

# The Apple Core

May 2026

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Hello GVTA Members,

May is a month of Annual General Meetings in the world of MTS and GVTA.

In preparation for the MTS AGM, the GVTA delegation will review several hundreds of pages of reports, election statements, and resolutions. The preparation for this meeting started in January with meetings of our GVTA Resolutions Committee (chaired by Kirsten Carman) and all pertinent information was available for review

starting in mid-April. All this preparation will conclude with a 3-day meeting where over 400 delegates from across the province will meet in Winnipeg from May 21-23. By the end of the MTS AGM we will have a new MTS budget, MTS provincial executive, and revised guiding documents for MTS for the 2026-27 School Year.

If you have anything that you want raised at the MTS AGM, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Tuesday after the MTS AGM (May 26), our GVTA AGM will take place at GVC Tec (online option available). All the documents and information for that meeting can be found later in this Apple Core. The information presented is subject to change based on proceedings at the MTS AGM.

One thing that GVTA does need is volunteers to serve on the GVTA executive for the 2026-27 School Year.

We have great returning volunteers, great folks leaving, and several vacancies. Some Teachers have been involved for a long time and need someone else to pick up the torch. As a union, a diverse group of representatives from across the division and ideological spectrum best serves our membership. If you are willing to consider an opportunity to meet other Teachers, consult on divisional and provincial affairs, and bring forward perspectives from your school or administrative unit, please consider joining the GVTA executive as a school rep or committee chairperson (or co-chairperson) for 2026-27.

Looking forward to touching base with you folks at our GVTA AGM on May 26 at 4:15pm.

In Solidarity,

Mike Urichuk

[President@gvta.mbteach.org](mailto:President@gvta.mbteach.org)

## GVTA Membership Gift:



Earlier this month, I delivered our biennial GVTA Membership gift. This year we purchased pencil cases and sticky notes for every GVTA Member. If you have not received yours yet, please do not hesitate to contact me at [president@gvta.mbteach.org](mailto:president@gvta.mbteach.org).

## Apple Core Readership Contest:

Congratulations to Laura Penner who was the winner of our April readership contest! As the winner of our monthly draw, Laura received a \$25 gift card to the local business of her choice!

For May's contest, send an email with the subject line "May Apple Core Contest" too [president@gvta.mbteach.org](mailto:president@gvta.mbteach.org). Include in your email the word that completes the sentence:

"An eligible extra-curricular activity is an activity which has received prior approval from the school \_\_\_\_\_."

Consider Article 6.04 Extra-Curricular Activities clause 4 on page 32 of the Provincial Agreement.

Entries received on or before May 29, 2026 will be eligible to win a \$25 gift card to the local business of your choice!

## Dr. Izzeddin Hawamda

On April 21, Dr. Izzeddin Hawamda joined a group of GVTA members in a workshop to help us use stories to build connections, broaden perspectives, and create space for meaningful conversations. He began by telling us his story of arriving in Canada as a refugee from Palestine as a teenager and his first experiences with the Manitoba school system. While his school had a welcome sign posted above the door, he felt neither welcomed, seen, or heard. In order to facilitate an environment where students and staff can be recognized, feel a sense of belonging, and be understood, he suggests considering the following three questions

- How do we create welcoming spaces?
- What does a truly welcoming school community look and feel like for everyone, especially those who are new or marginalized?

How can we move beyond symbolic gestures to create spaces where people are not just welcomed, but valued and heard?

The power of sharing stories can be instrumental in achieving these truly welcoming spaces. Personal stories give the listeners perspective, empathy and understanding. It also fosters a sense of belonging and highlights what we have in common. As you share stories, Dr. Hawamda reminds us that it is important to think about whose stories you are centering and whose are not.

Thank you, Dr. Hawamda, for sharing your knowledge, experience, and stories with us. It was a fabulous evening of learning and conversation. Consider sharing your stories with others, and inviting them to share theirs as well. As Dr. Hawamda says "You are an echo of your ancestors".





*these lands here in the Red River Valley.*

*Garden Valley Teachers' Association respects the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes and the past and present, and we dedicate ourselves to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration*

1.2. Respectful Meeting Statement- Mike Urichuk

The purpose of the Garden Valley Teachers' Association Respectful Meeting Statement is to provide a foundation when conducting the business of the organization.

GVTA meetings should be inclusive and respectful.

Garden Valley Teachers' Association will not invite, encourage, or condone speech or behavior that undermines the dignity of any individual or group. GVTA meetings should provide an environment that encourages thoughtful debate, active listening, and creative ideas. We will refrain from the use of discriminatory speech or conduct.

Members will observe The Manitoba Teachers' Society Code of Professional Practice, and all meeting attendees will be mindful that we all deserve dignity, equality, and respect during our discussion and activities.

1.3 ## members present. Quorum of 35 members reached?

2.0 Approval of the Agenda:

2.1 Additions:

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

2.2 Approval of the Agenda: **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**

3.0 Adoption of June 10, 2025 Annual General Meeting Minutes as circulated in the *May Apple Core*

3.1 APPROVED by GVTA Executive on September 9, 2025

3.2 **MOVED/SECONDED:** by \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 Executive Changes since June 10, 2025 AGM:

- i. *Patrick Derksen (PRS)* and *Crystal Hildebrand (BVS/BES)* were appointed by their school/units as Members-at-Large.
- ii. Moyra Vallelly (COSL/JRW) resigned as PD Co-chair before the September Executive Meeting. Amy Neufeld (PRS) was appointed PD Co-Chair at the September Executive Meeting.
- iii. Brenda Richer (NPC) resigned as Workplace Safety & Health Liaison before the December Executive Meeting. Christan Froese (PLS) was appointed the Workplace Safety & Health Liaison at the January Executive Meeting.

#### 4.2 Updates to GVTA AGM 2025 Decisions:

##### i. Winkler Community Foundation Fund Establishment:

At the GVTA AGM 2025, the following motion was passed:

**MOTION:** That GVTA set up a fund through the Winkler Community Foundation, with a \$10,000 investment from the 2024-2025 budget, and an ongoing amount in future GVTA budgets to financially support legacy projects for GVSD students who pass away with a donation of \$1000. **MOVED/SECONDED:** Val Harder / Alyssa Friesen\_. **CARRIED**

An ad hoc committee was created to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Winkler Community Fund (WCF). The negotiation process to establish this fund commenced in September with WCF. In January 2026, GVTA established the GVTA Student Memorial Fund. Disbursements from the fund will be available in the 2027 calendar year. Until then, GVTA will provide funds in situations where the fund would have provided disbursements.

In the description of the approved motion at GVTA AGM 2025, it stated that a \$10 000 initial funding would allow for an endowment of \$1000. This was not the case given the financials of WCF. As such, the GVTA Executive needed to determine whether to maintain the initial funding amount or the intended endowment amount. Maintaining the initial investment would honour the budgeted carryover of \$10 000 while maintaining the intended endowment amount would require an initial investment of \$20 000.

The GVTA Executive passed the following motion in January:

**MOTION: (Moved Anny Froese/seconded Camille Daesey): To approve the WCF MoU with an initial capital contribution of \$10 000. CARRIED**

This motion maintained the initial investment amount of \$10 000 which will provide for endowments of \$500. The Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed every two years by WCF and GVTA.

Recommendations for next year:

Establish a policy about how this MoU will be reviewed, reference that the fund exists, and the documents that govern the fund.

#### 5.0 Bylaw Resolutions:

##### 5.1 Resolution 1: GVTA President Election and Term

**MOTION: (moved Karla/seconded Val): That the GVTA Bylaws be amended (as shown below) to require the GVTA President to be elected before March 1 of each year and that the GVTA President shall have a 2-year term in office. CARRIED?**

Problem: GVTA President elections are resolved later than initial posting of positions. This reduces the ability to recruit candidates and allow for more timely staffing decisions. Solution: GVTA will run President elections and resolve them by March 1. This will allow for the GVTA President position to be sent out in initial postings. With this earlier timeline, we would have elections starting in January. To allow for elected GVTA presidents to have

some time prior to a re-election, the President term will be extended to two years from one year.

Wording:

Part 5 – Executive

5.3 All Members of the Executive shall be elected positions except for the Past President.

5.4 The most recent President of the Local who does not seek re-election or is defeated after one (1) or more terms in office is eligible to serve on the Executive as Past-President, provided the Past-President remains a Member who is entitled to participate in the Political Processes of the Local at all times during their term.

5.5 Subject to article 5.4, Members of the Executive **other than the President** shall hold a one (1) year term of office beginning July 1 following the Annual General Meeting. **The President shall hold a two (2) year term of office beginning July 1 following the Annual General Meeting following their election.**

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Part 7 – Elections Nominating Committee

7.1 The executive shall, by the ~~February~~ **January** Executive Meeting, appoint a special committee called the Nominating Committee.

7.2 The nomination and campaign period for the election of the Members of the Executive shall begin the day after the ~~February~~ **January** Executive Meeting.

7.3 The Nominating Committee shall prepare the election of the Executive, ensure that all candidates are eligible to participate in the Political Processes of the Local, and are willing to serve.

...

7.8 Following the opportunity to accept nominations from the floor, if there is only one candidate for an Executive position, that candidate is deemed the successful candidate by acclamation.

7.9 Members shall elect the President by secret ballot before March ~~30~~ **1** of each year. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of nominees for this secret ballot and conduct this election. The nominating committee shall also invite members to submit nominees for this list at least fourteen (14) days prior to this election. The Nominating Committee shall ensure that nominees are willing and able to accept their nomination before including them on the ballot.

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5.2 Resolution 2: References to “secondment” be changed to “release time”

**MOTION: (moved Val Harder/seconded Mary Eberling-Penner): That the GVTA Bylaws and Policies be amended to remove references to secondment. CARRIED?**

Problem: MTS will not approve GVTA's bylaws as they reference secondment instead of release time. MTS sees this as inconsistent with their policies and no policies of a Local may be inconsistent with MTS's policies.

Solution: With a recently adopted admin procedure at GVSD regarding release time for subs and part-time teachers that formalizes a past practice, secondment is neither preferred nor an issue in specific situations.

Wording:

**Bylaw 5:**

5.6 The Members shall determine the release time of the President of the Local and any other Members of the Executive, subject to the terms of the Collective Agreement, Bylaw 5.7, and the Budget of the Local.

5.7 The President of the Local shall ~~be seconded full-time~~ **have full-time release**. As part of this full-time ~~secondment~~ **release** from teaching duties, the President of the Local may serve as a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive, but not as the MTS Vice President or MTS President. The Local shall **compensate the Division appropriately for the release time of the Member**. ~~second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.~~

5.8 Subject to the approved Budget of the Local, the Local shall provide compensation for release time to the Member, as though the Member of the Executive teaches or works for the equivalent of the release time, and no Member of the Executive shall suffer a reduction in salary or benefits that would be earned pursuant to the Collective Agreement as a result of occupying a position on the Executive with release time.

**Policy L:** (provided for context)

**L. GVTA President Release**

The President of the Local shall ~~be seconded full-time~~ **have full-time release**. As part of this full-time ~~secondment~~ **release** from teaching duties, the President of the Local may serve as a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive but not as the MTS Vice President or MTS President. The Local shall **compensate the Division appropriately for the release time of the Member**. ~~second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.~~ (Jun/24)

The Association President shall experience no loss of benefits and the Association shall reimburse the Division for the President's salary, allowances when applicable, benefits and other costs related to the President's leave.

5.3 Resolution 3: Teacher Wellness

Problem: Social and Teacher Wellness is not a title reflective of the new responsibilities proposed in policy.

Solution: Teacher Wellness better reflects the goals of this position.

**MOTION: (Crystal Hildebrand/Caleb Reimer): That the GVTA Bylaws be amended as follows:**

9.1 The following are the Standing Committees of the Local:

- a) Collective Bargaining Committee;
- b) Education Finance Committee;
- c) Employee Benefits Committee;
- d) Equity and Social Justice Committee;

- e) Indigenous Education Committee;
- f) Liaison Committee;
- g) Professional Development Committee;
- h) Public Relations Committee; and
- i) ~~Social and Teacher Wellness Committee;~~

**CARRIED?**

5.4 Resolution 4: (if presented)

6.0 Executive-approved Policy Changes over the past year not attached to any Bylaw resolutions:

6.1 Credit Card Policy

**NEW POLICY:**

10. Credit Card.

To facilitate purchases for items/services related to operations, the Local will secure a credit card.

