

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #6** -

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Trustees of the Edmonton School District No. 7 of the Province of Alberta held in McCauley Chambers in the Centre for Education on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 6:10 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Leslie Cleary
David Colburn
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka (via audio
conference)
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil
Jamie Pallett

Tanni Parker
Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: David Colburn

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President

A. **O Canada** 

B. **Roll Call:** (6:10 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Shipka would be participating in the meeting via electronic means. All other Trustees were present.

MINUTE BOOK

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair noted that Trustee Shipka would be participating electronically in the board meeting via Skype and/or phone.

The Board Chair advised that, at the last board meeting on January 11, 2011, the Board deferred approval of the declaration of three surplus sites to provide an opportunity for the affected community league presidents and the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues to provide a response to the next board meeting; however, in order provide sufficient time to respond, this report will be coming back to board on February 8, 2011.

The Board Chair advised that January 19, 2011 was Maintenance Workers' Appreciation Day. The District placed an advertisement in both the *Edmonton Journal* and *Edmonton Sun* acknowledging and thanking district members of CUPE Local 784 for their ongoing contributions to creating safe, comfortable and healthy environments in which students and staff can learn and work.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #5 – January 11, 2011

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #5 held January 11, 2011 be approved as printed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mr. Greg Garber spoke with respect to WiFi.

MINUTE BOOK

G. Reports

2. Motion re WiFi

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Ms Marilyn Topp
- Ms Dimitria Fields
- Ms Gina Shimoda
- Mr. Bill Fraser

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That Edmonton Public Schools continue the practice of relying on Health Canada and the World Health Organization safety standards to guide its decisions on the installation and use of WiFi in all its buildings with the understanding that the Administration will keep the Board informed should there be any changes to the standards.”

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Mackenzie, Ripley and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Johner and Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED.

3. Delegation – Literacy and Learning Day Society of Edmonton

Ms Wendy Keiver, President Literacy and Learning Day Society of Edmonton, as well as Society Vice-President Mr. Luc Bouchard and parent Ms Bonnie Beamier, addressed the Board to request the following:

- Distribution of Conference materials via District communication vehicles
- Communication about the event; e.g. district letter to schools advising about the conference
- A \$5,000 donation (Double Platinum Level) in support of the Literacy and Learning Day Conference being held April 9, 2011.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Hoffman requested the Society provide information regarding the demographics of the parents who attend the Conference.

The Board Chair advised that, in accordance, with Board procedures, the decision regarding the delegation's request will be dealt with at the next board meeting on February 8, 2011.

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the report entitled ‘Delegation – Literacy and Learning Day Society of Edmonton’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board took a short break at this point.

4. Report from the District Priorities Committee

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

- “1. That the draft Vision, Mission, Beliefs and 2011-2014 District Priorities statement be approved for stakeholder consultation.**
- 2. That the outline and description of the stakeholder consultation process and consultation questions be approved.”**

Trustee Shipka referred to page 3 of the report and suggested the District Priorities Committee consider amending the heading *Our Beliefs and Values* to *Our Beliefs* for consistency.

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That District Priority 3 be amended to read: *Enable diverse, equitable and inclusive learning environments where every student feels welcome and safe.*”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman and Johner

OPPOSED: Trustees Janz, MacKenzie, Ripley, Spencer and Shipka

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

5. Proposed Terms of Reference for Special Needs Task Force

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Ms Kathryn Burke
- Ms Crystal Cheung

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the proposed terms of reference for the Special Needs Task Force be approved.”

Trustee MacKenzie offered the following friendly amendment:

“That the Definition section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be changed to a footnote to come under the Purpose section of the Terms of Reference. The Purpose section of the Terms of Reference would then read: *To support the implementation of an inclusive education system*, as envisioned in the ‘Setting the Direction Framework’, in Edmonton Public Schools*”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

Trustee MacKenzie offered the following friendly amendment:

“That the Purpose section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended to read: *To support the implementation of an inclusive education system*, as envisioned in the ‘Setting the Direction Framework’, in Edmonton Public Schools and ensure greater consistency in serving the needs of students across the district*”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the Deliverables section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended to read: *The task force will recommend actions to the Board that will move the District significantly forward toward the vision of an inclusive education system.*”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Johner, Ripley and Spencer

The Amendment was CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the Process section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended by adding visits to district sites for specialized programs for children with special needs; e.g., L.Y. Cairns and King Edward Academy.”

