

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Meeting held at the Frank Robinson Education Centre Boardroom, in Morinville, Alberta On Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Meeting held at the Frank Robinson Education Centre Boardroom, in Morinville, Alberta On Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance:

Tasha Oatway-McLay, Board Chair					
Stacey Buga, Vice Chair					
Cindy Briggs, Trustee					
Irene Gibbons, Trustee					
*Janine Pequin, Trustee					
Joe Dwyer, Trustee					
Trish Murray-Elliott, Trustee					
Shawna Warren, Superintendent					
Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services					
Lisa Lacroix, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources					
Sean Nicholson, Associate Superintendent, Corporate Services					
Dan Stephen, Division Principal	Left meeting at 11:07 a.m.				
Shelley Greenwood, Director, Learning Services	Left meeting at 10:50 a.m.				
Rita Raposo, Director, Human Resources	Left meeting at 10:50 a.m.				
Michelle Wilde, Recording Secretary					
*Online Attendance					

Call to Order

Board Chair Oatway-McLay called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Trustee Gibbons read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Approval of Agenda

094/2024 - Moved by Trustee Briggs that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

<u>095/2024 - Moved by Trustee Dwyer</u> that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 27, 2024, be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sturgeon Public Schools **-2-**Public Board Meeting - December 18, 2024

Business Arising From The Minutes

No business arising from the minutes.

Presentations/Delegations

Ochre Park - A Place to Study and Outdoor Learning presentation by Jenaia G. (Principal), Deb V. (Educational Assistant), Everett O. (Grade 1), Rhett L. (Grade 2), Maycee B. (Grade 2/3), Oliver H. (Grade 3/4) and Fynnli S. (Grade 4).

Action Items

Bylaw 02-2024: To Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations

The Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 20) came into force on October 31, 2024. One of the amendments to the Local Authorities Election Act made in the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act allows for boards to require criminal record checks. An elected authority, by a bylaw passed prior to December 31 of the year before a year in which a general election is to be held, may require a person seeking to be nominated as a candidate to provide a criminal record check.

THE STURGEON PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION BYLAW NO. 02-2024 A BYLAW TO REQUIRE CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS FOR TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS

Preamble

Section 21.1 of the Local Authorities Election Act allows an elected authority to, by bylaw passed prior to December 31 of the year before a year in which a general election is to be held, require a person seeking to be nominated as a candidate to provide a criminal record check;[MS2]

Section 28 of the Local Authorities Election Act provides that

(a) a returning officer shall not accept for filing a nomination that is not accompanied with a criminal record check required by bylaw,

(b) at any time after the commencement of the nomination period until the term of office to which the filed nomination papers relate has expired, a person may request to examine the filed nomination papers during regular business hours and in the presence of the returning officer, deputy, or secretary, and

(c) a filed nomination paper must be made available in a partial or redacted form as necessary, but the results of the criminal record check must not be withheld or

redacted except to ensure that the mailing address of the candidate and of the candidate's official agent is not disclosed;[MS3]

The Board of Trustees of The Sturgeon Public School Division deems it advisable to require a person seeking to be nominated to provide a criminal record check with their nomination;[MS4]

The Board of Trustees of The Sturgeon Public School Division enacts:

Title

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "Criminal Record Check Bylaw."

Definitions

2.

(1) Unless otherwise specified, words used in this bylaw will have the same meaning as defined in the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

(2) In this bylaw:

(a) "criminal record check" means a check conducted by a police service in Alberta[MS6], which must include results of both local and national records including charges and convictions.[MS7]

Criminal Record Check

3. Every nomination of a candidate for the office of trustee must be accompanied with a criminal record check issued no earlier than 90 calendar days prior to the date the nomination is submitted.

Effective Date

4. This bylaw comes into force on the day it is passed.

Read a first time on December 18, 2024;

Read a second time on December 18, 2024;

Read a third time on December 18, 2024;

SIGNED AND PASSED December 18, 2024.