- a. The credit card will be a product of the financial institution at which the Local holds its Operations account.
- b. The credit card should not require an annual service fee.
- c. The credit card shall have a maximum credit limit of \$15,000.00
- d. The credit card shall set the minimum cash advance limit as low as possible.
- e. Any loyalty/program points or cashback accrued on the credit card shall be used for the benefit of the Local.
- f. The President shall be the card holder. As card holder, the President shall be familiar with the card issuer's policies, procedures, insurance, and protections against lost or stolen cards.
- g. Monthly credit card statements will be reviewed by the President and Treasurer and will be subject to approval of 2 signing authorities other than the President prior to payment being made. When there is a vacancy of either the President or the Treasurer, all signing authorities must review the statement and approve the payment prior to the payment being made.
- h. Monthly credit card statements will be available for the executive to view in the monthly report made by the Treasurer at the next regular executive meeting.
- i. Members wanting to use the Association Credit Card for carrying out GVTA business must make arrangements to do so with the President.
- j. Unless identified in Typically Approved Purchases below, any expenses deemed appropriate to be paid by the Local credit card will be pre-approved by 2 signing authorities other than the President proceeding with the purchase.

i. Typically Approved Purchases on the credit card:

1. Regular Recurring subscriptions for GVTA. Examples include but are not limited to: Website domain, website hosting, cell phone plans, software, and cloud storage.
  2. Accommodations & food for school visits as well as Executive, MTS events, or Committee meetings.
  3. Rental of meeting space for Executive, MTS events, or Committee meetings.
  4. Supplies required to carry out GVTA policy. Examples include but are not limited to: Gift cards for AGMs, recognition gifts, retirement gifts, and office supplies.
  5. Expenses related to the Professional Development Committee.
- (Dec/25)

## 6.2 Teacher Wellness Policy

### **AMENDED POLICY:**

#### **12. Teacher Wellness**

- 1. To promote physical, emotional, and mental wellness.**
- 2. To plan, budget for and execute relevant support(s) that could serve our diverse community of needs throughout the year;**
- 3. ~~To purchase prizes for teacher wellness event(s);~~**
- 4. Include on the executive agenda in fall, winter, and spring, a wellness check-in where each school representative will report on teacher wellness in their building and together, executive members will discuss possible support(s) for the school year;**
- 5. To develop awareness of wellness issues in member attitudes, school policies and programs;**
- 6. To share information and resources regarding wellness. This shall be done primarily through the monthly publication of the Apple Core;**
- 7. To identify local needs for which the committee may provide assistance;**
- 8. To act as a liaison between the local Association and the Society;**
- 9. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and annual report at the general membership meeting.**

## 6.3 Transition Meeting Policy

### **AMENDED POLICY:**

#### **I. Transition Meeting**

- 1. Attendance.** The June executive meeting includes outgoing, incoming, and continuing executive members.

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- 3. Photos of Executive Members- Photographs of incoming and continuing Executive Members will be taken to be distributed to**

**school buildings through the Apple Core and posted to bulletin boards.**

8.0 First Call for Nominations from the floor, including self-nominations:

8.1 There are currently no nominations for Indigenous Education Co-Chair, Professional Development Chair, PD Co-Chair, Ed Finance Chair, Ed Finance Co-Chair, Social & Teacher Wellness Co-Chair

8.2 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

8.3 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

8.4 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

8.5 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Executive Reports**

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10.0 President – Mike Urichuk

10.1 On-going duties include two site visits for each of 18 schools/units, workplace safety and health inspections at GVCTec plus Main Committee and GVC-NPC WSH Committee meetings and training, monthly meetings with the superintendent, attending monthly GVSD board meetings and quarterly liaison meetings, and meeting with the GVTA Vice-President Monthly.

10.2 Planning for Monthly *Apple Cores* and monthly GVTA Executive meetings are on-going work, as well as supporting committee chairs in their roles.

10.3 Work is ongoing around implementation of the Provincial Collective Agreement and ensure interpretations are reasonable and fair for staff. Since last AGM, a Letter of Understanding was negotiated for Big Picture Learning Teacher/Facilitator. We look to continue to move more in line with the language of the current CA regarding concepts that did not exist in our previous Local Collective Agreement.

10.4 The Commissioner of Teacher Professional Conduct and the Competency Standards that they are to uphold has been a topic of many discussions this year. It is a good thing to have established standards, but there has been ongoing work to ensure that our Members have the support that they need as we are now a regulated profession.

10.5 I have attended MTS Summer Seminars, MTS New Presidents' Training, Labour School, Presidents' Councils, Collective Bargaining Standing Committees, Provincial Bargaining Seminars, and seminars for Education Finance and Workplace Safety & Health.

10.6 At the time of reporting, I have received 177 calls requiring action between August 1, 2025 and May 11, 2026, and attended 152 meetings/events over the same period (roughly 161 school days).

11.0 Vice-President – Kirsten Carman

11.1 This year I attended three virtual training sessions for new local Presidents, three Presidents' Councils, three GVSD liaison meetings, as well as monthly GVTA Presidents meetings. In addition, although not specifically related to my role of VP, I completed MTS Labour School in April 2026 and am currently serving a two-year term on an MTS working group committee. Serving as VP this year has been a valuable learning experience. I am grateful for the opportunities to work with Mike on a more regular basis to gain a better understanding of the work involved when running and leading our local association.

12.0 Secretary – Mary Eberling-Penner

12.1 Monthly meeting notes made for the year.

13.0 Treasurer – Anny Froese

13.1 As receipts and Requests for Funds have been submitted, I have issued cheques for reimbursements or payment of invoices. Income from grants, member fees, rebates, and bank interest are recorded on a monthly basis. I have completed monthly banking and credit card reconciliations, as well as prepared and submitted records for the annual financial review. Thank you for submitting receipts and cashing cheques in a timely manner.

13.2 GVTA created a \$10000 endowment fund with the Winkler Community Foundation. This fund is to be accessed when a GVSD student passes, gifting the family a financial gift, which can be used in a memorial project.

13.3 The 2024-2025 Financial Review noted several stale-date cheques from the previous school year that had to be reversed in the year-end review adjustments.

14.0 Collective Bargaining – Jessica Riddell / Sarah Coates

14.1 This was a pretty quiet year for bargaining locally, but at the provincial level, Provincial Bargaining Seminars 1 and 2 happened which means that MTS has an opening package ready to go for whenever our employer decides they're ready to start bargaining. GVTA and GVSD were able to formalize a practice in which substitute members will be compensated for any union work they do (as in, paid for a day of work if/when they are attending to Society business during a normal school day) which will help set a precedent if this topic is raised at the bargaining table in the next round.

15.0 Council of School Leaders (COSL) Representative – Garret Brook

15.1 No Report

16.0 Education Finance –Mike Urichuk / Caleb Reimer

16.1 Attended Education Finance Fall and Spring Seminars.

16.2 Prepared for and presented budget recommendations at GVSD/GVTA liaison meeting, noting the challenges facing teachers today and the complexity of class compositions while lobbying for extra admin time in accordance with the new collective agreement. Suggested rounding positions up to provide extra supports and to ensure schools are not under-staffed. Greater details on this presentation can be found in the November 2025 Apple

Core. Priorities for funding included addressing class size, class composition, and providing meaningful PD.

- 16.3 Responded to the division's budget at the April liaison meeting. With a lower share of provincial dollars to support a harmonized Teacher salary grid, we were encouraged by the division's decision to raise the mill rate instead of cutting services and positions.
  - 16.4 GVSD continues to reduce the gap between GVSD class sizes and Provincial Average class sizes.
  - 16.5 Privatization (Endogenous and Exogenous) and increasing share of education funding being allocated to private/independent schools is a growing concern provincially. Book recommendation on this concern: Unequal Benefits by Sue Winton
- 17.0 Employee Benefits – Kirsten Carman / Sarah Coates
- 17.1 The Employee Benefits co-chair attending the MTS Fall Benefits Seminar (October 2025) and the chair and co-chair virtually attended MTS Spring Regional Benefits Seminar (March, 2026). The seminars provide information regarding the financial positions of all benefit plans, information regarding any changes to the plans, and offers opportunities for feedback from members. Topics of note from these two seminars include:
    - 17.1.a Spouses can purchase life insurance from our plan. It is portable and terminates at age 85. Anyone under 65 can get \$25,000 evidence free.
    - 17.1.b Effective February 1, 2026, Health and Dental rates increased to reflect the 1% collectively bargained salary increase.
- 18.0 Equity & Social Justice – Val Harder / Karla Rootsart
- 18.1 **Book Club:** The ESJ book club met on the first Wednesday of each month. There were 13 members in the ESJ book club, representing multiple school units throughout GVSD. This year our books included:
    - 18.1.a Winipek by Niigaan Sinclair (Adult Nonfiction; Indigenous)
    - 18.1.b Saints and Misfits by Ali, S. K. (Young Adult Fiction; Muslim Racism)
    - 18.1.c Carry Me Home by Janet Fox (Middle Grade Fiction; People experiencing Homelessness)
    - 18.1.d Children Like Us by Brittany Penner (Nonfiction Memoir; Indigenous, adoption)
    - 18.1.e When I Wrap my Hair by Shauntay Grant and In the Blue by Erin Hourigan (Picture books; Culture & Parental Depression)
    - 18.1.f Summer Choices (variety of ESJ topics/formats chosen by book club member)
- Thank you to all of our book club members. We had many thought-provoking conversations and invite you to join us next year! Send Val or Karla an email if you are interested ([Valerie.harder@gvzd.ca](mailto:Valerie.harder@gvzd.ca) or [Karla.rootseart@gvzd.ca](mailto:Karla.rootseart@gvzd.ca) )
- 18.2 **Sessions:** Val & Karla attended the ESJ MTS Fall session and Karla attended the online ESJ MTS Spring Session. Karla also attended the MTS AGM from May 21-23.
  - 18.3 **ESJ Event:** On April 21 we hosted Dr. Izzeddin Hawamda as he facilitated a session for us called, "Using stories to build connections, broaden perspectives, and create space". This

was our third annual ESJ event, and we were satisfied with 16 members attending. This will continue as an annual event, keep your eyes on the Apple Core for next year's speaker!

- 18.4 **The Apple Core:** Val and Karla submitted monthly articles to *The Apple Core* on a variety of ESJ topics.
- 19.0 Indigenous Education – Jim Parry-Hill / Camille Daesey
- 19.1 Dec 5,6 2025 Cochairs attended Indigenous Chairs Training sessions in Winnipeg
- 19.2 Feb 2026, We began interfacing with Victoria McIntosh, the Indigenous Education Coordinator for our Garden Valley School Division
- 19.3 May 14th Moosehide Campaign is an Indigenous led initiative: Pins are available. The purpose in wearing and supporting is to inspire men and boys to take a stand for dignity and against violence against and in support to MMIWG2S.
- 19.4 We unsuccessfully proposed a smudge and an event for Indigenous Educators. We move forward slowly.
- 20.0 Liaison Committee – Mike Urichuk
- 20.1 Committee chairs of GVTA and GVSD boards met three times since the last AGM. We take turns chairing the meeting and bringing agenda items.
- 20.2 Discussion Topics included: PD in GVSD, education funding decisions in GVSD, ESJ events, Big Picture Learning, artificial intelligence summit, GVSD strategic plan, homeschool initiative.
- 21.0 MTS Provincial Executive— Joel Swaan
- 21.1 Thanks once again to GVTA for supporting my nomination to the role of MTS Vice-President. It has been a busy year, which included a move to Winnipeg for the Swaan family. I've worked closely with MTS President Lillian Klausen and Executive Director Arlyn Filewich to serve members in a variety of ways – through duties listed in MTS bylaws and policies and through committee work.
- 21.2 In addition to other duties, I was privileged to meet with members of L'association des éducatrices et éducateurs franco-manitobains, and Frontier, Garden Valley, Mountain View, Nelson House, River East-Transcona, St. James-Assiniboia, Thompson, and Winnipeg Teachers' Associations through school visits, plus Special Area Groups of Educators for drama, gaming, music, and social sciences.
- 21.3 Member: Provincial Executive, MTS Officers, Provincial Bargaining Committee, Political Action Committee, Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) Board of Directors, Manitoba Federation of Labour (MFL) Board of Directors, National Association of Teachers Board of Directors, Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) Economic and Social Policy Committee, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Manitoba (CCPA-MB) Steering Committee
- 21.4 Chair: Audit Committee, Human Resources Committee, Canadian Teachers' Federation-Education International (CTF-EI) Committee, Special Area Groups of Educators (SAGE) Council, Pilot Project Implementation Ad Hoc Committee, Bylaw and Policy Committee

- 21.5 Liaison: Council of School Leaders (COSL), Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du manitoba (ÉFM), Teacher-Led Learning Team (TLLT), Collaborative Learning Facilitators Team (CLFT)
- 21.6 Professional Development: Certificate in Policy Development and Implementation, Certificate in Managerial Finance, CTF Bargaining Conference
  
- 22.0 Nominating Committee – Karla Rootsaert
  - 22.1 Nominations opened for all positions on GVTA for the 2026-27 school year as per policy on February 5<sup>th</sup>. President nominations were accepted until March 12 @ 4pm. At that time, Mike Urichuk was declared as president for 2026-27 as the only nominee.
  - 22.2 The nomination period remained open until May 25<sup>th</sup> at Noon for all other positions.
  - 22.3 Nominations will also be taken from the floor at GVTA AGM on May 26, 2026.
  - 22.4 Please see the nominations listed later in the Agenda.
  
