

**A. O Canada:  (2:00 p.m.) – District O Canada Video****B. Roll Call:** Trustee Colburn was absent.**C. Communications from the Acting Board Chair**

1. The Acting Board Chair reported that Former Trustee Don Williams passed away December 7, 2011, at the age of seventy-four. Mr. Williams served as an Edmonton Public School Board Trustee for 18 years and, for one of those years, as Board Vice-Chair.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, Carole, sons Anthony, Deland, and Dean and daughter, Susan Knoop. A memorial donation for Mr. Williams has been sent to Victoria School on behalf of the Administration and the Board of Trustees.

2. The Acting Board Chair advised that the agenda would be reordered as follows:
  - Report 4 – *Fall 2011 Update to the 2011-2012 Budget* was moved to the end of the agenda.
  - Report 5 – *Board Self-Evaluation 2010-2011* was moved under Item H.

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

Acting Superintendent Mark Liguori advised that the Confucius Institute in Edmonton (CIE), one of 380 Confucius Institutes worldwide, has been named Confucius Institute of the Year, by the government of China. The award will be presented by several of China's National Leaders, during a special ceremony, at the new National Grand Theatre of China in Beijing, on the evening of December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Receiving the award will be Mr. Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Edmonton Public Schools; Mr. David Colburn, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. Stuart Wachowicz, Director of the CIE.

The Confucius Institutes are partnerships between China and foreign hosts, and serve to promote Chinese language and culture education. Most are located in the world's most prestigious universities, whereas the CIE is hosted by Edmonton Public Schools. The CIE has become one of the largest of the Confucius Institutes and serves to support Chinese language and culture education in schools, including the internationally acclaimed Chinese Bilingual program operated by Edmonton Public Schools. In addition the CIE supports educational programs for the general community. It offers many courses taught by expert instructors in Chinese language, Chinese art forms, Tai Chi, Table Tennis and traditional Chinese music and dance.

This award is a very significant honour for Alberta, and can enhance the growing educational, cultural and economic interaction between Alberta and China.

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

1. Board Meeting #6 – November 29, 2011

Approved as printed.

#### **F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

Ms Madeline Rainey urged the Board to ensure the administrative regulations developed for implementing Board Policy IFA.BP – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity hold staff accountable for their actions.

#### **G. Reports**

2. Report #5 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held December 6, 2011)

Approved recommendation.

3. 2010-2011 Financial Statements and Auditors' Report

Approved recommendation.

6. Motion re Modified School Year Calendar

The motion was withdrawn.

7. School Year Calendar 2012-2013

Approved recommendation.

8. Motion re Development of a Policy re Student Placement and Retention

The following amended recommendation was approved: *That the Board develop a policy related to student placement and retention that is in accordance with our current regulations, the legislation under the School Act and recognizes parental involvement in the placement of their child.*

9. Motion re Section 11.1 of the Alberta Human Rights Act  
(Revised December 19, 2011)

- a) Approved recommendation.
- b) Trustee Ripley if there have been any cases that have appeared before the Alberta Human Rights Commission as a result of Section 11.1 of the *Alberta Human Rights Act*.
- c) Trustee Spencer if there have been any attempts to question the constitutionality of Section 11.1 of the *Alberta Human Rights Act*?
- e) The Administration will provide the information available to staff regarding addressing concerns about Section 11.1 of the *Alberta Human Rights Act*.

10. Review of Board Policy HA.BP – Student Programs

Approved recommendation.

11. Review of Board Policy GB.BP – Authority for Human Resources Decisions

Approved recommendation.

12. Review of Board Policy JBC.BP- Communications Framework (Formerly Titled News Media Relations)

Approved recommendation.

13. Review of Board Policy FED.BP – Capital Projects

Approved recommendation.

14. Review of Board Policy IC.BP – Student Accommodation

Approved the recommendation (as printed). *Revised December 19, 2011.*

4. Fall 2011 Update to the 2011-2012 Budget
15. Status Update on Anti-Bullying Committee Recommendations (Response to Trustee Request #133)
16. Process for Supervising and Evaluating Teacher Performance (Response to Trustee Request #135)

Received for information.

#### **H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**

5. Board Self-Evaluation 2011-2012

Received report and verbal statement for information.

*The other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports will be in the minutes of the December 13, 2011 board meeting.*

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

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

1. Trustee Shipka made the following request: Provide an analysis if all high schools were to adopt a modified calendar with a November break for the 2013-2014 school year. The analysis should include benefits, risks, financial implications and other operational considerations associated with implementing a modified calendar in all high schools including schools with grade 7 to 12 programming.

Also provide information on any high schools that requested a modified calendar for 2011-2012, their rationale, and surveys they provided and the Administration's rationale for either accepting or declining the request.

2. Trustee MacKenzie made the following request: What barriers are there to schools choosing and being granted a modified calendar? Are there steps the Board could take to reduce these barriers?
3. Trustee Cleary made the following request: Provide ideas and options for a district award (similar to the APEGGA Teachers' Award Program for Science and Math) that recognizes outstanding teaching in the areas of Social Studies and Language Arts. Also provide a list of suitable partners that the District could approach to sponsor this award.

4. Trustee Ripley made the following request: Report on the work Communications is doing to support all schools. What services are available to all schools? How is this new non-cost recovery method of delivering these services being received?

**K. Notices of Motion – None.**

**L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.**

**M. Duration of Meeting: 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**