BOARD CHAIR

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT CORPORATE SERVICES

<u>096/2024 - Moved by Chair Oatway-McLay</u> that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Bylaw 02-2024 - to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations, at the first readings in this meeting in order to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

<u>097/2024 - Moved by Chair Oatway-McLay</u> that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Bylaw 02-2024 at the second readings in this meeting in order to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

<u>098/2024 - Moved by Chair Oatway-McLay</u> that the Board of Trustees approve the third reading of proposed Bylaw 02-2024 to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

<u>099/2024 - Moved by Chair Oatway-McLay</u> that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Bylaw 02-2024 at the third readings in this meeting in order to Require Criminal Record Checks for Trustee Nominations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Administrative Reports

<u>Alternative Programs Report - December 2024</u>

Dan Stephen, Division Principal, presented the Alternative Programs Report for December 2024.

Off-Campus, Work Experience, Dual Credit, Green Certificate, Outreach and Online programming allow students to learn in alternate settings and through experiences that align with their needs and interests. Offering these programs aligns with the Board's mission to provide a well-rounded education and the value of ensuring learning choices exist for all students. This also aligns with the *Choice in Education Act* amendments to the *Education Act* in June 2020.

The Alternative Programs Report provides an overview of the wide variety of program options that students may access through the Sturgeon Public School Division.

Mental Health in School (MHIN) Pilot Project - Final Report

Shelley Greenwood, Director, Learning Services presented the Mental Health in School (MHIN) Pilot Project - Final Report.

The Mental Health in Schools Pilot Project, funded by Alberta Education, aimed to enhance student mental health and well-being through a \$50 million investment in 79 two-year initiatives across the province. The project supported school authorities in strengthening a continuum of mental health supports, emphasizing prevention, early intervention and collaboration with community partners to ensure barrier-free access to services.

Sturgeon Public Schools participated in this initiative, supporting 1,107 students across five schools in Bon Accord, Legal and Gibbons. The pilot focused on daily Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons, structured regulation activities, positive playgroups, and school-wide initiatives to foster mental wellness. Community collaborations and out-of-school programming during breaks were integral to the project, offering safe and inclusive opportunities for students and families.

The Division hired four full-time mental health coaches, known as Mindful Mentors, one for each of the schools, with two of the smallest schools sharing a mental health coach between them in the communities of Bon Accord and Legal. Mindful Mentors focus on promoting positive mental health while teaching skills to prevent mental health crises. They provide sessions during Professional Learning Days, Fall and Spring Break and Summer vacation. During these times, they connect with community supports through Family Community Support Services (FCSS) and community recreation coordinators to build relationships with partners, enhancing the sustainability of mental health supports post-pilot. These partnerships have been crucial for advancing positive mental health in rural areas. Mindful Mentors link our communities with surrounding areas for further support, such as the Families First Society, Boys and Girls Clubs and other agencies that promote safety and mental health. Establishing these supports in our communities is essential for developing sustainable programs for families and youth.

Despite challenges such as limited rural resources, transient populations and the residual effects of COVID-19, the pilot has successfully demonstrated the value of integrated mental health supports. Continued investment in such initiatives is essential to sustaining progress and addressing ongoing needs. This pilot project ends in June 2025. The attached report provides further details and outcomes for the Board's review.

Workplace Safety Report

Rita Raposo, Director Human Resources and Lisa Lacroix, Associate Superintendent Human Resources presented the Workplace Safety Report. In Section 33 of the Education Act, school boards are required to ensure that each student enrolled in a school operated by the board and each staff member employed by the board is provided with a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act outlines the Board's obligation to take all reasonable and practical steps to protect the health, safety and welfare of employees. This includes ensuring employees receive adequate training to perform their duties safely and in compliance with health and safety standards.

Similarly, the Alberta Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Regulations mandate the Board to work proactively with employees to prevent workplace injuries. In the event of workplace injuries, the Board is to report promptly and facilitate the employee's safe return to work in either their original position or a suitable alternative.

Sturgeon Public School Division (SPS) is dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive and healthy working environment for staff, students and the broader school community. Sturgeon Public Schools is committed to adhering to the legislative requirements of both the *Education Act* and the *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act*.

Report Summary:

SPS remains compliant with all relevant legislative requirements and has implemented various programs and practices to maintain the safety and well-being of students, employees and community members across its facilities. The following report provides an overview of these measures and practices that contribute to the safe and supportive environment SPS strives to maintain.

Transition to Windows 11 for Enhance Security and Learning

Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services presented the Transition to Windows 11 for Enhanced Security and Learning report.