- 23.0 Past-President – Joel Swaan

In addition to supporting Mike and Kirsten when able, I also participated in the ESJ Book Club CLG and the GVTA Leadership Book Club.
  
- 24.0 Political Action Committee – Mike Urichuk
  - 24.1 The Political Action Committee did not meet this year as there were no elections to prepare for. We look forward to hosting an event for trustee elections in Fall 2026.
  
- 25.0 Professional Development – Alyssa Friesen / Amy Neufeld
  - 25.1 PD Committee had 9 CLG applications for the 25/26 year.
    - 25.1.a 6 of those applications were approved and ran.
    - 25.1.b 2 had a suggestion to request participation/funding from Indigenous coordinator but was denied.
    - 25.1.c 1 was declined based on suggested learning and questions about application to classroom.
  - 25.2 February GVSD K-8 PD Day offered the following options for teachers:
    - 25.2.a Mental Health First Aid
    - 25.2.b Story Blankets
    - 25.2.c Using Picture Books Beyond the Read Aloud
    - 25.2.d Traditional Ojibway Perspectives
    - 25.2.e Productivity Hacks with AI
    - 25.2.f K-8 Music Matters
    - 25.2.g De-escalating Children and Youth (CTRI)
    - 25.2.h Compassion Fatigue and Burnout
    - 25.2.i Ready to Learn: Building Reg Skills
    - 25.2.j New K-10 Science Curriculum
    - 25.2.k Media Literacy for Today’s Classrooms
    - 25.2.l Building Thinking Classrooms – A Teacher’s Journey (Leisa Watson)

- 25.2.m Making Math Meaningful K-4
- 25.2.n Tech-infused classroom ideas
- 25.2.o MusicPlay!
- 25.2.p ADHD Strategies (CTRI)
- 25.2.q Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices
- 25.2.r AI Projects
- 25.3 Independent PD Applications continue to run this year. 7 Applications were submitted and approved at the time of reporting.
- 25.4 A proposal was made at the Spring PD Committee meeting for restructuring of the committee.
  - 25.4.a That the Joint GVSD/GVTA Professional Development Committee engage in discussion regarding a proposed revision to the committee structure to improve sustainability, efficiency, and impact, with the intention of determining next steps.
  - 25.4.b The proposed restructure allows for stability of the joint committee in the event that there is no PD Chairperson on GVTA. The committee would then consist of: Senior Administration (typically Assistant superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction), 1 K-8 Principal, 1 High School Principal, 1 Coordinator/Clinician, GVTA President or Delegate, PD Chair or teacher representative that sits on GVTA, 1 K-8 teacher (could be the same person as the GVTA rep), 1 9-12 teacher.
  - 25.4.c The proposal allows for continued structure for PD decisions to made jointly between GVTA/GVSD, but also for stability if there is no PD Chair. It also allows for a smaller committee requiring commitment from fewer entities while still allowing a space for teacher voice. This committee may restructure roles/responsibilities in the future to serve the purpose and goals of providing professional learning in GVSD, but likely a year of determining what that looks like in entirety would be required. GVSD representatives are on board with this proposal.
- 26.0 Public Relations – Jonathan Cullen / Karla Rootsart
  - 26.1 *The Apple Core*- was published monthly on the GVTA website.
  - 26.2 *Apple Core Prizes* - Prizes are now included as part of *The Apple Core* initiative to encourage readership and promote engagement with the union.
  - 26.3 *Members' Scholarship* - This is a scholarship introduced last school year. Children of GVTA members are eligible and can apply to be entered into a lottery-style draw.
  - 26.4 *Scholarship Committee* - The scholarship committee has been selected and is currently waiting on applications from eligible members.
  - 26.5 *Library Book Initiative* – This year, the initiative to provide books to each school or units' libraries continued. Librarians were provided with either a list of books to choose from, used the website to curate their own lists, or had the PR co-chair choose books for them. Books were ordered, stamped, and delivered to schools by the middle of May.

- 26.6 The GVTA Clothing Store was updated and made available to members this year. Find it here at: <https://stores.inksoft.com/GVTA/shop/home>
- 26.7 Teacher gifts were handed out.
- 27.0 Social & Teacher Wellness – VACANT / VACANT
- 27.1 Back to School Event on Thursday, Oct. 2: Superior Smash Fries and Charley B’s ice cream. 52 people registered for the event.
- 27.2 The policy requiring many responsibilities of Social & Teacher Wellness was reviewed and subsequently eliminated. An ad hoc committee was established to review references to this committee in the bylaws. The ad hoc committee then proposed new policy language along with a name change to “Teacher Wellness” as moved in Resolution 3.
- 28.0 Workplace Safety & Health Liaison – Christan Froese
- 28.1 Attended MSBA/MTS WSH rep training with sessions about safety legislation, psychological safety and managing safety incidents.
- 28.2 Attended inspection training at Emerado School with representatives from SafeWork Manitoba
- 28.3 Hearing protection continued to be rolled out for high-risk assignments
- 28.4 New streamlined safety reports being developed for accidents and violent incidents.
- 29.0 Acceptance of Reports – **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_/ \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**
- 30.0 Second Call for Nominations from the floor, including self-nominations:
- 30.1 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 30.2 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 30.3 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 30.4 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 31.0 Acceptance of 2024-2025 Financial Statements
- 31.1 **MOTION:** That the financial statements ending August 31, 2025 be accepted.
- 31.2 Approved by the Executive at the December 2, 2025 Executive Mtg
- 31.3 **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**
- 32.0 2026-2027 Budget and Membership Fees.
- 32.1 **MOTION:** That the 2026-2027 Budget with annual Membership Fee of \$312.72 (\$1.64 per day for substitute teacher) per member prorated to the assignment be accepted as presented.
- 32.2 Approved by the Executive at the April 7, 2025 Executive Mtg
- 32.3 **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**
- 33.0 GVTA 2026-2027 Executive Elections

- 33.1 The following member was acclaimed as of 4pm on March 13, 2026: President: Mike Urichuk (PLS).
- 33.2 The following members were Nominated as of noon on June 9, 2025:
  - 33.2.a Vice-President: Kirsten Carmen (GVC)
  - 33.2.b Treasurer: Susanna Hawryshko (DO)
  - 33.2.c Secretary: Mary Eberling-Penner (PCS/EDW)
  - 33.2.d Collective Bargaining
    - 33.2.d.i Chair: Jessica Riddell (GVC)
    - 33.2.d.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.e Education Finance
    - 33.2.e.i Chair:
    - 33.2.e.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.f Employee Benefits:
    - 33.2.f.i Chair: Kirsten Carmen (GVC)
    - 33.2.f.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.g Equity & Social Justice:
    - 33.2.g.i Chair: Val Harder (DO)
    - 33.2.g.ii Co-Chair: Karla Rootsaert (SWD/HES)
  - 33.2.h Indigenous Education:
    - 33.2.h.i Chair:
    - 33.2.h.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.i Professional Development:
    - 33.2.i.i Chair:
    - 33.2.i.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.j Public Relations:
    - 33.2.j.i Chair: Jonathan Cullen (NPC)
    - 33.2.j.ii** Co-Chair: Karla Rootsaert (SWD/HES)
  - 33.2.k Social & Teacher Wellness:
    - 33.2.k.i Chair: Kirsten Carman (GVC)
    - 33.2.k.ii Co-Chair:
  - 33.2.l Workplace Safety & Health Liaison: Christan Froese (PLS)
- 33.3 Third and Final Call for Nominations from the floor of AGM:
  - 33.3.a **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.3.b **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.3.c **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.3.d **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 33.4 The following members were Nominated as of the third call for nominations:
  - 33.4.a \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.4.b \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.4.c \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 33.4.d \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

- 33.5 The roster of uncontested nominees is accepted as acclaimed to the 2026-2027 GVTA Executive.
- 33.6 **Elections**
- 33.6.a An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 33.6.a.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
- 33.6.a.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
- 33.6.b An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 33.6.b.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
- 33.6.b.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
- 33.6.c An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 33.6.c.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
- 33.6.c.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
- 33.6.d An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 33.6.d.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
- 33.6.d.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
- 33.6.e **MOTION:** To destroy the ballots. **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_. **CARRIED?**
- 33.7 **Appointments**
- 33.7.a MTS Provincial Executive: Joel Swaan (PLS)
- 33.7.b Past President: Joel Swaan (PLS)
- 33.7.c COSL Representative (Elected by Principals & Vice-Principals): Garret Brook (PRS), elected to a two-year term for 2025-2027
- 33.7.d Schools/Administrative Units who are not represented on the executive are entitled to a Member-At-Large, elected by those they represent. Schools/Administrative Units should seek to elect their representative as soon as possible. Schools/Administrative Units requiring a Member-at-Large:
- 33.7.d.i Border Valley/Blumenfeld
- 33.7.d.ii Winkler Elementary
- 33.7.d.iii Emerado
- 33.7.d.iv Pine Ridge
- 33.7.d.v Prairie Dale School
- 33.7.d.vi JR Walkof
- 33.7.d.vii SUB
- 33.8 **Executive Concluding Terms:** With gratitude, we thank those who have served on the executive in 2025-26 who did not seek re-election for the 2026-27 year, or were not successful in their re-election bid:
- 33.8.a Anny Froese (PDS)
- 33.8.b Alyssa Friesen (PLS)
- 33.8.c Jim Parry-Hill (SUB)
- 33.8.d Caleb Reimer (JRW)
- 33.8.e Sarah Coates (GVC)
- 33.8.f Camille Daesey (GVC)
- 33.8.g Members-at-Large
- 33.8.g.i Patrick Derksen (PRS)
- 33.8.g.ii Crystal Hildebrand (BVS)

34.0 **Next Annual General Meeting – Tuesday, June 1, 2026**

35.0 Prize draws for attendees:

36.0 Adjournment: 4:\_\_\_ pm.

Bi-Monthly Fee	12.69	Annual Fee	304.56	Budget 2026-27	
				<b>Garden Valley Teachers' Association Budget</b>	
				Description: Status quo budget. Increase is largely due to per diem increases set by MTS and harmonization of salary grids	
# of exec	17	FTE	321.5	Expenditure Total	\$ 217,103.61
# of Portfolio	14	Sub fee FTE	10	Non-fee Revenue Total	\$ 94,624.98
# of MAL	5	FTE fee total	331.5	Fees revenue Total	\$ 100,961.64
Total Members on Contract				PR Member gift Carry-Over	\$ -
				Reserve Transfer	\$ 20,000.00
				PD Budget Carry-Over	\$ 8,000.00
				Scholarship Carryover	\$ 1,500.00
				<b>Total Reserve Transfer + non PD carryov</b>	<b>\$ 21,500.00</b>
monthly fee to balance				<b>net annual budget</b>	<b>-\$ 16.99</b>
School Year	Monthly fee	Bi-Monthly fee			
2024-25	21.39	10.70			
2025-26	24.06	12.03			
2026-27	25.38	12.69			

