that education in our Division is progressive and held to the highest standard possible.

The Board performs some of its duties on a yearly basis, and others as required or as legislation changes. The Board is responsible to ensure that its work meets provincial and federal requirements, while aligning with the Division's strategic plan.

This past year, accomplishments in this area include:

- Approval of the school year calendar for 2018-19
- Approval of the Board of Trustees calendar for 2018-19
- Review and revision of the draft Board Activity Report March 2018-February 2019 for distribution
- Approval of the Division budget for 2018-19 (see *Fiscal*)
- Approval of the Five-Year Capital Plan (see *Fiscal*)
- Oath of office for Trustees at their inaugural meeting November 2018
- Received report of elections held for all School Committees from Divisional Elections officials for the new four-year term 2018-2022
- Acclamation of Trustee Linda Ballantyne as Chairperson and Trustee Marion Pearson as Vice Chairperson
- Confirmation of the following Board committees:
  - **Finance Committee** – Trustees Imrie, Mosiondz, Calvert and the Board Chairperson
  - **Policy Review Committee** – Trustees Montgomery, Pearson, Osborne, and the Board Chairperson
  - **Employee Pension Committee** – Trustees Sanderson, Pearson, and Imrie
  - **Employee Benefits Committee** – Trustee Friesen
  - **Frontier Collegiate Institute Committee** – Trustee Pearson
- **Nikanihk Ohci Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors** – Area 1 Trustee Mosiondz, Area 2 Trustee Sanderson, Area 3 Trustee Friesen, Area 4 Trustee Calvert, and Area 5 Trustee Ettawacappo
- **Awards Panel** – Trustee Friesen
- **Support Staff Liaison Committee** – Trustee Montgomery (from Policy Review) and Trustee Imrie (from Finance)
- **Special Leave Sub-Committee** – Trustees Calvert and Pearson, with Trustee Mosiondz as alternate
- **Divisional Hiring Committee** – Trustees Friesen and Ettawacappo
- **Lobbying Committee** – Board Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and the Finance Committee Chairperson
- Approval of the mill rate for calculation of 2019 special levy (see *Fiscal*)
- Approval of a recommendation from their Finance Committee to appoint the auditing firm Deloitte as Division Auditor for 2018/19. (*As outlined in The Public Schools Act, the Minister of Education and Training will be notified of this appointment.*)
- Approval of the “By-Laws, Procedures and Protocols for Board of Trustees, Frontier School Division” handbook
- Trustee training on computer equipment to better support the Board and the Division with time assigned for further training to be held in May 2019

# ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

As a Board, we acknowledge that we have a responsibility to be accountable to the communities that elected us.

We encourage and welcome parent and community participation in our schools. We believe education is a shared responsibility and that parents and the community play an important role in building a strong foundation and providing support, guidance and direction for our students.

We respect and value the voices of parents, community members and local leaders and provide the opportunity for open discussion through local and area committees.

Included among the accomplishments in this area over the past year are:

- Ratification and approval of outdoor wilderness/cultural activity trips from:
  - Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre
  - Frontier Mosakahiken School
  - Jack River School
  - Rorketon School
  - Cranberry Portage Elementary
  - Frontier Collegiate Institute
  - Skownan School
  - Cormorant Lake School
  - Minegoziibe anishinabe School
  - Oscar Blackburn School
  - San Antonio School
  - Joseph H. Kerr School
  - Grand Rapids School
  - Duke of Marlborough School
  - Falcon Beach School
  - Frontier Collegiate
- Approval of educational trips including:
  - Mountain View School to travel to Yorkton, Regina, and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan
  - Wanipigow School to travel to Minneapolis and Shakopee, Minnesota
  - Falcon Beach School to travel to Ottawa, Ontario
  - Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre to travel to Ottawa, Ontario
  - Area 4 Schools to travel to Churchill, Manitoba
  - Mel Johnson School to travel to Toronto, Ontario
  - Duke of Marlborough School to travel to Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, Alberta
  - Leaf Rapids Education Centre to travel to Ottawa, Ontario
  - Chan Kaha Otina Dakota Tipi School to travel to Drumheller, Calgary, and Banff, Alberta
  - Grand Rapids School to travel to Calgary, Alberta
  - Area 3 Schools to travel to Alberta
  - Cormorant Lake Schools to travel to Alberta
  - Helen Betty Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre to travel to Europe
  - Berens River School to travel to Winnipeg
  - Oscar Blackburn School to travel to Quebec and Ontario
  - Gillam School to travel to Europe
  - Leaf Rapids Education Centre to travel to the Maritimes
  - Frontier Collegiate to travel to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
- Blanket approval for sports activities from Frontier Collegiate Institute to travel to Creighton, Saskatchewan
- Blanket approval for sports activities from Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre to travel to Towns inside the Saskatchewan border
- Approval of “Encounters with Canada” trips for Gillam and Frontier Mosakahiken Schools
- Approval of a request from Peonan Point School Committee to hold religious exercises for the 2017/18 school year
- Approval of a request from Leaf Rapids Education Centre to hold safe grad activities
- Approval of the change in the name of “Mountain View School” to Barrows Junction School. The change was a result of a referendum vote where 74% of the people who voted chose the new name
- Acceptance of the completed evaluation of the Chief Superintendent
- Confirmation of this year’s conference theme “*Walking In a Good Way*,” as well as:
  - topics and presentations