In alignment with the Division's Mission to create safe, respectful and collaborative learning and working environments, this memo outlines the proactive approach to address the upcoming end of support for Windows 10 on October 14, 2025. Unsupported operating systems pose significant security risks, potentially jeopardizing the Division's efforts to maintain healthy environments where students feel safe, connected and supported in their learning.

To ensure that teaching and learning remain uninterrupted and protected, the team will upgrade all Division devices running Windows to Windows 11. This transition reflects a commitment to excellence in teaching by equipping staff with secure, modern tools that inspire engagement and connection.

Implementation Plan

Recognizing a shared responsibility to provide a strong educational foundation, the Division will implement a structured upgrade schedule. Each location will receive a comprehensive list of devices prior to their scheduled date, allowing for seamless preparation and communication.

Schedule of Upgrades

- January 12 16: Morinville Public School
- January 19 23: Camilla School
- January 26 30: Bon Accord Community School / Oak Hill School
- February 2 4: Legal Public School/Morinville Colony School
- February 23 27: Four Winds Public School
- March 2 6: Gibbons School
- March 10 13: Legal Public School
- March 16 19: Ochre Park School
- March 30 April 10: Sturgeon Composite High School
- April 20 24: Guthrie School
- April 27 May 1: Landing Trail School
- May 4 8: Lilian Schick School
- May 11 14: Learning Centres
- May 19 22: Namao School
- May 25 29: Redwater School
- June 2 5: Sturgeon Heights School
- June 8 12: Central Office and Trustees

Next Steps

Aligned with the Division's Value of communication, the team will provide timely and open updates to staff and administrators throughout the process. An IT team member will be at the school site and available during the Windows upgrade to ensure smooth implementation, minimize disruptions, and address concerns promptly.

Building Futures

Dan Stephen, Division Principal, presented the Building Futures Report.

The Government of Alberta has emphasized the importance of enhancing career education opportunities to prepare students for success in Alberta's growing economy. With significant investments, including \$21.5 million to support the start-up and expansion of career-focused programs, the province is enabling school divisions to align educational initiatives with workforce needs in industries such as skilled trades, aviation, technology and engineering. Minister of Education Demetrios Nicolaides highlighted this priority,

stating, "The demand students have for hands-on, experiential career education programming is growing. Our commitment to expand collegiate programming across the province will connect more students to rewarding career pathways while giving them the skills and abilities they need to be successful after graduation."

In response to these provincial priorities, Sturgeon Public Schools is proud to introduce the Building Futures Program in the Fall of 2025. This initiative represents a strategic enhancement of educational offerings, aligning closely with the Division's mission, vision, values and the goals outlined in our Education Plan.

Program Overview

The Building Futures Program is an innovative educational model that combines academic instruction with experiential learning. Through active participation in the construction of a residential home, students will acquire both practical skills and academic credits necessary for high school graduation. The program is designed to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving, offering students real-world applications of their learning within a supportive and structured environment.

Highlights from Similar Programs

Research into comparable programs has demonstrated their effectiveness in engaging students and inspiring career exploration. Notable benefits include:

- A unique opportunity for students to work alongside professional tradespeople, developing practical skills that are transferable to both personal and professional contexts.
- Increased interest in trades-related careers, with a significant proportion of participants pursuing further education or apprenticeships in the construction industry.
- The ability to earn up to 75 credits in a single academic year, providing students with enhanced flexibility in their Grade 11 and 12 schedules.
- A sense of pride and accomplishment among students, as they contribute to the tangible outcome of constructing a home.

Alignment with Provincial and Division Priorities

The Building Futures Program is well-aligned with the Division's mission to create collaborative and engaging learning environments and its vision of motivating students to pursue their unique paths to success. Additionally, it complements Alberta Education's career education priorities, such as providing experiential learning opportunities and addressing workforce shortages in skilled trades. By integrating academic instruction with practical experiences, this initiative supports student transitions to post-secondary education and workforce entry, thereby contributing to Alberta's economic development.

Implementation Plan

Preparations for the program's launch are underway. Key steps include:

- Recruitment of Grade 9 students and their families, commencing in early 2025, through targeted presentations and communications.
- Establishing partnerships with San Rufo Homes and other industry stakeholders to ensure access to quality learning environments.
- Finalizing logistics such as transportation arrangements and site management to support seamless program delivery.