		Budget 2026-2027		
		Section Totals	Itemized	
<b>REVENUE</b>				
<b>100</b>	<b>GVTA Fees</b>	\$	<b>100,961.64</b>	
101	GVTA Contract Teacher Fees	\$	97,916.04	Reverse-calculated by math
102	GVTA Sub Fees	\$	3,045.60	Reverse-calculated by math
<b>200</b>	<b>EI Rebate</b>	\$	<b>19,497.00</b>	2025-26 Amount
<b>300</b>	<b>Bank Interest</b>	\$	<b>700.00</b>	2023-24 Amount
<b>400</b>	<b>President Release Subsidy</b>	\$	<b>39,927.98</b>	calculated via formula
<b>500</b>	<b>GVSD PD Fund Transfer</b>	\$	<b>32,000.00</b>	2025-26 Amount
<b>600</b>	<b>Grant Revenue</b>	\$	<b>2,500.00</b>	MTS Grants available
601	Executive Training	\$	500.00	
602	Internal and External PR	\$	1,000.00	
	ESJ Grant	\$	1,000.00	
<b>Total Revenue (w/o fees, w/fees)</b>		\$	<b>94,624.98</b>	\$ <b>195,586.62</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>AD HOC COMMITTEES</b>				
<b>1200</b>	<b>COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COMMITTEE</b>	\$	-	-
<b>1500</b>	<b>EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	\$	<b>409.36</b>	Submitted
	MTS Fall Seminar (Policy O.3.d)	\$	-	
	MTS Spring Seminar (Policy O.3.d)	\$	409.36	
<b>1600</b>	<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE</b>	\$	<b>409.36</b>	
1602	Committee Meals	\$	-	
1604	Regional Meeting Mileage Co-chair	\$	-	These have been Virtual lately
1605	MTS Fall Seminar (Policy O.4.d)	\$	409.36	One overnight Saturday
<b>2800</b>	<b>EQUITY &amp; SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE</b>	\$	<b>2,659.36</b>	Submitted
2801	Snacks at book club (9 x \$50)	\$	450.00	
	ESJ Event (Speaker cost, food, incidentals)	\$	750.00	
2802	MTS Fall Seminar (Policy O.5.i)	\$	400.00	
	MTS Winter Seminar (Policy O.5.i)	\$	-	
2803	Equity Support Groups	\$	500.00	
	Women & Leadership Symposium	\$	559.36	\$150 Reg. + expenses
<b>2900</b>	<b>INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE</b>	\$	<b>1,394.24</b>	
2901	MTS Fall Seminar (Policy O.6.f)	\$	-	
2902	MTS Spring Seminar (Policy O.6.f)	\$	394.24	
2903	Sept 30 & May 5 work	\$	1,000.00	
<b>2000</b>	<b>LIAISON COMMITTEE</b>	\$	-	
2001	snack	\$	-	
<b>3100</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE</b>	\$	<b>73.78</b>	
	POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE	\$	500.00	
<b>2300</b>	<b>PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES</b>	\$	<b>2,231.85</b>	
2301	Planning Meetings (Policy K.3)	\$	-	Held at office
2302	President-VP meetings (Policy K.2)	\$	811.58	Meal allowance for VP & Prez * 11
2303	Discretionary and School Visits (Policy K.4)	\$	1,420.27	school rep # x lunch per diem x 2.75
2304	New Teacher meetings (Policy B.3)	\$	-	tied to school visits
<b>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>				
<b>2100A</b>	PD (A) - GVTA funds			
<b>2100B</b>	PD (B) - GVSD funds			Current year allocation
	Joint Committee Meetings	\$	2,000.00	
	K-8 PD Day	\$	11,200.00	
	CLG's	\$	9,000.00	
	Independent PD for Members	\$	3,000.00	
	Supplies	\$	500.00	
	Refreshments PD Days	\$	6,000.00	
	MTS Fall Seminar (Policy O.9.g)	\$	410.00	
	MTS Winter Seminar (Policy O.9.g)	\$	-	
	2 days release for Chairs (GVTA-GVSD PD Policy B)	\$	474.00	
	Indigenous PD Initiatives	\$	-	
	Carryover from 2025-2026	\$	8,000.00	Carry-over from Previous year (G9)
<b>2500</b>	<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>	\$	<b>13,626.48</b>	
	External Grant for Local Schools (was Kdgn Books)	\$	3,000.00	
	Member gift for 2027-2028 (Policy O.12.d)	\$	4,000.00	Carry-over to 2027-28
	Apple Core incentive	\$	250.00	10 issues * \$25
<b>1400</b>	<b>PR - Education Award &amp; Scholarships Expense</b>			
1401	Scholarships (Policy C.1)	\$	3,000.00	2 x \$1500 Grade 12 Scholarships
	Education Award	\$	1,500.00	Education Award for children of Members
	Deferred Scholarship	\$	1,500.00	1 deferred Scholarship; offset by carryover funds
1402	Meals for interviewers	\$	306.48	6 cmte members
1403	Applicant appreciation gift	\$	70.00	\$10/interviewee
<b>2600</b>	<b>TEACHER WELLNESS</b>	\$	<b>5,450.00</b>	
2601	Wellness Supports (events or other)	\$	3,500.00	eliminated policy on required events
<b>1100</b>	<b>Benevolence and Gifts</b>			
1101	Benevolence and Gifts (Policy J.2)	\$	300.00	
1103	New Teacher Gift Package (Policy B.3)	\$	750.00	
	Retirement Gifts (Policy B.2)	\$	900.00	
<b>TREASURER EXPENSES</b>				
<b>1000</b>	Accountant review expense	\$	3,200.00	projected cost for next year based on past expense
1001	New Treasurer Technology	\$	2,000.00	printer, laptop, software
<b>3000</b>	<b>VICE-PRESIDENT EXPENSES</b>	\$	<b>2,135.39</b>	
3001	Professional Development	\$	250.00	submitted
	PD Accommodation/Meals/mileage	\$	657.31	
3002	President's Council	\$	1,228.08	3 Presidents councils
<b>EXECUTIVE EXPENSES</b>				
<b>1700</b>	<b>Executive Honorarium (Policy A.1)</b>			
1701	PD, treasurer @ \$499.99	\$	999.98	
1702	MAL @ \$100	\$	500.00	
1703	Portfolio positions @ \$250	\$	2,750.00	
<b>1800</b>	<b>Executive Meetings (Policy D.2)</b>	\$	<b>3,060.00</b>	9 mtgs, not counting retreat
<b>1900</b>	<b>Executive Retreat (Policy B.5)</b>			
1901	Lunch	\$	700.91	Lunch for all +2 guest speakers
1902	meeting room	\$	-	220.48 is Actual 2024-25 cost
1903	snacks	\$	170.00	\$10/person

1904	speaker	\$	500.00	
1905	team building	\$	340.00	\$20/person
1906	subs	\$	3,792.00	Subs for all except pres
	Exec PD - Book Clubs for Board/Admin books	\$	300.00	5 people x 2 books
1102	Outgoing Executive Gift (Policy I.2)	\$	90.00	
	Executive Gift	\$	510.00	\$30/exec member
	<b>GVTA GENERAL MEETINGS</b>	\$	<b>500.00</b>	
700	AGM-GVTA			
701	Prizes for AGM - PR Cmte (Policy E.2)	\$	300.00	
	Food for AGM - S&TW Cmte (Policy E.1)	\$	200.00	
800	Fall GM	\$	-	
	<b>MEMBERSHIPS</b>	\$	-	
3400	Memberships in other Orgs	\$	-	
900	<b>MTS GENERAL MEETINGS</b>	\$	<b>4,960.54</b>	
	Resolution Committee			
901	Binder Meeting Subs (Policy O.11.e)	\$	1,422.00	MTS pays 2 days; we send 8*0.5 days
	Binder Meeting Lunch	\$	221.34	Moved to 1/2 day after binder mtg
	Binder Meeting Mileage	\$	525.60	
	MTS AGM			
902	Alternate - Sub Costs (Policy G.1)	\$	474.00	for 2 days for Alternate
903	Alternate - Mileage & Parking (Policy G.1)	\$	272.50	250km; \$30/day parking
907	Alternate - Meals (Policy G.1)	\$	233.00	3 Bkfst; 3 lunch; 3 supper
904	**Change to "Alternate" Hotel Rooms (Policy G.3)	\$	707.10	1 full rm * 3 nights; New MTS Resolution
905	Hospitality Room (Policy G.2)	\$	425.00	\$1/member
906	AGM Snacks for Delegates	\$	180.00	\$20 * 9 delegates/alternate/px
	Candidate for PX 2027-28 (Policy G.6)	\$	500.00	Joel re-election for MTS VP
	<b>MTS SEMINARS &amp; EVENTS</b>	\$	-	
3301	Hotel Expense for Summer Leadership Training	\$	-	Rooms are paid by MTS
	Int'l Ed Teacher, Sub Teacher seminars	\$	-	
2200	<b>OFFICE EXPENSES</b>	\$	<b>1,773.72</b>	
2201	Office Phone (Policy A.4)	\$	480.00	\$40.00/month
2202	Internet-President (Policy A.3*)	\$	258.72	New policy - 1/2 of expense
2203	Internet-Treasurer (Policy A.3*)	\$	405.00	New policy - 1/2 of expense
2204	mailbox rental	\$	-	Community box. No costs
2205	website	\$	-	Paid for 2 years in 2025-26
2206	website domain registration	\$	-	Paid for 2 years in 2025-26
	Furniture/Décor	\$	-	
	Office Snacks	\$	180.00	
	Supplies	\$	450.00	
2700				
2400	<b>PRESIDENT'S RELEASE</b>	\$	<b>129,580.95</b>	
2401	Salary & Benefits (Policy L.1)	\$	129,580.95	100% of Class 6 Max Salary x 1.083
3200	<b>REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES</b>	\$	<b>1,901.69</b>	
	Mileage for meetings (Policy A.2)	\$	500.00	
1300	Dependent Care			
	Humans	\$	494.25	25 hrs
	Liaison: Accommodations/meals for exec	\$	-	
		\$	907.44	Supper/Bkft, Hotel - 1 exec * 4 liaison
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$	<b>225,103.61</b>	

<b>RESERVE FUND</b>		
retained earnings Aug (previous year) from audit	\$	126,249.00
retained earnings Aug current year (budget)	\$	80,506.00
retained earnings Aug current year (projected)		
Last year operating expenses from audit	\$	191,839.00
75% of last years operating expenses	\$	143,879.25
<b>maximum retained earnings allowed Aug 2027 75% operating</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>168,827.70</b>
<b>minimum retained earnings allowed</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>
retained earnings Aug 2027 (budget)	\$	59,006.00
<b>Transfer from reserves</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>21,500.00</b>

<b>Values for formula</b>				
sub per diem	\$	237.00	2026-27 Meal Per Diems	2025-26 2024-25 Meal Per Diems
Breakfast	\$	25.54		25.54 21
Lunch	\$	36.89		36.89 31
Supper	\$	51.08		51.08 43
Mileage/km	\$	0.73		
Number of School Days in the year	\$	191.00		
AGM Rooms	\$	235.70		
MTS Hotel rate	\$	150.24		
Childcare	\$	19.77		
Number of MTS delegates inc. Alternate		8		
MTS Dues		TBD		
Last year operating expenses from audit	\$	191,839.00		

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**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION**

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**August 31, 2025**

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## **INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

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To the directors of **Garden Valley Teachers' Association**

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Garden Valley Teachers' Association that comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Practitioner's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### **Conclusion**

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Garden Valley Teachers' Association as at August 31, 2025, and results of its operations and its cash flows for the period ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*Gislason Targownik Peters*

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS LLP

Winkler, Manitoba  
December 2, 2025

**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Unaudited Statement of Operations**  
**For the year ended August 31, 2025**

