



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Summary of Board Meeting #7 Held Tuesday, December 8, 2009

A. O Canada:  (6:00 p.m.) – *District O Canada Video*

B. Roll Call: Trustee Shipka was absent.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Awards (MELRA) celebrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement at the district or jurisdiction level. The awards were created in collaboration with education stakeholders and recognize those school board leaders who make a difference in our classrooms every day.

Many of the award categories are based on the Province's Accountability Pillar – which is a measurement of learning goals at the school district and provincial level.

School boards are eligible to receive a Minister's Award if their annual results demonstrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement across the Accountability Pillar categories. Jurisdictions are eligible for multiple awards, and based on a specific standard per category, a jurisdiction may receive an award in each category for significant improvement and/or very high achievement.

The District is the recipient of the Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Award in a number of categories:

- ♦ For Very High Achievement in four categories: *Program of Studies, Education Quality, Citizenship and School Improvement*
- ♦ For Significant Improvement in thirteen areas: *Safe and Caring, Program of Studies, Education Quality, Drop Out Rate/High School Completion, PAT: Acceptable, PAT: Excellence, Transition Rate (6 year), Citizenship, Parental Involvement, School Improvement, Practical Arts, Healthful Living, and Other Non-Diploma*

The District was recognized in more categories than any other school board. These awards are not only "Board" awards. They would not have been possible without the hard work of district staff. And the number of awards we received is further testament to the dedication, knowledge, leadership, and expertise of district staff.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #6 – November 24, 2009

Approved as printed.

F. Improving Student Achievement:

2. Improving Student Achievement by Embracing Multiculturalism

Received for information.

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

1. Mr. Dale Hudjik noted that there were a number of Board Policies and Administrative Regulations that have not been reviewed within the five-year time span in accordance with Board CH.BP -- Policy Development and Review. The oldest item Administrative Regulation JGB.AR -- Utilization of Surplus Space in Schools has not been reviewed subsequent to its effective date of July 1, 1983. He noted that one of the primary roles of the Board is to set policy.
2. Ms Madeline Rainey expressed concern that her comments at the October public consultation session regarding Special Needs were not accurately recorded.
3. Mr. Ed Butler, President Edmonton Public Teachers, thanked the Board and Administration for its collaboration, on behalf of the Local, and expressed the Local's eagerness to continue working together in the new year.

H. Reports

3. Report #5 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held December 1, 2009)

Approved recommendation.

4. Motion re Motion to Extend a Board Meeting Past 9:00 p.m.

The Motion was defeated.

5. Motion re Establishment of Working Committee re School Closures and School Viability

a) The Board heard from the following speakers who expressed concerns with respect to the sector review process and spoke in support of keeping schools open and for the motion:

- Mr. William Glass, who was delegated to provide some views from the Norwood School Parent Council
- Mr. Doug Barrett
- Mr. Christopher Spencer
- Ms Lori Gawryluik, Norwood community member
- Mr. Richard Peresheets

b) Information was provided to the Board by Mr. Glass and Mr. Spencer

c) The following substitute motion was approved: *That the Board host a facilitated meeting after the current sector planning recommendations of Trustees, City Councillors and MLAs to engage in tri-level discussions examining all possibilities related to space including school closures, school viability and community buildings.*

6. Trustee Electoral Ward Boundaries

Approved recommendation.

7. Policy Review – GAA.BP Personnel Policies Priority Objectives

Approved recommendation.

8. Multicultural Policy and Regulation: First Year Implementation Plan

Received for information.

9. Response to Board Request for Information

Received for information.

10. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports – None.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

J. Notices of Motion – None.

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

L. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:55 p.m.