The introduction of the Building Futures Program is anticipated to provide significant benefits to students and the broader community, enhancing educational outcomes while addressing workforce needs in the trades sector. This initiative underscores our commitment to delivering innovative and impactful educational experiences while aligning with both provincial priorities and divisional goals. Further updates will be provided as implementation progresses.

School Education Plans

Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services presented the School Education Plans report.

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement and public assurance, each school within Sturgeon Public Schools has developed its annual Education Plan. These plans align closely with the Division's Three-Year Education Plan and reflect our shared mission to create safe, respectful, and collaborative learning environments that prepare students for success in a global community.

School Education Plans serve as foundational documents to articulate school collective goals, evidence-informed strategies, and measures of success for the year ahead. They are developed with input from school councils and community stakeholders, ensuring alignment with local and division-wide priorities.

In adhering to the requirements outlined by Alberta Education, these plans demonstrate our schools' focus on student growth and achievement while fostering environments of belonging and inclusivity.

The Education Plans for each school are now available online for parents and stakeholders to review. They have been shared at each School Council and will be reviewed by staff at the end of the academic year for effectiveness in achieving the school goals.

Communications Report - November & December 2024

Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services presented the Communications Report - November & December 2024.

2024-2025 Superintendent Discretionary Fund

Shawna Warren, Superintendent presented the 2024-2025 Superintendent Discretionary Fund report.

November 21, 2024, to December 11, 2024, the following additional staffing FTE has been allocated to schools using the Superintendent Discretionary Fund:

• 0.75FTE for additional teaching staff at SCHS for semester 2 to support increased enrolment numbers.

024 -2025 Sup	erintendent Discretionary		ommitted	Budget		\$312,510
As at December 5, 2024		Total Committed to Student Success Total Available			\$312,510 \$0	
Budget Item Desci	ription	Date	#FTE	# of months		Cos
Direct staffing to schools (K- 12)					\$	259,510
Teachers	Avg Cost: \$111,067	Totals:	1.57		\$	187,206
Four Winds - addit	ional VP Allowance	May 29, 2024			\$	15,000
BACS - additional	0.17 FTE support	Jul 05, 2024	0.17	10.00	\$	18,88
Sturgeon Heights	- Teacher Support	Sep 09, 2024			\$	14,400
Legal School - Lea	dership Support	Oct 02, 2024		3.00	\$	42,38
LT - Teacher Cover	rage for Legal School Coverage	Oct 02, 2024	0.40	9.00	\$	38,874
Sturgeon Compos Semester Two	ite - Teacher Support for	Dec 05, 2024	1.00	5.00	\$	57,670
CUPE	Avg Cost: \$45,188	Totals:	1.50		\$	72,304
Legal Public Schoo	ols - EA2 Sep - Dec 31	Sep 03, 2024	0.50	4.00	\$	9,038
Namao School (SL	S) - EA Oct - Jun	Sep 13, 2024	1.00	9.50	\$	42,929
Sturgeon Heights	- Staffing Supports	Sep 09, 2024			\$	9,450
Fourwinds - Finance	e Clerk Support	Sep 18, 2024			\$	10,88
Other (Emergent F	Priorities staff, non-staff and re	sources)			\$	53,000
S&S - Student Pro	gramming	Sep 09, 2024			\$	53,000
TOTAL Superint	tendent Discretionary Spe	and Committe	d to Stude	ent Success		\$312.510

As of the December 18, 2024, Public Board meeting, the Superintendent Discretionary Fund for the 2024-2025 school year has been fully utilized. Therefore, this report will no longer come forward for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year, indicating the Division has exhausted the allocated budget for this purpose.

Superintendent Report

Shawna Warren, Superintendent presented the Superintendent Report.

Administrative Procedure 206: School Attendance Areas and Requests to Attend a School Outside of the Designated Attendance Area

Shawna Warren, Superintendent presented a new Administrative Procedure 206: School Attendance Areas and Requests to Attend a School Outside of the Designated Attendance Area.

Administrative Procedures are the written directives, procedures and assignment of responsibilities established and approved by the Superintendent that direct the implementation of and achievement of desired outcomes of Board policy, Division Vision, Mission and Values and the effective operation of the Division (<u>AP 205 Developing</u> <u>Administrative Procedures</u>).

Administrative Procedures are reviewed and developed on a regularly scheduled basis.