- events for the conference agenda
- Writing of the state of the address to conference delegates
- Approval of a request from the Frontier Collegiate Advisory Committee to change the name of the school to “Frontier Collegiate”
- Approval of a request from the Julie Lindal School Committee for a change in school committee membership based upon realigned boundaries in the community of Ilford
- Approval of an opportunity for senior years students to participate with students across Canada via the Vimy Legacy Project
- Visit and tour of Area 2 Schools in May 2018: Duck Bay, Minegoziibe Anishinabe, Philomene Chartrand, Waterhen, Skownan, Rorketon, with meetings held with local governance representatives such as Mayors/ Councils, Chiefs/Councils and school committees
- Discussion on school trips and time away from school ensuring transportation methods follow provincial and Divisional direction for safety (April 2018)
- Approval of refinements to the template documents for the School Committee Constitution and Terms of

- Reference and Area Advisory Committee Constitution and Terms of Reference, as well as approving of templates from individual school committees and Area committees
- Approval of refinements to the School Committee Elections Resource Manual
- Report provided of the Grand Opening of the Dauphin River School held in November 2018
- Met with the Minister of Education and Training to discuss education program and successes and challenges, with an invitation to the Minister to visit schools in the fall of 2019
- Report provided of the Grand Opening of the Dauphin River School held in November 2018
- Regular reports of the meetings held with the Frontier Teachers’ Association Liaison Committee (four times per year)
- Discussion on a presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs
- Discussion on deferring plans to visit Schools in spring of 2019 to sometime in the fall of 2019 or spring of 2020



# POLICY

Our policies are based on the needs and values of our communities – and they guide the work of all the Division’s staff. Reviewing, revising and confirming these policies is one of our most important duties.

Board accomplishments related to policy over the past year included:

- Approval for implementation of:
  - F.1.G.A – Language Instruction (Policy)
  - F.1.D – Home Placement Program (Policy and Regulation)
  - F.1.F – Adult Education (Policy)
  - F.1.H – Locally Developed High School Curricula (Policy and Regulation)
  - F.1.L-R – Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – Students (Regulation), New policy C.2.J – Accessibility (Policy and Regulation)
  - revised draft Policy C.1.A – Frontier School Division Governance and Leadership Chart
  - the capitalization of the word “indigenous” throughout the Policy and Procedures Manual
  - a minor word revision to Regulation G.1.C-R – Search of Students and Search and Seizure of Student Property
  - a new template for Policies, Regulations and Exhibits
  - F.1.M - Healthy Foods in Schools and Offices (Policy and Regulation)
  - E.1.C-R - Program for the Education of Native Teachers (PENT) Regulation, and Exhibit E.1.C-EX1 – PENT Student Teacher Agreement
- F.3.A – Student Assessment and Communication of Student Learning (Policy and Regulation)
- F.3.F – Student Grade Level Placement: Kindergarten to Grade 8 (Policy and Regulation)
- Approval of policies for comment:
  - F.1.M – Healthy Foods in Schools and Offices
  - E.1.C-R – Program for the Education of Native Teachers (P.E.N.T.) Regulation
  - E.1.C-EX1 – P.E.N.T. Student Teacher Agreement
  - F.3.A – Student Assessment and Communication of Student Achievement (Policy and Regulation)
  - F.3.F – Student Grade Level Placement: Kindergarten to Grade 8 (Policy and Regulation).
- Review of policies:
  - F.2.A – Compulsory School Age
  - F.2.B – Nursery School Entrance Age
  - F.2.C – Kindergarten Entrance Age
- Rescinded Policy F.3.B – School Based Final Examinations as text associated with this topic were contained in the revised approved Policy F.3.A
- The Board approved sixteen (16) applications for Special Leave for 2019/20



# FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

While the Board is responsible to ensure that public funds are used effectively and appropriately, we also ensure that we support a budget which reflects our three areas of focus: Academics, Indigenous Way of Life and Wellness. Every financial decision balances the needs of our students and families with our accountability to community.