	2025	2024
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Garden Valley Teachers' Association fees	\$ 85,183	\$ 90,508
Professional development income	42,000	39,089
Manitoba Teachers' Society (President's release time)	37,792	31,564
Employment Insurance rebate	20,213	30,264
Miscellaneous income	2,188	1,316
Interest income	700	1,027
Grant revenue	619	1,829
Misc. PD income	180	336
	<b>188,875</b>	<b>195,933</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Board expense	8,383	9,623
Collective bargaining committee	-	193
Committee costs and miscellaneous	836	2,613
Education awards	7,500	1,500
Equity social justice committee	2,048	1,572
Executive honorariums	5,900	6,440
General meetings	4,649	6,149
Indigenous education committee	1,948	150
Office expense	3,901	6,163
President expense	1,504	2,700
President's release time	101,908	79,420
Professional development	38,402	30,334
Professional fees	3,102	2,951
Public relations committee	5,094	8,569
Special events committee	6,664	5,420
	<b>191,839</b>	<b>163,797</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (2,964)</b>	<b>\$ 32,136</b>

**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Unaudited Statement of Changes in Net Assets**  
**For the year ended August 31, 2025**

	General Fund	Reserve Fund	2025	2024
<b>NET ASSETS - Beginning</b>	\$ 109,213	\$ 20,000	\$ 129,213	\$ 97,077
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(2,964)	-	(2,964)	32,136
<b>NET ASSETS - Ending</b>	\$ 106,249	\$ 20,000	\$ 126,249	\$ 129,213

**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Unaudited Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at August 31, 2025**

	2025	2024
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 76,971	\$ 66,623
Accounts receivable	44,459	54,152
Current portion of investments	10,313	10,432
	<b>131,743</b>	131,207
<b>INVESTMENTS (Note 3)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>\$ 131,748</b>	<b>\$ 131,212</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,499	\$ 1,999
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
General fund	106,249	109,213
Reserve fund (Note 4)	20,000	20,000
	<b>126,249</b>	129,213
	<b>\$ 131,748</b>	<b>\$ 131,212</b>

**APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_ Trustee

**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Unaudited Statement of Cash Flow**  
**For the year ended August 31, 2025**

	2025	2024
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (2,964)	\$ 32,136
Net change in non-cash working capital balances	13,193	(31,137)
	<b>10,229</b>	999
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Investments	119	(80)
<b>INCREASE IN CASH</b>	<b>10,348</b>	919
<b>CASH - Beginning</b>	<b>66,623</b>	65,704
<b>CASH - Ending</b>	<b>\$ 76,971</b>	\$ 66,623

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**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Notes to the Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended August 31, 2025**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Garden Valley Teachers' Association is an unincorporated not-for-profit organization. Its purpose is to further the aims and objectives of The Manitoba Teachers' Society, to improve and maintain working conditions for Association members and to promote and advance education in the Association's educational community. It is a not-for-profit organization under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is therefore exempt from income tax.

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of presentation**

The financial statements of the organization have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

**Financial instruments**

Financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent measurement of financial assets and liabilities are at amortized cost unless otherwise noted. Financial assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost consists of cash, receivables and payables.

It is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant credit, currency, interest rate, liquidity or market risks arising from these financial instruments, unless otherwise noted.

**Capital assets**

Capital assets are recorded as an expense in the year of acquisition. Capital assets of \$NIL (2024 - \$1,679) was recorded as an expense during the year. The categories of capital assets held by the organization are furniture and computer equipment.

**Revenue recognition**

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized.

Association fees, professional development income, grants, rebates, miscellaneous and interest income are recognized as revenue when earned.

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**GARDEN VALLEY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Notes to the Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended August 31, 2025**

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**Contributed services and materials**

A substantial number of volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year. Due to the difficulty of determining the fair market value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Contributed materials which are used in the normal course of the organization's operations and would otherwise have been purchased are recorded at their fair value at the date of contribution if fair value can be reasonably estimated.

**3. INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Access Credit Union Ltd. share	\$ 5	\$ 5
Access Credit Union Ltd. GIC	<b>10,313</b>	10,432
	<b>10,318</b>	10,437
Less: Current portion of investments	<b>10,313</b>	10,432
	<b>\$ 5</b>	<b>\$ 5</b>

The guaranteed investment certificate earns interest at the rate of 4.0% and matures in November 2025.

**4. RESERVES**

The reserve fund was established by the board as an internal allocation to provide funds to the general fund when required for special projects, emergencies and to cover operating deficits.



Minutes to be approved at the next Executive Meeting, September 9, 2025  
Minutes to be approved at the next General Meeting, May 26, 2026  
Hybrid: In Person @ GVCTec Rm 126 & On-line via TEAMS

[CLICK HERE on TUESDAY, JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> to JOIN THE MEETING OVER TEAMS](#)

**Executive Members Present:**

<i>Erin Boschmann (SWD/HES) – PD Co-Chair</i>	<i>Mike Urichuk (PRES)</i>
<i>Kirsten Carman (GVC) – Emp. Benefits Chair</i>	<i>Jim Parry-Hill (SUB) – Indig. Ed. Co-Chair</i>
<i>Sarah Coates (GVC) – EB Co-Chair; CB Co-Chair</i>	<i>Caleb Reimer (JRW) – Education Finance Chair</i>
<i>Jonathan Cullen (NPC) – PR Chair</i>	<i>Brenda Richer (NPC) – Indig. Ed. Chair; WSH Liaison</i>
<i>Ashly Dyck (PRS) – Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Jessica Riddell (ECS) – VP; CB Chair</i>
<i>Mary Eberling-Penner (PCS/EDW) – Secretary</i>	<i>Karla Rootsart (SWD/HES) – ESJ &amp; PR Co-Chairs</i>
<i>Alyssa Friesen (PLS) – PD Chair</i>	
<i>Andrea Friesen (PLS) – Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Joel Swaan (GVTA/PLS) – Past President; Prov. Exec.</i>
	<i>Moyra Vallely (COSL/JRW) – COSL Rep</i>
<i>Anny Froese (PDS) – Treasurer</i>	<i>Sarah Waldner (NPC) – S&amp;TW Co-Chair</i>
<i>Val Harder (DO) – ESJ Chair</i>	

**Members Present:**

Camille Daly	Sarah Coates	Yvonne Urichuk Knight
Margaret Bergen	Ian Hart	Derek Baschuk
Kelsey Dyck	Roxanne Barniski	James Driedger
McKenna Graham	Scotty Dueck	Ginette Wilkins
Melanie Urichuk	Susana Hawryshko	Harold Epp
Alicia Balantyne	Brittany Laminan	Lianna Hoepfner
Caitlin Parr	Mike Dyck	Claire Goertzen

**Regrets:**

<i>Laura Friesen (WES) – Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Crystal Hildebrand (BVS/BES) – Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Brandy Springer (JRW) – S&amp;TW Chair</i>	

1.0 Call to Order @ 4:15 pm by M. Urichuk

1.1 Treaty Acknowledgement – Val Harder

*Garden Valley School Division buildings are located on Treaty 1 lands: the original lands of the Anishinaabe people, and on the homeland of the Métis nation. As the Garden Valley Teachers' Association, we recognize our history as a settler organization that operates on*

*these lands here in the Red River Valley.*

*Garden Valley Teachers' Association respects the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes and the past and present, and we dedicate ourselves to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration*

*Val Harder noted that GVSD has hired an Indigenous Coordinator who is eager to join classes to share knowledge and understanding.*

## 1.2. Respectful Meeting Statement

The purpose of the Garden Valley Teachers' Association Respectful Meeting Statement is to provide a foundation when conducting the business of the organization.

GVTA meetings should be inclusive and respectful.

Garden Valley Teachers' Association will not invite, encourage, or condone speech or behavior that undermines the dignity of any individual or group. GVTA meetings should provide an environment that encourages thoughtful debate, active listening, and creative ideas. We will refrain from the use of discriminatory speech or conduct.

Members will observe The Manitoba Teachers' Society Code of Professional Practice, and all meeting attendees will be mindful that we all deserve dignity, equality, and respect during our discussion and activities.

1.3 ## members present. Quorum of 35 members was reached.

## 2.0 Approval of the Agenda:

### 2.1 Additions:

2.1.1

2.1.2

2.1.3

2.2 Approval of the Agenda: **MOVED/SECONDED**: Kirsten Carman / Andrea Friesen. **CARRIED**

## 3.0 Adoption of May 28, 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes as circulated in the May *Apple Core*

3.1 APPROVED by GVTA Executive on June 4, 2024

3.2 **OVED/SECONDED**: by Val Harder \_ / Alyssa Friesen\_. **CARRIED**

## 4.0 Business Arising

### 4.1 Executive Changes since May 28, 2024 AGM:

4.1.1 Andrea Friesen (PLS), Laura Friesen (WES), and Crystal Hildebrand (BVS/BES) were appointed as Members-at-Large by their schools/units before the September 2024 meeting.

4.1.2 Karla Rootsart was appointed to the role of Public Relations Co-Chair at the October 2024 meeting.

- 4.1.3 Brenda Richer was appointed to the role of Workplace Safety & Health Liaison at the October 2024 meeting.
- 4.1.4 Ashly Dyck (PRS) was appointed as Member-at-Large by her school before the December 2024 meeting.

5.0 Bylaw Update from 2024 AGM

5.1 At the May 2024 AGM, GVTA passed a bylaw change for Bylaw 5.7:

<p><b>May 2024 Bylaw:</b> Bylaw 5.7 The President of the Local shall be seconded full-time. As part of this full-time secondment from teaching duties, the President of the Local may serve as a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive but not as the MTS Vice President or MTS President. The Local shall second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.</p>	<p><b>Previous Bylaw:</b> Bylaw 5.7 The President of the Local shall have full-time release. The Local shall second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.</p>
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5.2 This change was to bring it into alignment with GVTA Policy, also passed in 2024:

<p><b>May 2024 Policy:</b> Policy L.1 The President of the Local shall be seconded full-time. As part of this full-time secondment from teaching duties, the President of the Local may serve as a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive but not as the MTS Vice President or MTS President. The Local shall second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.</p>	<p><b>Previous Policy:</b> Policy L.1 The Association President shall have full-time release. The Association shall second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.</p>
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5.3 There are three situations that these changes were looking to rectify:

- 5.3.1 Some Locals have bylaws around whether their president can serve simultaneously on the Provincial Executive during the time that they also serving as president. This answers that question for GVTA members.
- 5.3.2 The previous bylaw states that the GVTA president shall have full-time release. If the president is expected to perform duties for Provincial Executive (PX) as well, this change permits the president to perform their PX duties as part of their full-time release from their teaching duties.
- 5.3.3 Whether the president has full-time release or part-time release makes a difference in the Honorarium Policy: a part-time president receives an honorarium, while a full-time president does not. This clarifies that a president on provincial executive (PX) who receives 20% release time to perform their PX duties is still a full-time president, and not an 80% president.

5.4 **The Problem:** GVTA bylaws need to be approved by the MTS Provincial Executive. When the bylaws were submitted, the Interim Executive Director of MTS did not submit them to PX as the new change used the word “second”. This means that our Bylaw 5.7 is still the previous Bylaw, while our Policy L.1 is the revised and updated version. The GVTA Executive has

discussed the matter, and feels that the updated Policy L.1 provides the needed clarity to members to enact the original intentions of the changes. Going forward, Bylaw 5.7 retains its previous wording.

6.0 Executive-approved Policy Changes over the past year:

6.1 MTS Summer Seminar Selection Policy

(As printed in the June *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on June 21, 2024)

**NEW POLICY:**

Policy P.3. *MTS Summer Seminar Selection*. Participation in Summer Seminar is open to executive members who will be serving as of July 01. (Two days near the end of August put on by MTS, now a focus on leadership, etc.)