Administrative Procedure 206: School Attendance Areas and Requests to Attend a School Outside of the Designated Attendance Area is a new Administrative Procedure which includes two Exhibits: AP 206 Exhibit 1 – School of Choice Application and AP 206 Exhibit 2 - Non-Resident Agreement. This new Administrative Procedure and Exhibits were developed in response to a request from school-based administration to have an administrative procedure to support school leaders with non-resident student enrolment requests and resident student School of Choice requests. Historically, this procedure has been embedded practice, however, with the ministry's shift to a strong emphasis on parent choice, there is a need to put these practices into an administrative procedure to clearly outline legislation around residency and school attendance areas.

The Division is committed to providing appropriate educational programs to resident students and recognizes the right of parents to request their children attend schools outside their designated attendance area. This new administrative procedure outlines the process for such requests, ensuring transparency and alignment with the Education Act and Board Policy.

Administrative Procedure 464: Fees

Sean Nicholson, Associate Superintendent, Corporate Services presented an update to Administrative Procedure 464: Fees.

Administrative Procedures are the written directives, procedures and assignment of responsibilities established and approved by the Superintendent that direct the implementation of and achievement of desired outcomes of Board policy, Division Vision, Mission and Values, and the effective operation of the Division (<u>AP 205 Developing</u> <u>Administrative Procedures</u>).

Administrative Procedures are reviewed and developed on a regularly scheduled basis.

Fees are assessed to students to offset the cost of providing educational and transportation services. Fees shall be utilized for the purpose for which it was obtained. The revisions to Administrative Procedure 464; Fees as well as Administrative Procedure 464: Exhibit 2 - Fee Waiver Application were undertaken as part of the regular review schedule. These changes enhance clarity, streamline processes and align the Administrative Procedure with the Fee Waiver Application.

Reports from Trustees and Standing Committees

Chair's Report

Below is the Chair's submitted report.

Chair Oatway-McLay (Cardiff/Garrison)

Chair Oatway-McLay reported that she attended:

- Agenda Review (Dec. 13)
- Committee of the Whole (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- Gibbons Community Engagement (Dec. 3)
- Guthrie School Deliveries (Dec. 13)
- Meeting with Dale Nally (Dec. 13)
- Namao School Activity (Dec. 13)
- Namao School Deliveries (Dec. 13)
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)

Trustees' Reports

Below are the submitted Trustee Reports.

Trustee Briggs (Bon Accord/Legal)

Trustee Briggs reported that she attended:

- Bon Accord Community School Christmas Concert (Dec. 19)
- Bon Accord School Visit Christmas Crafting (Dec. 17)
- Christmas Lunch at Lilian Schick School (Dec. 19)
- Christmas Visit Lilian Schick, Bon Accord and Oak Hill Schools (Dec. 13)
- Committee of the Whole (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- December Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)
- Gibbons Community Engagement (Dec. 3)
- Landing Trail Winter Carnival (Dec. 5)
- Legal Public School Council Meeting (Dec. 19)
- Legal Public School Visit with MLA Dale Nally (Dec. 13)
- Lilian Schick Christmas Concert (Dec. 10)
- Lilian Schick Visit (Dec. 3)
- Lilian Schick Visit (Knighthood Awards) (Dec. 10)
- Meeting with MLA Dale Nally in Morinville (Dec. 13)

- Pinewood Hall Coffee and pie (Cancelled)
- Sturgeon Composite High School Winter Concert (Dec. 5)

Trustee Buga (Morinville Area)

Trustee Buga reported that she attended:

- Agenda Review Meeting (Dec. 13)
- ASBA PD Session (Dec. 2)
- ASBA Zone 2/3 (Dec. 6)
- Committee of the Whole (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- Four Winds Christmas Concert (Dec. 12)
- Gibbons Community Engagement (Dec. 3)
- Learning Centre Christmas Open House (Dec. 13)
- MPS School Council (Dec. 9)
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)
- SCHS Winter Showcase (Dec. 5)

Trustee Dwyer (Alcomdale/Villeneuve Area)

Trustee Dwyer reported that he attended:

- Camilla School Christmas Concert
- Colony School Christmas Concert
- Committee of the Whole Meeting (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- Rotary Meetings
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)

Trustee Gibbons (Gibbons/Lamoureux)

Trustee Gibbons reported that she attended:

- 1:1 Meeting with the Superintendent (Dec. 13)
- Committee of the Whole (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- Community Engagement Gibbons (Dec. 3)
- Gibbons School Christmas Concert (Dec. 17)
- Landing Trail Winter Carnival (Dec. 5)
- Meeting with Hon. Dale Nally (Dec. 13)
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 13)

Trustee Murray-Elliott (Sturgeon Valley/West St. Albert)

Trustee Murray-Elliott reported that she attended:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting (Dec. 4 & Dec. 18)
- Community Engagement, Gibbons School (Dec. 3)
- Distribute Holiday Cards and Cookies, SCHS (Dec. 13)
- Distribute Holiday Cards and Cookies, Sturgeon Heights (Dec. 12)
- Festive Lunch, Sturgeon Heights School (Dec. 19)
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)

- SCHS Winter Concert and Art Walk (Dec. 5)
- Sturgeon Heights School Winter Concert (Dec. 5)

Trustee Pequin (Redwater/Coronado Area)

Trustee Pequin reported that she attended:

- Committee of the Whole (Dec. 18)
- Ochre Park Christmas Concert (Dec. 19)
- Ochre Park School Council (Dec. 5)
- Public Board Meeting (Dec. 18)
- Redwater School Christmas Concert (Dec. 12)

Committee of the Whole

The Board of Trustees received as information, the approved minutes of the meeting from the November 27, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting and the unapproved minutes of the meeting from the December 4, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting.

CASA Classroom Targeted Funding Advocacy Letter

On July 28, 2022, the Government of Alberta announced an additional investment of \$87 million over three years to enhance child and youth addiction and mental health supports and pediatric rehabilitation services. This new funding will enhance the wide variety of supports and services already available in schools.

In partnership with the Government of Alberta, community partners and school divisions, CASA Mental Health has committed to delivering mental health care in classrooms. CASA Classrooms address the need for services closer to students by bridging a child's mental health and school needs.

The first 2 classrooms in the province were opened in Sturgeon Public Schools: Opened February 2023: Sturgeon County: Gibbons School (Grades 7 to 9) Sturgeon County: Sturgeon Composite High School (Grades 10 to 12)

August 2024, the Jr. High Program was moved to Guthrie School because CASA was struggling to find medical professionals willing to drive out to Gibbons. Guthrie School, being closer to Edmonton, helped to address that barrier.

One of the challenges for the Division since the opening of the CASA classrooms has been the cost incurred for the teacher in each classroom. CASA is responsible for all other staffing costs to support the students in the classroom, but school divisions are responsible for the cost of the teacher. It is expensive to have a teacher assigned to a low enrolment classroom. CASA classroom enrolment numbers - maximum number of students is 12. The Division has yet to reach 12 students in a class.

100/2024 - Moved by Chair Oatway-McLay that the Board of Trustees directs the Superintendent to work with CASA to draft an advocacy letter for the Board to advocate for targeted funding for the teacher FTE in the CASA Classrooms effective 2025-2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Letter Regarding Survey Design and Accurate Data

A draft letter was provided to the Board of Trustees for review and discussion. Additional individuals were added to the cc' list for the letter.

Policy Committee

No update was provided.

Reports from Special Committees/Task Groups

<u>Alberta School Boards Association Representative</u> Trustee Buga shared a verbal report.

<u>Public School Boards Associate of Alberta Representative</u> Trustee Murray-Elliott shared a verbal report.

<u>Rotary Report</u> Trustee Dwyer shared a verbal report.

<u>Chamber of Commerce Meetings</u> Trustee Buga and Chair Oatway-McLay shared verbal reports.

<u>Community Services Advisory Board</u> Trustee Briggs shared a verbal report.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

Comment and Question Period

No comments or questions from the public.

In Camera

101/2024 - Moved by Trustee Briggs that the Board of Trustees move to In Camera at 11:49 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sturgeon Public Schools **-16**-Public Board Meeting - December 18, 2024 Meeting recessed for break at 11:49 a.m. Meeting resumed at 11:59 a.m.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:18 p.m. Meeting resumed at 12:28 p.m.

102/2024 - Moved by Trustee Gibbons that the Board of Trustees revert to a public meeting at 1:49 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment	
Trustee Briggs adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.	
	Chair
Date	Associate Superintendent,
	Corporate Services