



Summary of Board Meeting #10 Tuesday, April 25, 2006

A. **O Canada** – District Video.

B. **Roll Call**: (6:10 p.m.) – Trustee Hansen was absent.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

1. The board chair advised that Support Staff Appreciation Week is observed from April 24 to 28, 2006. April 26th has been 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 contributions of all support staff for the excellent work that they do in supporting Superb Results from all Students. The shift from Administrative Professionals Week and Day to Support Staff Appreciation Day is intended to demonstrate that the district values the important work that is done by all support staff.
2. The board chair advised that Friday, April 28th, is the National Day of Mourning for Workers Injured or Killed at the Workplace. On average, over a million cases of occupational injuries have been reported by Worker's Compensation Boards across Canada for each of the last 14 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 28th 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, the Edmonton Public School Board on April 27, 1998 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.

3. The board chair announced that 29 district teachers have been named finalists for 2006 Excellence in Teaching Awards. The finalists were chosen from 446 eligible nominees by representatives from Alberta's education community. This year, the awards program is recognizing 134 Alberta teachers, celebrating their outstanding creativity and innovation in their classrooms. These teachers were chosen because of their excellence in a variety of areas – including knowledge of subject matter, effectiveness with students, creative and innovative teaching practices, involvement with parents and collaboration with colleagues. This is testament to the outstanding teachers working in Edmonton Public Schools. On Tuesday, May 2, 2006 the Board of Trustees will recognize the district's nominees during a special ceremony. The board is looking forward to meeting and congratulating each of the finalists.

D. Communications from the Acting Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting – April 18, 2006

Approved as printed.

F. Focus on Student Achievement

2. Strathcona High School – Begin with the End in Mind – Transition from Junior High to High School

Received for information.

G. Recognition:

3. “An Act to Follow” Staff Recognition Program

Received for information.

H. Reports:

4. Report #7 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held April 18, 2006)

Approved recommendations regarding principal designations.

5. Motion re Apprenticeship Training Programme

The following amended motion was approved: *Be it resolved, that the administration examine the feasibility of implementing an apprenticeship training programme designed to help meet present and future needs for qualified trade personnel, and further, that the programme be designed to include the provision of regular apprentices and Registered Apprenticeship Programme (RAP) students, and further, that the report include the potential costs and benefits to the district of the aforesaid programme.*

6. School Year Calendar 2007-08

a) Approved recommendation.

b) Trustee Keiver requested that information be provided regarding the success of the modified 11-month calendar at Parkdale, Eastwood and Donnan and that information also be provided regarding the potential for expanding to an 11-month calendar across the district.

7. Supporting At-Risk Learners: District Attendance Pilot

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Gibson suggested that consideration be given to communicating the success of the district attendance pilot to the appropriate agencies as well as to the broader community.

8. Services Update: English Language Support Services Centre

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Gibson requested that suggestions be brought forward for the board's consideration with respect to communicating the work of the English Language Support Services Centre to the broader community; e.g. a tie-in to the work the province is doing with respect to the 10-year labour strategy.

9. Fundraising Survey Results

Received for information.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Williams reported that he had attended the Edmonton Public Schools Institute which was held from April 19 to 21, 2006. He noted that staff did an outstanding job and shared a great deal of information with the participants who were superintendents and senior staff from a number of school districts across North America. One group from Oakland had visited the district before, enjoyed the Institute and indicated a desire to visit the district again. The participants visited several schools and were very impressed with the district's focus on student achievement and how engaged our students were in their work. They learned about the district's site-based decision-making model and our belief in providing choices to students and parents. The participants liked the district's approach and are thinking of using some of these ideas in their own school districts.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives- None.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Meeting Date: May 9, 2006 – 6:00 p.m. - Board

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:10 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.