- a. At the June executive meeting, all executive members (outgoing and incoming included) have the opportunity to nominate themselves or be nominated by another executive member to attend Summer Seminar on an anonymous paper ballot. The chair shall read each nominated name once and the executive member named shall have the opportunity to declare their interest in attending or not. If there are more interested nominees than there are positions to fill, each nominee shall be given 2 minutes to speak to their interest and rationale for wanting to represent the Local. Executive members shall then vote by paper ballot, voting for up to the number of positions available. In the event of a tie, a second vote shall be cast between the tied candidates. Voting ballots shall be counted by two executive members who are not nominees.
- b. In the event that the invitation to Summer Seminar is sent after the June executive meeting, the President shall send the invitation to all executive members. Nominations shall be sent electronically to the President no later than 2 business days following the email. If a vote is required, the President shall facilitate an electronic vote of the executive.
- c. If after the vote a successful nominee is unable to attend, the remaining nominees will be asked in order of the highest votes received.

6.2 Long-Term Illness Policy

(As printed in the June *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on June 21, 2024)

**NEW POLICY:**

Policy J.4. If a GVTA Member accesses leave for a minimum of four (4) consecutive school months due to disability or illness, which removes them from their school unit at the full percentage of their assignment, the GVTA will provide one (1) support to that Member per leave, following the procedure outlined in J.2.a.i. at the amount of \$50.00.

6.3 President Release Time Policy

(As printed in the June *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on June 21, 2024)

**NEW POLICY:**

Policy L.1. *President Release Time*. The President of the Local shall be seconded full-time. As part of this full-time secondment from teaching duties, the President of the Local may serve as a Member-at-Large on the MTS Provincial Executive but not as the MTS Vice President or MTS President. The Local shall second the member from the Division and compensate the Division appropriately.

#### 6.4 Women & Leadership Representative Policy

(As printed in the February *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on March 4, 2025)

##### **NEW POLICY:**

**Policy: O.13 (with subsequent renumbering) Women and Leadership.** A representative will be chosen annually from amongst the Executive members who are women. The women of the Executive shall meet in September to accept nominations from interested members. If more than one Executive member is nominated for the position, a vote will occur at this meeting.

- a. Attend provincial Women and Leadership seminars and report back to local Association
- b. Act as a liaison between the local Association and the Society; receive and distribute information
- c. Communicate to local members through Apple Core submissions
- d. May work in collaboration with other committees to plan an event for GVTA membership
- e. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings

#### 6.5 MTS Provincial Council Delegate and Representative Policy

(As printed in the February *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on March 4, 2025)

##### **NEW POLICY:**

P.1. *MTS Provincial Council Delegate and Representative Selection Procedure.* GVTA sends Delegates to MTS Provincial Council as determined by MTS and at MTS's expense plus one (1) Alternate Delegate paid by GVTA. This policy establishes the order that the GVTA Executive will use to invite and select participants from amongst its executive members.

- a. The President and Vice-President will be invited to attend each year.
- b. Of the members of executive who have served more than one year, and who have never been to AGM, up to two spots may next be filled by inviting those executive members in order of longest service on GVTA to shortest.
- c. To fill the half of remaining seats including the alternate (rounding up), the delegates who attended the previous year will be invited again in the order of greatest-to-least time passed since their attendance at AGM previous to P.1.b., and then

##### **OLD POLICY:**

P.1.

a. GVTA sends Delegates to MTS Provincial Council as determined by MTS and at MTS's expense plus one (1) Alternate Delegate paid by GVTA. This policy establishes the order that the GVTA Executive will use to invite and select participants from amongst its executive members.

All but one (1) official GVTA MTS Provincial Council Delegates are chosen using the Delegate List. The remaining delegate is to be an Executive member who has never been to an in-person Provincial Council with members asked in order of seniority; if there is no qualifying or available member, then refer back to the Delegate List. One (1) Alternate Delegate is selected using the Alternate Delegate Selection Procedure; should the Alternate and another delegate have the same length of service, the Alternate shall be the person in the furthest position down the Delegate List.

delegates who attended the previous year for the first time.

6.5.1 Members who attended as President, Vice-President, or electoral candidates determined by P.1.e., and who are no longer serving in those roles are exempt from this clause.

- d. The remaining delegate and alternate positions to be filled will be filled by inviting the rest of the executive in the order of greatest-to-least time passed since attending AGM.
- e. Any member of the executive who is running as an approved candidate as per Policy G.6. who would otherwise have not been invited to attend in their election year will be given delegate status in that year.
- f. When length of time served is equal for two or more members in any clause of this procedure, the names will be ordered by random draw.
- g. Except for President, Vice-President, and electoral candidates determined by P.1.e., no member will be asked to attend more than two years in a row unless the rest of the executive have declined to attend. Should this be the case, executive members will be invited in a way that is consistent with this clause.

i. Official GVTA MTS Provincial Council Delegate List:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Provincial Standing Committee Members
4. Collective Bargaining Chair
5. Professional Development Chair
6. Employee Benefits Chair
7. Education Finance Chair
8. Equity & Social Justice Chair
9. Indigenous Education Chair
10. Workplace Health & Safety Liaison
11. COSL Representative
12. If the respective chairs cannot attend, then the co-chairs of:
  - a. Collective Bargaining
  - b. Professional Development
  - c. Employee Benefits
  - d. Education Finance
  - e. Equity & Social Justice
  - f. Indigenous Education
13. Treasurer
14. Secretary
15. Drawn at Random:
  - a. Chair of Public Relations
  - b. Chair of Social & Teacher Wellness
16. Notwithstanding respective chairs attending, the following co-chairs drawn at random:
  - a. Collective Bargaining
  - b. Education Finance
  - c. Employee Benefits
  - d. Equity & Social Justice
  - e. Indigenous Education
  - f. Professional Development
17. Notwithstanding respective chairs attending, the following co-chairs drawn at random:
  - a. Public Relations
  - b. Social & Teacher Wellness
18. Past President
19. Members-at-Large, drawn at random

	<p>b. Alternate Delegate Selection Procedure. Drawn members not already attending are selected in order of GVTA service - from least to greatest - based on full years of service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Members who tie for length of service shall be divided into 3 groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Table officers &amp; members chairing a committee, including Workplace Safety &amp; Health Liaison &amp; COSL Representative;</li> <li>2. Members co-chairing a committee;</li> <li>3. Members-at-Large</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Members will be randomly sorted within their groups and asked in order.</li> <li>iii. If the first person who is able to attend is already attending based on the Delegate List, then the Alternate spot reverts to the next person available on the Delegate List.</li> </ul>
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6.6 Internet Reimbursement Policy

(As printed in the February *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on March 4, 2025)

<p><b>NEW POLICY:</b>  A.3. <i>Internet.</i> The president and treasurer receive reimbursements for their home internet service. <del>until such time as the GVTA maintains permanent office space.</del>  Reimbursement shall be at <b>50% of</b> the basic level for the carrier of their choice.</p>	<p><b>OLD POLICY:</b>  A.3. <i>Internet.</i> The president and treasurer receive reimbursements for their home internet service. until such time as the GVTA maintains permanent office space.  Reimbursement shall be at the basic level for the carrier of their choice.</p>
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6.7 GVTA Education Award Policy

(As printed in the March *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on April 8, 2025)

<p><b>NEW POLICY:</b>  C.2. <i>Education Awards</i> The purpose of the GVTA Education Award Policy is to outline the eligibility, application, and decision-making process for awarding education awards to the children of GVTA members pursuing post-secondary education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Eligibility Criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The education award is open to children of GVTA members, including stepchildren and foster children.</li> <li>ii. Applicants must be enrolled in a post-secondary program for the following academic school year.</li> <li>iii. Applicants who have previously been awarded a GVTA scholarship or education award are not eligible to apply again.</li> <li>iv. Applicants may apply for all three scholarships/education awards but can only be awarded one.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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b. Application Process

i. Applicants must submit the following information:

1. Name and contact information of the applicant
2. Name of the GVTA member (parent/guardian)
3. Name of the post-secondary institution; and
4. Proof of enrolment (e.g., transcript, receipt of tuition payment, letter from the institution)

ii. Applications must be submitted using a fillable PDF form, which will be emailed to the GVTA president.

iii. The scholarship committee will review and process applications when it is processing all other scholarships.

iv. The GVTA president will be the point of contact for scholarship recipients.

c. Decision-Making Process

i. The selection process will be conducted through a lottery system.

ii. Three scholarships/education awards will be awarded each year, each to a different recipient.

iii. The GVTA Scholarship Committee is responsible for administering the program, ensuring fairness, and maintaining records of awarded scholarships.

iv. Any disputes or concerns regarding the scholarship and education award process will be addressed by the scholarship committee and the GVTA executive.

6.8 Committee Policies

(As printed in the April *Apple Core*; Approved by the GVTA Executive on May 6, 2025)

<b>NEW POLICY:</b>	<b>OLD POLICY:</b>
O.2 Collective Bargaining a. <b>removed with subsequent renumbering</b> b. <b>removed with subsequent renumbering</b> g. Give reports <b>as needed</b> at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.	O.2 Collective Bargaining a. To negotiate a new collective agreement based on provincial and regional bargaining goals and the needs of the membership; b. To establish a Table Team consisting of the President, MTS Representative, Collective Bargaining Chair, Collective Bargaining Co Chair, and others as selected by the Collective Bargaining Chair and Co Chair. The Table Team will be constructed with the diversity of the membership in mind. The Table Team will be comparable to the table team set by the employer to the bargaining table. The Table Team must be approved by the GVTA Executive and the Collective Bargaining Committee. g. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.
O.4 Employee Benefits	O.4 Employee Benefits

<p>b. <b>removed with subsequent renumbering</b></p> <p>c. To <b>promote</b> Employee Benefits Seminars relative to GVTA members;</p> <p>f. Give reports at GVTA Executive meetings <b>as needed</b> and <b>an</b> annual report at <b>the</b> general membership meeting.</p>	<p>b. To identify and investigate local needs for which the Employee Benefits committee can provide assistance;</p> <p>c. To organize and host Employee Benefits Seminars relative to GVTA members;</p> <p>f. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.</p>
<p>O.5 Equity &amp; Social Justice</p> <p>a. Develop awareness of social justice and equity issues;</p> <p>i. Chair and Co-Chair to attend regional and provincial Equity and Social Justice meetings and report back;</p> <p>k. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and annual report at general membership meetings.</p>	<p>O.5 Equity &amp; Social Justice</p> <p>a. Develop awareness of social justice and equity issues in classroom materials, member attitudes, school policies and programs;</p> <p>i. Chair and Co-Chair to attend regional and provincial Equity and Social Justice meetings and report back to the committee;</p> <p>k. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.</p>
<p>O.6 Indigenous Education</p> <p>d. To cooperate with the Professional Development Committee in providing local members in-service training related to Indigenous education <b>if requested</b>;</p> <p>e. Communicate to local members through submissions to the <i>Apple Core</i> <b>as required</b>;</p> <p>h. Give reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings <b>as required</b>.</p>	<p>O.6 Indigenous Education</p> <p>d. To cooperate with the Professional Development Committee in providing local members in-service training related to Indigenous education;</p> <p>e. Communicate to local members through a monthly submission to the <i>Apple Core</i>;</p> <p>h. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.</p>

6.9 Committee Policies

(As printed in the May *Apple Core*; To be approved by the GVTA Executive on June 3, 2025)

<p><b>NEW POLICY:</b></p> <p>O.3 Education Finance</p> <p>a. <b>Participate in the GVSD budget process by preparing and delivering a budget presentation on behalf of GVTA</b>;</p> <p>b. Track trends in Education Finance field;</p> <p>c. Gather information to present to local Executive and General Meetings;</p> <p>f. Give reports at GVTA Executive meetings and annual reports at general membership meetings <b>as required</b>.</p>	<p><b>OLD POLICY:</b></p> <p>O.3 Education Finance</p> <p>a. To be accorded consultation and participation by the local Board of Trustees in the annual FSP (entitlement) and FRAME;</p> <p>b. Tracking trends in Education Finance field;</p> <p>c. Gathering information to present to local Executive and General Meetings;</p> <p>f. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.</p>
<p>O.9. Professional Development</p> <p>g. Chair and/or Co-Chair to attend regional and <b>provincial</b> PD meetings and report back</p>	<p>O.9. Professional Development</p> <p>g. Chair and Co-Chair to attend regional and PD meetings and report back to those</p>

to those respective committees; i. Give reports at GVTA Executive meetings <b>as necessary</b> and reports at general membership meetings.	respective committees; i. Give monthly reports at GVTA Executive meetings and semi-annual and annual reports at general membership meetings.
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6.10 GVTA Professional Development Policy

(As printed in the *May Apple Core*; To be approved by the GVTA Executive on June 3, 2025)

**NEW POLICY:**  
*GVTA Professional Development:* That GVTA Executive members be invited to participate in book studies on any books being used as professional development by GVSD leadership, including the board and principals' council.

