

LSTA Council Meeting Minutes – February 17th, 2026

In Person - ESJH - Library

Attendees:

President: Jamie Shuhyta (WSH -Divisional/MTS, PD Fund, MHWBC Divisional, Education Funding, Provincial Bargaining, Promoting the Profession, Employee Benefits)

Vice President: Markus Hofer (Provincial Bargaining, Education Funding) (Netley Colony)

Treasurer: Laryssa Kurjewicz (LSRCSS)

Secretary: Nicole Kavalench (Robert Smith School)

Employee Benefits Chair: Arthur Holroyd (Ecole Selkirk Junior High)

ESJ/Women in Leadership Chair: Jennifer Krawchuk (Lockport)

Professional Development: Lynne Ogale (Daerwood)

Kristian Bouchard (Ecole Bonaventure), Ralph Stemmer (East Selkirk Middle School), Sharisse Brown (Happy Thought), Keira Janzen (Robert Smith), Ayma Proven (Ruth Hooker), Lindsay McLaren (Ecole Selkirk Junior High), Esther Van De Walle (LSEC), Gavin Leduchowski (St. Andrews)

Total: 15

7/9 – Executive; 8/14 – Council; 12/18 Schools/Groups Represented

Schools/Groups Absent: Centennial, Daerwood, Mapleton, Student Services, WW, WSP

Regrets: Member Wellbeing/Public Relations Chair: Matthew Nickarz (LSRCSS), **Truth and Reconciliation Chair:** Breanna Sparling-Bedard (Walter Whyte), Daryl Leoppky (Admin Rep), Susan Wedel (Mapleton), Brenda Dewar (St. Andrews), Melanie Chudyk (Happy Thought), Samantha Penner (Centennial & WSP); Sheila Bostick (Daerwood)

Absent:

1:00 Call to Order and Treaty Land Acknowledgements: By Jamie at ESJH at 4:29pm

The Lord Selkirk Teachers' Association In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, acknowledge that the Lord Selkirk Teachers' Association operates on Treaty One Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak and Anishinewuk and Dakota People and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

We respect the treaties made on this land and acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and present. We stand committed to building positive relationships rooted in a spirit of genuine reconciliation as we move forward.

2:00 Adoption of Agenda

Moved: Keira

Seconded: Gavin

Carried

3:00 Adoption of Minutes

Errors:

Motion: **To accept the minutes from the LSTA Council Meeting on January 20th, 2026**

Moved: Kristian

Seconded: Ralph

Carried

4:00 Correspondence

.01 MTS AGM Schedule and Binder Meeting

LSTA will be returning to 8 delegates for MTS AGM (May 21st – 23rd); there *may be* room for council members to attend (depending on the executive attendance); The MTS AGM binder meeting will occur April 23rd in which the delegates will attend.

.02 MTS Mediation Services

When member conflicts arise, there are actions that staff officers, staff, and admin can do; however, MTS also has mediation services that employees can access (if they feel they cannot resolve it through initial means) where opposing members can meet with a mediator to seek a resolution moving forward; mediators cannot act as a representative or advocate of either individual, they will not solicit advice, or provide counselling or therapy.

.03 MTS Online Store

MTS online store is open for members to purchase MTS logo'd items; members can use the QR code provided in the notes or the link on the MTS website to purchase MTS items (e.g., clothing).

5:00 Business Arising

.01 Quiz Night 2026

Currently, there are 25 teams registered and we should be able to hold close to 40 tables at the church; once we approach 30 tables, a notice will be sent out to LSSD staff to let them know that space will then be limited.

Jamie has been able to arrange for LSTA to secure the Rec Centre for next years' quiz night at approx. \$1300 (including pop) if we would like to move locations; associated costs to attend may be increased slightly to support the cost of the event (including food, drinks, location, e.g., \$15).

6:00 Reports

.01 President – Jamie Shuhya

The Teacher Registry continues to evolve; the commissioner feels that the public is not well enough aware of their ability to report teacher misconduct; Bobbi has mandated that all school divisions must have a direct link to the Commissioner of Manitoba and the contact information on their website. LSSD will provide the link and information to abide by the mandate.

