



**Summary of Board Meeting #13  
Held Tuesday, April 10, 2012**

**A. O Canada:**  (9:00 a.m.) – *District O Canada Video*

**B. Roll Call:**

Trustee MacKenzie participated via SKYPE. Trustee Spencer was absent. All other Trustees were present.

**C. Communications from the Board Chair**

- The Board Chair advised that the next board meeting would be held on May 8, 2012 and noted the following events that would be taking place later in April:
  - Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> is International Earth Day which is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. Several years ago, the Board identified Earth Day and Week as an initiative to promote within the district. The Board encourages schools to participate.
  - Support Staff Appreciation Week is April 22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> with April 25<sup>th</sup> designated as Support Staff Appreciation Day in the district. On this day, schools and central service decision units will have the opportunity to recognize the important contributions of all support staff for the excellent work that they do in supporting the success of all students and staff.
  - April 28<sup>th</sup> is the 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Day of Mourning for Workers Injured or Killed at the Workplace. In recognition of the men and women of our province and of the district who are part of those statistics, the Edmonton Public School Board on April 27, 1998 proclaimed every April 28<sup>th</sup> 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 throughout the year.

- The Board Chair also reported on the following recent events:
  - The Board hosted a very successful education forum on Wednesday, April 4, 2012. The forum was well attended. The questions and answers were thoughtful and intelligent and the Board very much appreciated the participation of candidates, students and the excellent work undertaken by the Communications department in planning this event. All Trustees attended this event.
  - Plans were made at a Metro Chairs' meeting held on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, to hold an all-Metro boards meeting at the ASBA Spring Annual General Meeting. The meeting is scheduled to take place Sunday, June 3, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Genoa Room at the Sheraton Hotel in Red Deer (formerly the Capri Centre).

#### **D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

- The Superintendent advised that Homesteader School, both a Leader in Me School and an Apple School, has made it to the finals of the *Majesta Trees of Knowledge* competition and is in the running to win a \$20,000 outdoor classroom. The school's project, "7 Habits Leadership Garden" was selected as one of the 10 finalists from across Canada. Homesteader is the only school in Alberta chosen for this competition.
- The Superintendent reported on the impact the activities of a number of district schools that have been engaging in community based action to raise funds for children in other parts of the world. In the last three years alone, EPSB students, parents, staff and community members, have contributed \$170,618 to UNICEF. In a congratulatory letter from UNICEF Canada, the District was recognized for its generous contributions to "enable UNICEF to continue [their] work as a global leader in developing sustainable, innovative programs and advocating for change that saves and improves millions of children's lives." He expressed pride in the efforts of so many people across the District for this significant contribution.
- The Superintendent advised that twenty Edmonton Public Schools teachers were identified as semi-finalists in the Excellence in Teaching Awards program. The semi-finalists included 19 teachers and one principal. He expressed pride in the work of all of the nominees and now, in particular, the semi-finalists. The semi-finalists will be recognized by the Board at a special ceremony on April 26th.

- The Superintendent introduced the following principals who he has confirmed: Auriana Burns, Nick Diederichs, Cynthia Drumond, Chet Gosavi, Debra Gresko-Mielke, Carrie Grossman-Sharp, Fred Hines, John Holmes, Karen Keats Whelan, David Kowalchuk, Camille Loken, Kathleen Marzolf, Paige MacKenzie, Christine Pichlyk, Tracy Poulin and Joanne Wynn. The principals have successfully completed two years as first-time designated principals and are confirmed to continue in that role.

#### **E. Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #12 – March 13, 2012

Approved as amended:

- Trustee Ripley noted a correction to the vote on page 8 – she voted in opposition to the deferral motion.
- Trustee MacKenzie noted a correction to the vote on page 12 - Trustee MacKenzie was absent for the vote but her name was recorded as being in favour of it.

#### **F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.**

#### **G. Reports**

2. Report #8 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held April 3, 2012)

Approved recommendation.

3. Continuation of Edmonton Public Schools Foundation

- a) The following motion was approved: *That the motion re the continuation of the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation be referred back to the Administration for consideration of Trustees' discussion and to be brought forward to a future board meeting for consideration.*
- b) Trustee Hoffman requested that the report include a specific timeline and allocation amount.

