

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

B. Roll Call: All trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

1. The Board Chair requested that Section H of the agenda be dealt with prior to Section G.

The Board concurred with the reordering of the agenda.

2. The Board Chair advised that, this past Fall, 30 district schools participated in the country wide Student Vote program – a non-partisan parallel federal election program for developing habits of citizenship within young Canadians. Over 3,000 schools and 500,000 students across the county studied the democratic process, local candidates, party platforms and national issues before voting on the official candidates in their schools' ridings. Students themselves took on the roles of returning officers, poll clerks and scrutineers on Student Vote Day at their schools. Letters are being sent with Certificates of Recognition for the 30 district teachers who coordinated the project and submitted Student Vote results from their school.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that, each year, the Alberta Teachers Association designates one week as Substitute Teachers Appreciation Week. This year, Substitute Teachers Appreciation Week takes place March 9-13. The District will be recognizing the work and contributions of substitute teachers.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #10 – February 10, 2009

Approved as printed.

F. Improving Student Achievement:

2. Improving Student Achievement at J. Percy Page High School

Received for information.

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports:

8. Motion re Process for Comments from the Public at Board Meetings

The item was referred to the Planning and Policy Committee for further consideration.

9. Board Policy Review – GBCD.BP Mandatory Records Checks for Employees

Approved recommendation.

10. Board Policy Review – GCA.BP Qualifications for Employment

Approved recommendation.

G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

3. Waldorf Alternative Program

Approved recommendation.

4. Ready for the Future: Portfolio and Transition Planner

Received for information.

6. Presentation from Staff Group Representatives re 2009-2010 Budget:

- CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff)
- Exempt Staff

a) Received verbal reports for information.

b) Presentations from CUPE Local 474 (Custodial Staff) and Edmonton Public Teachers will be heard at the March 10, 2009 Board Meeting. CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance Staff) have declined to make a presentation this year.

5. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

Received for information.

7. Bereavement

Received with regret.

I. Other Trustee Reports:

1. Trustee Fleming advised that Parkallen School Principal Vince Friesen had noted that the Parkallen community had been chosen to be the host community in Edmonton for the *Local Motion Project* which is a demonstration project to encourage eco-friendly modes transportation. The project looks at ways to transform a neighbourhood into a place where a variety of eco-mobility elements are brought together in a functioning system. The results of the project will be reported to a World Congress called Local Governments for Sustainability. The Partners for this project are the City of Edmonton, Parkallen Community, Transport Canada, the Global Alliance for Eco-Mobility and Parkallen School.
2. Trustee Ripley reported that she brought greetings and presented a commemorative plaque on behalf of the Board at the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Norwood School on Saturday. She commended the organizing committee for their efforts. The Minister of Education, MLA Peter Goldring, Mayor Mandel, City Councillors Tony Caterina and Ed Gibbons, the Superintendent, and past principals of the school Dr. Heather Raymond and Sandra Woitas were also in attendance.
3. Trustee Ripley reported that she had attended the ASBA expanded policy committee meeting yesterday. The committee has been working on streamlining and condensing the ASBA Policy Handbook.
4. Trustee Esslinger reported that, on February 11, 2009, she and Trustee Huff participated in the provincial celebration Winter Walk Day 2009 at Westglen School. The Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation Cindy Ady was also in attendance.
5. Trustee Esslinger reported that, also on February 11, 2009, she and Trustees Huff and Ripley, had lunch with the Policy Chief and many district students as part of the Day with the Edmonton Police Service Chief Michael Boyd.
6. Trustee Esslinger reported that, on February 11, 2009, she attended the Open House for the New Languages Centre at Woodcroft School.

7. Trustee Esslinger reported that she had attended a cheque presentation, on behalf of the district, to the Boyle Street Co-op. The proceeds were the results of the *Heart2Art Campaign* (the campaign to raise awareness about homelessness) which many district students participated in.
8. Trustee Fleming, reported that in his capacity as President of the Public School Boards Association of Alberta, he had recently signed a letter to be sent to the Reeve of the Municipal District of Opportunity located in northern Alberta and a copy sent to the Minister of Education, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Minister of Labour and Employment.

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 Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:35 p.m.