8.0 Prizes for the first round of prizes: Ian Hart\_\_\_\_, \_Alicia Ballantyne\_\_\_\_, \_Harold Epp\_\_\_\_, \_Alyssa Friesen\_\_\_\_, \_Margaret Bergen\_\_\_\_.

9.0 First Call for Nominations from the floor, including self-nominations:

9.1 There are currently no nominations for Indigenous Education Co-Chair, Public Relations Co-Chair, Social & Teacher Wellness Chair, Social & Teacher Wellness Co-Chair

9.2 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

9.3 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

9.4 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

9.5 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_. Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Executive Reports**

10.0 President – Joel Swaan

10.1 It has been a busy year as president, as I've continued to work 20% of my time serving on the MTS Provincial Executive while still working as a full-time president for GVTA.

10.2 On-going duties include two site visits for each of 18 schools/units, workplace safety and health inspections at NPC and GVCTec plus Main Committee and GVC-NPC WSH Committee meetings and training, monthly meetings with the superintendent, attending monthly GVSD board meetings and quarterly liaison meetings, and meeting with the GVTA Vice-President Monthly.

10.3 Planning for Monthly *Apple Cores* and monthly GVTA Executive meetings are on-going work, as well as supporting committee chairs in their roles.

10.4 I also worked with the division on implementation of the new Collective Agreement, negotiating a Letter of Understanding on small school principals, and a salary for the new position of Big Picture Learning Teacher/Facilitator (ongoing as of the time of writing).

10.5 I've also attended MTS training at Summer Seminar, Presidents' Councils, and seminars for Education Finance, Employee Benefits, Professional Development, and Workplace Safety & Health.

- 10.6 I've received 203 calls requiring action between June 1, 2024 and May 16, 2025, and attended 163 meetings/events from June 2024 to June 2025.
- 11.0 Vice-President – Jessica Riddell
- 11.1 In my role as VP, I was able to attend all of this year's Presidents' Councils as President Designate which gave me insight into how certain decisions are made and what it looks like to be a president within MTS. I also served as President Designate at a number of GVSD board meetings which helped to give me a broader perspective on the work that the board is going and had a better understanding of topics that were discussed multiple times throughout the year. Lots of learning can be done while in the passenger's seat and I'm grateful to Joel for keeping me in the loop and allowing me to have a better understanding of all that goes into running our local.
- 12.0 Secretary – Mary Eberling-Penner
- 12.1 Monthly meeting notes made for the year.
- 13.0 Treasurer – Anny Froese
- 13.1 As receipts and Requests for Funds have been submitted, I have issued cheques for reimbursements or payment of invoices. Income from grants, member fees, rebates, and bank interest are recorded on a monthly basis. I have completed monthly banking reconciliations, and prepared and submitted records for the annual financial review. Thank you for submitting receipts and cashing cheques in a timely manner.
- 14.0 Collective Bargaining – Jessica Riddell / Sarah Coates
- 14.1 Not too much happens in the world of local bargaining, thanks to our new provincial agreement. That being said, GVTA and GVSD did create one MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) this year which proves that while we have a provincial agreement, there is still room to handle specific issues at the local level, and is negotiating one new position salary. The provincial bargaining protocol is being put into effect as we enter into the next round of bargaining.
- 15.0 Council of School Leaders (COSL) Representative – Moyra Vallyelly
- 15.1 Saying thank you for your years of service and farewell to:
- 15.1.a Tammy Macdonald (NPC)
- 15.1.b Jeff Osinski (NPC)
- 15.1.c Janna Larsen (NPC)
- 15.1.d Carrie Friesen (GVC)
- 15.2 New administration:
- 15.2.a NPC: Donovan Giesbrecht (P), Charlie Siler (VP)
- 15.2.b BV/Blum: Nathan Friesen (P)
- 15.2.c GVC: Mike Friesen (P), Brendan Neufeld (VP), Walter Giesbrecht (VP)
- 15.2 New COSL Directors for 2025-2027: Ashly Dyck and Garret Brook. Moyra Vallyelly has finished her term.
- 15.3 Book Study: Finishing our book study - Orbiting the Giant Hairball by Gordon McKenzie.
- 15.4 Continuing to work with Southern Health regarding the measles outbreak.

- 15.5 Hiring is almost complete – awaiting release of all hires as of May 18.
- 15.7 CAP Conference in Winnipeg – over 400 participants. 14 principals from GVSD attended.
- 15.8 Provincial Concerns:
- 15.8.a Bill 21
  - 15.8.b Teacher Shortage
  - 15.8.c Changes to Jordan’s Principle funding allocations
- 16.0 Education Finance –Caleb Reimer / Vacant
- 16.1 Attended Education Finance Fall and Spring Seminars.
  - 16.2 Prepared for and presented budget recommendations at GVSD/GVTA liaison meeting, noting the challenges facing teachers today and the complexity of class compositions while lobbying for extra admin time in accordance with the new collective agreement. Suggested rounding positions up to provide extra supports and to ensure schools are not under-staffed.
  - 16.3 Responded to the division’s budget at the April liaison meeting, highlighting the areas that have improved which included continuing to fund an Indigenous Educator position, agreeing to an MOU regarding school units, and using the extra positions hired for next year to top up various part-time positions to full-time.
- 17.0 Employee Benefits – Kirsten Carman / Sarah Coates
- 17.1 The Employee Benefits chair and co-chair virtually attended MTS Spring Regional Seminar (March, 2025). The seminar provides information regarding the financial positions of all benefit plans. Topics of note from these two seminars include:
    - 17.1.a Effective September 01, 2024, Dental rates increased by \$10.50 single/\$21.50 couple/\$33.00 family per month.
    - 17.1.b Effective September 01, 2024, Monthly health rates increased by \$11.50 single/\$23.00 family for active members under age 65 and decreased by \$10.60 single/\$21.20 family for active members aged 65 and over.
    - 17.1.c Effective October 01, 2024, the Group Life premium rate increased by \$0.013 per \$1,000 of coverage (from \$0.172 to \$0.185).
    - 17.1.d Effective January 01, 2025, HumanaCare rebranded under the name Kii.
    - 17.1.e MTS continues to offer both in person and virtual TRAF seminars to members.
- 18.0 Equity & Social Justice – Val Harder / Karla Rootsart
- 18.1 **Book Club:** The ESJ book club met on the first Wednesday of each month. There were 11 members in the ESJ book club, representing multiple school units throughout GVSD. This year our books included:
    - 18.1.a real ones by katherena Vermette (Adult Fiction; Indigenous)
    - 18.1.b Somewhere we are Human Edited by Reyna Grande & Sonia Guinansaca (Nonfiction; Essays, poems and artwork by migrants, refugees and dreamers)
    - 18.1.c Darius the Great is Not Okay by Adib Khorram (YA Fiction; Depression, Culture, & Identity)
    - 18.1.d That Librarian by Amanda Jones (Nonfiction Memoir; Book censorship)
    - 18.1.e Summer Choices (variety of ESJ topics/formats chosen by book club member)

Thank you to all of our book club members. We had many thought-provoking conversations and invite you to join us next year! Send Val or Karla an email if you are interested ([Valerie.harder@gvzd.ca](mailto:Valerie.harder@gvzd.ca) or [Karla.rootseart@gvzd.ca](mailto:Karla.rootseart@gvzd.ca))

- 18.2 **Sessions:** Val attended the ESJ MTS Fall session. Val & Karla attended the ESJ MTS Winter Session. Val also attended the MTS AGM from May 22-24. Karla attended two in-person and one virtual Women and Leadership sessions.
  - 18.3 **ESJ Event:** On May 13 we hosted Sean Carleton as he facilitated a session for us called, “Truth Before Reconciliation: Confronting Residential School Denialism”. This was our second ESJ event ever, and we were pleasantly surprised with 20 members attending. This will become an annual event, keep your eyes on the Apple Core for next year’s speaker!
  - 18.4 **The Apple Core:** Val and Karla submitted monthly articles to *The Apple Core* on a variety of ESJ topics.
- 19.0 Indigenous Education – Brenda Richer / Jim Parry-Hill
    - 19.1 Fall Seminar: Guest speakers spoke on Truth and Reconciliation and 94 Calls to Action and introduced to The Truth in Truth and Reconciliation Game (game purchased and available through GVTA office).
    - 19.2 Winter Seminar: Identify and Confront Residential School Denialism and introductions to Working in Good Wasy with Indigenous Peoples Framework.
    - 19.3 April 30<sup>th</sup> Red Dress Pin Event: members invited to gather to make a beaded Red Dress Pin in honour of National Day of Awareness for MMIWG2S held on May 5th.
    - 19.4 May 15<sup>th</sup> Moosehide Campaign is an Indigenous led initiative: Pins were made available. The purpose in wearing and supporting is to inspire men and boys to take a stand for dignity and against violence against and in support to MMIWG2S.
  - 20.0 Liaison Committee – Joel Swaan
    - 20.1 Committee chairs of GVTA and GVSD boards met four times since the last AGM. We take turns chairing the meeting and bringing agenda items.
    - 20.2 Discussion topics this year included: CLAC Update, Dr. Shannon Moore presentation for Trustees, Leadership Development, Nutrition Program update, Trustee mtg with the Minister (June ’24); GVTA Education Finance presentation, GVTA Letter to City Council on Special Levies, GVTA Land Acknowledgement & Acts of reconciliation, the new Collective Agreement (Nov ’24); Framework for Learning, Homeschool Initiative, Strategic Planning, MLA Visit, Big Picture Learning, 24-25 Budget Update, Early Hiring Process (Jan ’25); ESJ Presentation (Sean Carleton), Indigenous Education initiatives (Moose Hide Campaign Day, Red Dress Pin event), WSH reported violence and training, PD Committee report, Education Finance budget response, Collective Bargaining feedback (Apr ’25)
  - 21.0 MTS Provincial Executive— Joel Swaan
    - 21.1 In May 2024, I was re-elected to my third term (of a maximum of three terms) to the Provincial Executive of the Manitoba Teachers’ Society, coming in first as the only candidate to win more than 50% of the votes.