4. Staff Group Presentations re 2012-2013 Budget
- CUPE Local 3550 (support staff)
  - Exempt Staff
  - Edmonton Public Teachers
- a) Received verbal presentations for information.
- b) CUPE Local 474 (custodial staff) present at the May 8, 2012 board meeting.
- c) CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) will confirm whether or not they will make a presentation this year.
- d) A report will be prepared in response to the staff group presentations. Copies of the response and the presentations will be disseminated to schools and central service decision unit managers for consideration in developing 2012-2013 plans.
9. Distribution of Funds
- Approved recommendation.
5. Motion re Plan for District Space Post Moratorium
- The recommendation was approved. The first paragraph was amended to read: *Planning in the District shall continue to emphasize the importance of providing excellent educational opportunities for all children and supporting neighbourhood schools to serve children and communities. The Board shall continue to support the School Closure Moratorium recommendations.*
10. Board Policy IA.BP – Inclusive Education
- a) Approved first and second consideration.
- b) The following bullets under the Philosophical Foundation Statement were amended to read:
- welcomes, respects, accepts and supports *children and their parents/guardians*;
  - provide welcoming acceptance and belonging for all *children and their parents/guardians*;
- b) The policy will be brought back to the May 8, 2012 board meeting for third consideration and final approval.

6. Motion re Student Advisory Council

Approved the following amended motion: *That the Administration create a Student Advisory Council to meet with the Board and Administration at least twice a year to provide student perspectives on educational issues.*

7. Motion re Financial Literacy

a) The following amendment was approved: *That the Board advocate through the ASBA to the Minister of Education that financial literacy be integrated into the Alberta curriculum from K to 12 as soon as possible and that funding be provided to school boards to support professional development for teachers and other educators involved in financial literacy instruction.*

b) The report was deferred to the May 8, 2012 board meeting (when the report on Junior Achievement will be brought to board.)

8. Locally Developed Courses – Renewals

Approved recommendation.

11. Revised JA.BP Parent and Community Involvement

a) Approved first and second consideration.

b) The policy will be brought back to the May 8, 2012 board meeting for third consideration and final approval.

12. JAC.BP – Funding and Endorsement Requests from External Organizations

a) Approved first and second consideration.

b) The policy will be brought back to the May 8, 2012 board meeting for third consideration and final approval.

13. Proposed Issues for the ASBA 2012 Policy Process

a) Approved recommendation – Item 1. was amended to read as follows: *That investment in early education is critical to students reaching their full potential, and urges the province to mandate fully-funded half-day kindergarten and, for children with socio-economic vulnerabilities, fully-funded full-day kindergarten to equalize their opportunity to reach their full potential.*

14. Feedback on Proposed ASBA Key Issues Process  
Approved recommendation.
  15. Health and Wellness of Staff and Students Annual Report  
Received for information.
  16. English Language Learners Annual Report  
Received for information.
  17. Aboriginal Education Annual Report  
Received for information.
  18. High School Modified Calendar Analysis  
(Response to Trustee Request #150)
  19. Map of Schools That Have Reached or Surpassed Their Capacity  
(Response to Trustee Request #155)
  20. JUA Report  
(Response to Trustee Request #161)
  21. Financial Literacy Education – Feasibility Report  
(Response to Trustee Request #163)
  22. Federal and Provincial Funding for ELL  
(Response to Trustee Request #164)
  23. 2012 New School Openings  
(Response to Trustee Request #171)
  24. Barriers to Schools Choosing a Modified Calendar  
(Response to Trustee Request #169)
- Received for information.

**H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports - *This information will be included in the April 10, 2012 board meeting minutes.***

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

**J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**

- Trustee Johner requested that information be provided regarding the background with respect to the Guidance and Counselling initiative and the reasons for its discontinuation. What strategies and activities does the District incorporate now to provide similar supports? Provide a feasibility report on the district re-implementing this initiative.
- Trustee Ripley requested that information be provided on three to five educational opportunities that could be considered for students if the District had an extra \$5 million to invest.

**K. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

*That schools serving high school students only have a one-week break for the week around Remembrance Day and start school up to one week earlier in late August for the 2013-2014 school year.*

The Board Chair acknowledged the efforts of Mrs. Anne Sherwood noting that this was her last board meeting after 19 years as Board Secretary. She will be moving to another position in the district. He thanked her on behalf of the Board.

**L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.**

**M. Duration of Meeting: 9:00 a.m. to Noon  
1:00 p.m. to 5:40 p.m.**