The division is aware of the sub situation (the failure to fill information is imperative to supporting the movement); it is noted that teachers have been struggling with filling in during their preps (feeling burnout); LSSD has opened up 10 teaching positions to hire school-based itinerant substitutes that are in-house (i.e., smaller schools will share and larger schools will have their own); LSSD still does not hire teachers with LTP but other divisions are moving in that direction. A positive for next school year: all substitutes will be paid the same across Winnipeg and rural divisions.

A Manitoba division hired a teacher who had no qualifications to work as a teacher (Certificate nor LTP). Their name came up in the media as being involved in ongoing investigations of child abuse; worries of people slipping through the cracks have arisen. LTP teachers are not on the teacher registry nor are they regulated by the commissioner.

Conversations also had amongst the EA substitute failure to fills; these failure to fills are increasing as well; concerns are across the division.

LSTA members have until March 1st to request a leave of absence (i.e., a year without pay) next school year.

Motion: To accept report as written/presented

Moved: Markus Seconded: Esther Carried

.02 Treasurer – Laryssa Kurjewicz

LSTA 26/27 budget is in the works; The financial report was presented.

Errors:

Motion: To receive and approve the Financial Report as written

Moved: Laryssa Seconded: Gavin Carried

**.03 Provincial Bargaining/Education Finance – Jamie Shuhyta/Markus Hofer
LTP Grievance/Arbitration**

LTP grievance shared in the President's Report. It was recently announced that LSSD has received a 2.8% (\$900,000) increase to the budget; divisions are also receiving/paying out the pay harmonization to employees in September 2026.

With harmonization across the divisions, LSSD teacher substitutes will receive higher pay next school year (\$237 next year).

This weekend (Feb 21st), there will be an Education Finance virtual meeting in which Jamie and Markus will attend.

.04 Professional Development - Lynne Ogale

Additional funds were released at the beginning of February; LSTA staff are encouraged to attend PD (e.g., seminars, collaboration time); funds are expected to be gone by spring break.

.05 Admin Council – Daryl Loeppky

No report.

.06 Employee Benefits - Jamie Shuhyta/Arthur Holroyd

Notice of premium rates: as of March 1st, short term disability rate will be decreased slightly (0.25% to 0.23%); long term disability will also decrease (1.5% to 1.25%).

For absences of 10 days in a row (and above), LSSD payroll staff will contact MTS DBP, DBP will reach out to the member.

.07 PR/Wellness - Matthew Nickarz

Quiz Night information shared above.

.08 ESJ/Women in Leadership - Jennifer Krawchuk

On March 11, Jen and Breanna will be presenting to AC about the EDI Committee. The division has set up a TEAMS group for the committee subgroups to assist with collaboration; once more established, the groups will be opened to everyone. Jen has finalized the books for the BBQ (including French versions) that they seek to incorporate (e.g., Ukrainian, Anishinaabe, Cree, Hindi, Punjabi, Arabic) or purchase for the giveaways. BBQ is going to be at the end of May or beginning of June. Women in Leadership seminar being attended by Jen and Breanna.

.09 WHS - Jamie Shuhyta

Jamie attended the MFL WHS Conference on February 5th and 6th. The focus at the seminar was employer responsibilities to psychological safety in the workplace and the next steps. Lots of work being done at MTS and within our division. Selected breakout session focused on violence in the workplace, this included school data. The session was also attended by 3 of our CUPE members. Broad diversity of people from many different sectors in attendance.

.10 Indigenous - Breanna Sparling-Bedard

No Report

7:00 New Business

.01 MTS Member Survey (Probe Research)

Probe research email went out and there was some difficulty accessing the survey by some members. Waiting on response rate for our division.

8:00 Membership Engagement

9:00 Questions

10:00 Announcements

11:00 Information to Take Back to Staff

.01 Sub Situation and Failure to Fills

.02 Quiz Night

12:00 Adjournment – 5:43pm