- 21.2 I continued my role as chair of the Provincial Bargaining Committee and member of the Table Team. On July 11<sup>th</sup>. We reached an agreement with MSBA (bargaining on behalf of the government), triggering a 30-day deadline to ratify the agreement. On August 7<sup>th</sup>, the deal was ratified by over 12,000 voting members (over 70%) voting 95% in favour.
- 21.3 Other PX work this year included the co-chairing the Anti-Hate Ad Hoc Committee of the Provincial Executive, membership on the CTF-EI (Canadian Teachers' Federation and Education International) Committee, and representing MTS on the Manitoba Federation of Labour's Equity & Human Rights Committee.
- 21.4 I am a liaison for the TEAM, VTAM, and MATF SAGEs, and an alternate liaison to Lakewood Region and Parkland Region Presidents.
- 21.5 My MTS-funded professional development this year included certificates in Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution, Giwiidabindimin: Responding to Trauma and Grief with Decolonized Practices, and Boardroom Bias and Culture. I also attended the Canadian Association of Principals (CAP) Conference in Winnipeg.
- 21.6 Thanks to GVTA for endorsing my nomination to run for MTS President for 2025-2027.
- 22.0 Nominating Committee – Val Harder
- 22.1 Nominations opened as per policy on February 5<sup>th</sup>. President nominations were accepted until March 13 @ 4pm. At that time, Joel Swaan was declared as president for 2025-26 as the only nominee.
- 22.2 Nominations for President re-opened on Monday, May 26 after Joel Swaan was elected as Vice-President of MTS at the MTS AGM on May 24.
- 22.3 The nomination period remained open until Jun 9<sup>th</sup> at Noon for all other positions.
- 22.4 The AGM date was shifted this year from May 27<sup>th</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup> to accommodate Joel's campaign for MTS President, with an election date of May 24<sup>th</sup>. The new date allows for a two-week nomination period for a new GVTA if he is elected to an MTS position.
- 22.5 Please see the nominations listed later in the Agenda.
- 23.0 Political Action Committee – Joel Swaan
- 23.1 The Political Action Committee met around the Federal Election, and publicized information on the candidates and the local election forum for members in *The Apple Core*.
- 24.0 Professional Development – Alyssa Friesen / Erin Boschmann
- 24.1 Shelley Moore started off our school year with a division wide PD for all professional and educational assistant staff. This was a joint effort between GVSD and GVTA with GVTA providing a supporting role.
- 24.2 PD Committee had 15 CLG applications for the 24/25 year.
- 24.2.a 12 of those applications were approved and ran.
- 24.2.b 2 had modifications requested prior to approval, but modifications were not received.
- 24.2.c 1 was declined based on unmet criteria.
- 24.3 February GVSD K-8 PD Day offered the following options for teachers:
- 24.3.a Creating a Path – Josie Hartin and Gail Lakatos
- 24.3.b Polyvagal Pathways – Warren Wall

- 24.3.c Safety and Schools and Implementing the Circle of Courage – Starr Commonwealth
  - 24.3.d Care and Compassion – self care for teachers – Elvera Watson (CMHA)
  - 24.3.e Early Years coding in the classroom – Kristen Mbabazi
  - 24.3.f The Secret Treaty & Treaty Education – Jonathan Dyck, David Scott, Bill Shead and Ashly Dyck
  - 24.3.g Create with Adobe Express; Grade 7/8 Gradebook Use – Susana Hawryshko
  - 24.3.h Inclusion Conversations – Lisa Wiebe & Jacqui Warkentin
  - 24.3.i AI Use – Shawna Philpott
  - 24.3.j Human Rights Principles in the Classroom – Graham Lowes – CMHR
  - 24.4 PD Committee has opened a new initiative to pilot: Independent PD Applications for GVTA members to access independently led PD options. At time of report, 6 applications have been received after one week of running the pilot.
- 25.0 Public Relations – Jonathan Cullen / Karla Rootsart
- 25.1 *The Apple Core* Updates - Some changes were made to *The Apple Core* and GVTA logo. The logo was vectorized to ensure it scales well for large-format printing, but the overall design remains the same. *The Apple Core* itself was slightly shortened and reformatted for consistency.
  - 25.2 *Apple Core* Prizes - Prizes are now included as part of *The Apple Core* initiative to encourage readership and promote engagement with the union.
  - 25.3 Members' Scholarship - This is a new scholarship introduced this year. Children of GVTA members are eligible and can apply to be entered into a lottery-style draw.
  - 25.4 Scholarship Committee - The scholarship committee has been selected and is currently waiting on applications from eligible members.
  - 25.5 Kindergarten Book Initiative - There was a recent change to the Kindergarten Book initiative. The GVTA determined that the funds could be better utilized by directing the books to school libraries instead of individual students. As a result, books are now being distributed to school libraries to benefit a wider range of students.
  - 25.6 The GVTA Clothing Store was available again to members this year. (<https://stores.inksoft.com/GVTA/shop/home>)
  - 25.7 Newspaper Ads – we piloted having ads in the Winkler/Morden Voice at strategic times throughout the year. It is unclear if our ads made an impact in the community, but we will not be continuing this project next year.
- 26.0 Social & Teacher Wellness – Brandy Springer / Sarah Waldner
- 26.1 Back to School Event on Thursday, Sept 26<sup>th</sup>: Superior Smash Fries or Poutine and Charley B's ice cream. 93 members came out the to event to enjoy the meal.
  - 26.2 Door Prizes (\$20 gift cards to local business) – 5 gift cards
  - 26.3 Flatlands: An Act of Piracy ticket giveaway in support of local GVTA member (4 tickets)
  - 26.4 Snowy Jars Craft & Snacks, November 27<sup>th</sup> @ GVCTec; 9 members
  - 26.5 Retirement gifts for GVTA members to be distributed in June
  - 26.6 End of Year Event in collaboration with CLAC to provide pizza to all employees/buildings across the division

27.0 Workplace Safety & Health Liaison – Brenda Richer

27.1 Attended Fall and Winter Seminars on School Violence: Recognizing, Responding, and Preventing and Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace. Both seminars had South Central table discussions.

27.2 GVSD hired Kristine Heinrichs as the Workplace Health and Safety Coordinator.

27.3 Members had opportunity to participate in project regarding violence and harassment.

27.4 Online quiz: Workplace Safety and Health awareness of Workplace Safety and Health, reporting incidents. \$20 gift cards for maximum 50 participants, MTS grant providing up to \$1000.

28.0 Acceptance of Reports – **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_Moyra Vallely\_\_\_\_/ \_Caleb Reimer\_\_\_\_.

**CARRIED**

29.0 Prizes for the second round of prizes: \_Brenda Richer, \_Ashly Dyck, Caitlin Parr, \_Lianna Hoepfner, \_Val Harder.

30.0 Second Call for Nominations from the floor, including self-nominations:

30.1 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

30.2 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

30.3 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

30.4 **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.

31.0 Acceptance of 2023-2024 Financial Statements

31.1 **MOTION:** That the financial statements ending August 31, 2024 be accepted.

31.2 Approved by the Executive at the January 7, 2025 Executive Mtg

31.3 **MOVED/SECONDED:** Anny Froese / Andrea Friesen. **CARRIED**

32.0 Winkler Community Fund Proposal

32.1 In 2024-2025, Garden Valley School Division lost two students to untimely death. These student losses impact our teaching and educational community. GVTA has no policy or past practices as to how we may commemorate these students.

This year we investigated, with the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF), the possibility of setting up a fund that families can access when their child, one of our students, passes away. We are hoping to put in place a practice that is consistent year-over-year: that when a student dies, their family would receive a letter from GVTA advising them that funds are being held in trust with the Winkler Community Foundation that they can access for up to two years to be used to financially support a legacy project as a memorial to our student.

The process would require a one-time \$10,000 investment which would accumulate interest along with WCF's other funds. Their previous rates of return are 8.2% (5-year

average) and 7.8% (20-year average). They charge an administration fee rate of 1.15%, with an investment rate of 0.85% set by The Winnipeg Foundation.

GVSD has had an average of one student die per year over the past 11 years. We are looking for a consistent, sustainable practice that would allow GVTA to provide funds for legacy projects, with administration to be handled by a third party to ensure consistency in implementation, and to ease the tax process.

At this time, we are asking members to consider using \$10,000 from our accumulated surplus to be allocated to this work. A \$1000 amount would be made available to families: a combination of interest gained on our initial investment, and smaller donations from GVTA to WCF to keep the account solvent. The actual top-up amount needed each year will depend on interest rates and the student mortality rate, but using a larger sum now will considerably offset any future amounts needed.

**MOTION:** That GVTA set up a fund through the Winkler Community Foundation, with a \$10,000 investment from the 2024-2025 budget, and an ongoing amount in future GVTA budgets to financially support legacy projects for GVSD students who pass away with a donation of \$1000. **MOVED/SECONDED:** Val Harder / Alyssa Friesen\_. **CARRIED**

33.0 2025-2026 Budget and Membership Fees.

33.1 **MOTION:** That the 2024-2025 Budget with annual Membership Fee of \$24.06 (\$1.47 day for substitute teacher) per month/member prorated to the assignment be accepted as presented/amended.

33.2 Approved by the Executive at the May 6, 2025 Executive Mtg

33.3 **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_Sarah Waldner/Anny Froese . **CARRIED**

34.0 GVTA 2023-2024 Executive Elections

34.1 The following member was acclaimed as of 4pm on March 13, 2025: President: Joel Swaan (PLS). On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Joel was elected to MTS Vice-President which necessitates stepping down as GVTA President for 2025-2026.

34.2 The following members were Nominated as of noon on June 9, 2025:

34.2.a President: Mike Urichuk (PLS)

34.2.b Vice-President: Kirsten Carman (GVC)

34.2.c Treasurer: Anny Froese (PDS)

34.2.d Secretary: Mary Eberling-Penner (PCS/EDW)

34.2.e Collective Bargaining

34.2.e.i Chair: Jessica Riddell (GVC)

34.2.e.ii Co-Chair: Sarah Coates (GVC)

34.2.f Education Finance

34.2.f.i Chair: Mike Urichuk (PLS)

34.2.f.ii Co-Chair: Caleb Reimer (JRW)

34.2.g Employee Benefits:

34.2.g.i Chair: Kirsten Carman (GVC)

34.2.g.ii Co-Chair: Sarah Coates (GVC)

- 34.2.h Equity & Social Justice:
  - 34.2.h.i Chair: Val Harder (DO)
  - 34.2.h.ii Co-Chair: Karla Rootsaert (SWD/HES)
- 34.2.i Indigenous Education:
  - 34.2.i.i Chair: Jim Parry-Hill (SUB)
  - 34.2.i.ii Co-Chair: Camille Daly (GVC)
- 34.2.j Professional Development:
  - 34.2.j.i Chair: Alyssa Friesen (PLS)
  - 34.2.j.ii Co-Chair: Moyra Vallely (JRW)
- 34.2.k Public Relations:
  - 34.2.k.i Chair: Jonathan Cullen (NPC)
  - 34.2.k.ii** Co-Chair: Karla Rootsaert (SWD/HES)
- 34.2.l Social & Teacher Wellness:
  - 34.2.l.i Chair: **NO NOMINATION**
  - 34.2.l.ii Co-Chair: **NO NOMINATION**
- 34.2.m Workplace Safety & Health Liaison: Brenda Richer (NPC)
- 34.3 Third and Final Call for Nominations from the floor of AGM:
  - 34.3.a **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.3.b **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.3.c **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.3.d **MOTION:** That \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) be nominated for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 34.4 The following members were Nominated as of the third call for nominations:
  - 34.4.a \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.4.b \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.4.c \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 34.4.d \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) for the position of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 34.5 The roster of uncontested nominees is accepted as acclaimed to the 2024-2025 GVTA Executive. There are no elections necessary and no need to have a motion to destroy ballots.
- 34.6 **Elections**
  - 34.6.a An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 34.6.a.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
    - 34.6.a.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
  - 34.6.b An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 34.6.b.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
    - 34.6.b.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
  - 34.6.c An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 34.6.c.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams
    - 34.6.c.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.
  - 34.6.d An election is needed for the role of \_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 34.6.d.i Paper ballots in the room, Online voting on Teams

34.6.d.ii \_\_\_\_\_ is declared the winner.

34.6.e **MOTION:** To destroy the ballots. **MOVED/SECONDED:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ . **CARRIED?**

34.7 **Appointments**

34.7.a MTS Provincial Executive: Joel Swaan (PLS)

34.7.b COSL Representative (Elected by Principals & Vice-Principals): Garret Brook & Ashly Dyck to share the role (PRS), elected to a two-year term for 2025-2027

34.7.c Schools/Administrative Units who are not represented on the executive are entitled to a Member-At-Large, elected by those they represent.

Schools/Administrative Units should seek to elect their representative as soon as possible. Schools/Administrative Units requiring a Member-at-Large:

34.7.c.i Border Valley/Blumenfeld

34.7.c.ii Winkler Elementary

34.7.c.iii Pine Ridge

34.7.c.iv Emerado

34.8 **Executive Concluding Terms:** With gratitude, we thank those who have served on the executive in 2024-25 who did not seek re-election for the 2025-26 year, or were not successful in their re-election bid:

34.8.a Erin Boschmann (SWD)

34.8.b Brandy Springer (JRW)

34.8.c Sarah Waldner (NPC)

34.8.d Members-at-Large

34.8.d.i Ashly Dyck (PRS)

34.8.d.ii Andrea Friesen (PLS)

34.8.d.iii Laura Friesen (WES)

35.0 **Next Annual General Meeting – Tuesday, May 26, 2026**

36.0 Noted that any winners today will be contacted about a gift card of choice.

Prizes for the third round of prizes: McKenna Graham, Jessica Riddell \_\_, \_\_James Driedger, Ginette Wilkins\_, & Claire Goertzen.

37.0 Adjournment: 4:43 pm.