

Summary of the Board Meeting Held Monday, April 23, 2001

- A. **O Canada** – The district video was shown.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) - All trustees were present.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

- 1. **National Day of Mourning for Workers Injured or Killed at the Workplace – April 28, 2001:**

The chairman advised that, on average, over a million cases of occupational injuries have been reported by Worker's Compensation Boards across Canada for each of the last 10 years. There are at least 1,000 occupational deaths reported each year. It is these types of statistics that prompted the Canadian Labour Congress to set aside April 28 each year as a Day of Mourning for victims of workplace accidents and disease

In recognition of the men and women of our province and of the district who are part of those statistics, on April 27 1998, the Edmonton Public School Board proclaimed every April 28th as an annual 'Day of Mourning' in recognition of workers killed, injured or disabled on the job.

The board encourages each and everyone to do their part to ensure that Edmonton Public Schools' work and learning environments are as healthy and safe for staff, students and community as possible.

- 2. **Excellence In Teaching Awards Finalists:**

The chairman announced that 36 Edmonton Public Schools teachers have been selected as finalists for the 13th Annual Excellence in Teaching Awards. These teachers were chosen from 400 nominees by a selection committee of representatives from stakeholder groups and education partners in the learning community. The board of trustees looks forward to the opportunity to pay tribute and honour these finalists at a special board meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. in McCauley Chambers.

- D. **Communications from the Superintendent of Schools** – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #10 – April 10, 2001
 - a) Revision to the vote for Report 6 page 6.
 - b) Approved as amended.

F. Focus on Student Achievement

2. Inquiring Minds Program – Classrooms in the Community

This report will be dealt with at the April 24, 2001 board meeting.

G. Reports:

3. Report #13 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held April 17, 2001)

Approved recommendations regarding:

- leadership appointments
- appointment, Director, Consulting Services

4. Board Review of Revised 1999-2002 Plans and the 2001-2002 Budget:

A. Discussion of Revised 1999-2002 Plans and the 2001-2020 Proposed Budget:

- Discussion of and questions arising from school budget reviews:
 - Senior High Schools
 - Junior High Schools
 - Elementary/Junior High Schools
 - Elementary Schools
 - a) Received for information.
 - b) Trustees reported on the trustee budget subcommittee reviews.

Some issues of concern raised were:

 - resources for new curriculum
 - IOP/vocational education
 - programming for students at risk
 - amount of parent fundraising particularly for such things as computers and computer labs which causes inequity in the district

- Discussion of and questions arising from central services budget reviews:

Received for information.

B. Trustee Motions for Amendments to the 2001-2002 Budget

C. Consideration of Trustee Motions for Amendments to the 2001-2002 Budget

There were no trustee motions for amendments to the 2001-2002 budget.

5. Approval of the 2001-2002 Expenditures Budget

Approved.

6. Status of Previous Two Years Trustee Budget Initiatives

Received for information.

7. City Centre Education Project – Closure of Schools

This report will be dealt with at the April 24, 2001 board meeting.

8. Student Transportation Fees for 2001-2002

a) Approved the following amendment: *That students, from areas where an elementary school has not been built, who are attending the designated receiving school and have been accessing transportation as an elementary student at \$5 per month and who are, or will be, attending the same designated receiving school as a junior high school be assessed a \$5 per month transportation fee rather than the \$20 per month transportation fee.*

b) Trustee Nicholson asked whether there are other schools besides Ellerslie, Winterburn and Donnan to which this amendment would apply.

c) Approved amended recommendation.

9. University of Alberta Math Camp

Received for information.

10. Curriculum Additions and Deletions

Approved recommendation.

11. Second Quarterly Report: December 1, 2000 to February 28, 2001

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Melnychuk suggested that we let the public know the true cost of maintaining district assets in terms of vandalism to encourage the public's participation in reducing vandalism.
- c) Trustee Nicholson requested information on the amount of money that is recovered from instances of vandalism.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Melnychuk advised that trustees and senior staff would be receiving information about a wine and cheese social from ASBA Zone 23 on May 24, 2001 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This social will be an opportunity to meet the new MLAs in Zone 23.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

- 1. Trustee Bonko requested information on the number of buses the district currently owns. Are we as vigilant in terms of safety standards as we are with private operators?
- 2. Trustees Gibeault and Bonko requested that a report be prepared listing the schools in the district that have instituted bans on products such as peanuts in response to student and staff allergies.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2001 – 6:00 p.m.

M. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

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- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) - All trustees were present.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

- 1. **Excellence in Teaching Awards Finalists:**

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- 2. **Edmonton Public Schools Profiled In The School Administrator:**

The chairman advised that the May 2001 edition of The School Administrator Magazine, published in Arlington, Virginia profiles Edmonton Public Schools with four feature articles, including:

- *Edmonton's Enterprise* — an overview of the district by Superintendent, Emery Dosdall which talks about new and innovative programs to adapt to the needs of the changing community and the focus on student achievement.
- *Decentralized Dollars and Decisions* — the reshaping of the district's central office, by department head of school and district services, Angus McBeath which provides an overview of the decentralized decision model and the services provided by Central Services to schools.
- *A System of Building Franchises* — the work of principals as franchise operators -- One of the captions reads ..." principals call all the shots, from budgets to bathroom tissue.

- *Creating Schools Without Capital* — the use of leased facilities to house many programs of choice – using the examples of Centre High and Amiskwaciy Academy

The chairman stated that, what makes Edmonton Public Schools work is our willingness to respond positively to changing realities while maintaining a focus on the bottom line of student achievement. We are not satisfied with just surviving – with the power of the collective will of our staff we try to find ways to thrive. This was demonstrated very clearly in the review of the budget and educational plans of the district's 209 schools and central services last evening. Through planning, monitoring and review we seek continuous improvement to provide the best education to our students.

The chairman believed he spoke on behalf of the whole board when he said that he was very proud of the international recognition given in The School Administrator and honoured to be associated with Edmonton Public Schools. He congratulated Dr. Dosdall.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Focus on Student Achievement

1. Inquiring Minds Program – Classrooms in the Community

Received for information.

F. Report:

2. City Centre Education Project – Closure of Schools

a) Approved recommendations.

b) Trustee Melnychuk provided the administration with a copy of a report from the Rural Schools and Community Trust Policy Program – February 2000 regarding “Small Works”.

G. Committee and Board Representative Reports – None.

- **Community Relations Activities** – None.

H. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

J. Notices of Motion – None.

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2001 – 6:00 p.m.

L. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.