Key components of the 2018-19 budget include:

- Continued emphasis on enhancing English Language Arts, Mathematics, Cultural and Language Programs, and student and staff wellness
- Internet connectivity
- Divisional Public Relations

In addition to setting and monitoring the budget, the Board's major accomplishments in this area during the past year include:

- Approval of the Five-Year Capital Plan
- Approval of the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2018 as presented by Deloitte
- Approval of recommendations from the Employee Pension Committee regarding "The Retirement Plan for Employees of The Frontier School Division"

- Approval of a Reserve Fund, based upon requirements of The Public Schools Act; this Reserve Fund will assist with the needs for teacher housing in Cranberry Portage
- Receipt of reports from the following committees:
  - Finance
  - Support Staff Liaison
  - Employee Pension
  - Divisional P.E.N.T.
  - Policy Review
  - Employee Benefits
  - E.S.D./F.T.A. Liaison committees
- Receipt of a report from the N.O.F.I. Board of Directors
- Receipt of reports from Trustees on Area Advisory Committee meetings



# STRATEGIC PLANNING

Frontier's strategic plan guides us as we strive to walk in a good way on our path forward. It provides the direction for the Division over the next several years. Our plan outlines broad goals for the Division, and our work often extends into the home and community.

Our plan is a living document – it may change as our educational, political and financial environments change to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of our students and communities.

This past year, Board accomplishments related to strategic planning included:

- Regular reports from administration on the implementation of the new logo and brand standards
- Regular reports using the online strategic planning tool “Envisio” from PMH Insights
- Confirmation of the agenda and plans associated with the annual August Gathering for Administrators and the annual New Teacher Orientation including a presentation by PMH Insights on school strategic planning reporting
- Discussion regarding the implementation of the 2018-19 Field Led Course offered via the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents and Frontier School Division for teaching staff interested in educational leadership
- Program reports from Area Superintendents:
  - Way of Life (March 2018)
  - Student Services (May 2018)
  - High Schools and Careers (June 2018) including a hands-on welding activity similar to training students receive in Welding classes
- Kindergarten to Grade 8 Literacy Achievement including review of benchmark assessment statistics in literacy, and a Grade 6-9 Numeracy Achievement report focusing on the Numeracy Action Research Pilot project. These reports were referred to the Board and Superintendent meeting scheduled for October 2018
- Discussed the Way of Life focus goal and the draft “Knowledge Keepers” document
- Participation in a meeting with the Superintendent group focusing on “Finding Our Why” (April 2018)
- Participation in a meeting with the Superintendent group about the strategic plan and how data is informing progress for the three focus areas (October 2018)
- Discussion and confirmation of Board Report to delegates of the 41st Annual School Committee Conference held February 2019
- Area reports highlighting successes and challenges as presented by Area Superintendents for Areas 1, 2, 4 with remaining Areas to report during the spring of 2019



# BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT GROUP JOINT MEETING

Sharing of information is one way to inspire ideas and innovation around education. With that in mind, the Board held two interactive sessions with the senior leadership team; April 2018 and October 2018.

“Finding Your Why” was the theme of the one-day session in April with dialogue to assist the Division in working towards the future.

The October 2018 session focused on how data is informing progress in the three Strategic Plan focus areas with a variety of data discussed at length. As well, Area Superintendents reported upon successes and challenges in each of the three focus areas concluding this meeting with a sharing circle on ways to move forward to support all students.

# COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Board received regular updates from their Collective Bargaining Team.

# EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP RENEWED

The Board renewed their partnership with the Birdtail Sioux First Nation culminating in the signing of a revamped Education Agreement.

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- The Board approved the recommendations of their Awards Panel for the 2019 Frontier Achievement Award. The award recipient was notified by the Board Chairperson and presented at the 41st Annual School Committee Conference in February 2019 in Winnipeg.
- The Board is pleased to announce Marla Kolomaya as the recipient of the 2018 Outstanding Employee Contribution Award.
- The Board presented service awards to four staff members and held an appreciation lunch with staff in the Winnipeg office.



# SUMMARY

As we have once again had a busy and productive year, your Board of Trustees' focus has remained on our students and communities.

We have worked hard to live out our mission and walk in a good way, in the hopes that our efforts will make a difference for students, parents, staff and communities.

We encourage you to get in touch if you have feedback and questions about this report.

Thank you.



**FRONTIER**  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
Excellence and Experience in Education