Trustee Hoffman offered the following friendly amendment:

“That the Process section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended by adding an item between items 4 and 5 that: *The opportunity be incorporated for task members to observe three types of classrooms:*

- 1) classrooms with students with special needs and educational assistants***
- 2) classrooms with students with special needs without educational assistants support***
- 3) classrooms where all students have special needs.”***

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the Financial Resources section of the Terms of Reference be amended to read: *The financial resources will be requested once the preliminary budget is determined and presented to board.*”

IN FAVOUR: Trustee MacKenzie

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the Deliverables section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended to read: *The task force will recommend actions to the Board that will move the District significantly forward toward the vision of an inclusive education system, and a cost estimate to implement these proposed actions.*”

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Ripley suggested the following friendly amendment to the Amendment:

“That the Deliverables section of the Terms of Reference for the Special Needs Task Force be amended to read: *The task force will recommend actions to the Board that will move the District significantly forward toward the vision of an inclusive education system, and the implications of implementing these proposed actions.*”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, MacKenzie and Spencer

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustee Ripley

The Motion was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Recommendation as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

6. Locally Developed Courses - Additions

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the following locally developed courses, currently in use in the District, be renewed for the school years from 2001-2014:

Course name
Arabic Language Arts K-6
American Sign Language K-12
Punjabi Language and Culture K-3
Accelerated English ESL Level 3 7-9
American Sign Language and Deaf Culture 4-12
ESL Introduction to Social Studies 7-9
ESL Introduction to Science 7-9
Explorations in Film 9
Learning to Lead 8-9
Practical Arts 7-8-9
American Sign Language and Deaf Culture 15-3Y / 25-3Y / 35-3Y
American Sign Language Arts 15-25-35
AP Biology 35^a
AP Chemistry 35^a (3 credits)
AP Math 35^b AB (3 credits)
Arabic Language and Culture 15-3Y / 25-3Y / 35-3Y
Aviation 25-35
Beginner Music - Choral 15
Beginner Music - Instrumental 15
Choir 15-25-35^d
Coaching 25 - Competition Introduction
Drawing (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35
ESL Intro to Canadian Studies 15-25^d
ESL Intro to Science 15^d
Forensic Science 25-3
Forensic Science 35-3
Introduction to Engineering 25

MINUTE BOOK

Course name
Learning Strategies 15-25-35^c (15, 25 - 3 & 5 credit, 35 – 5 credit)
Painting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35
Pre-Engineering 15-25-35^d
Punjabi Language and Culture 15-3Y/25-3Y/35-3Y
Sculpting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35^d
Speech and Debate 15
Sports Performance 15-25-35
Technical Math and Science 35-5^d

^a Acquired from St. Albert Protestant Schools

^b Acquired from Red Deer Catholic Schools

^c Acquired from Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District

^d Acquired from Calgary Board of Education (CBE)”

Trustee MacKenzie left at this point in the meeting.

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided regarding which schools offer American Sign Language other than Alberta School for the Deaf.

Trustee Cleary requested that information be provided regarding which schools offer Punjabi Language and Culture K-3 and Punjabi Language and Culture 15-3Y/25-3Y/35-3Y and which schools offer Arabic Language Arts K-6 and Arabic Language and Culture 15-3Y/25-3Y/35-3Y.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Trustee MacKenzie was absent for this vote.

MINUTE BOOK

7. Webcasting at Public Meetings

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That Edmonton Public Schools continue webcasting public Board meetings using outside expertise to produce the webcast.”

Trustee MacKenzie returned to the meeting at this point.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be amended to read: *That Edmonton Public Schools continue webcasting public Board meetings, without the chat feature, using outside expertise to produce the webcast.*”

The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Recommendation as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

8. Aboriginal Education Policy and Regulation Implementation Plan Update: Year Three

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the report entitled ‘Aboriginal Education Policy and Regulation Implementation Plan Update: Year Three’ be received for information.”

Trustee Janz left at this point in the meeting.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Trustee Janz was absent for this vote.

The Board took a short break at this point.

MINUTE BOOK

9. Sector Planning Public Engagement Report

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Sector Planning Public Engagement Report’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

10. Responses to Board Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Board Requests for Information’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

11. Bereavements

The Board Vice-Chair reported on the deaths of Mr. Rod Kirkpatrick, a member of the District’s teaching staff, and Mrs. Sheila Thirlwell, a member of the District’s exempt staff.

MOVED BY Board Vice-Chair Hoffman:

“That the report be received with regret and the actions of the Administration in this regard be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board Chair also noted the passing of Mr. Gary Pansegrau, a retired teacher with the district married to Morag Pansegrau, a trustee with the St. Albert Protestant School Board.

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

H. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee MacKenzie requested that information be provided explaining the various types of fees charged at our schools, the reasons for the varying fee structures, how these fees are set, and who is responsible for setting the fee schedules. What does an average student pay per year at each of the alternative schools and how does that compare to the average amount at a community school?

Trustee Spencer requested information suggesting ways the district could acknowledge, in a space calculation, leased classrooms which are being used full-time by preschools, child care providers and other wraparound service providers. Also advise on including classrooms now adapted for other educational purposes, such as computer labs, in a new measurement.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Spencer requested that the Superintendent provide a special acknowledgement to the custodial staff for their efforts during the heavy snowfall.

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding the particulars on the services and supports that would be available in the \$3,500 upgrade in service to use livestream.com for webcasting board meetings.

I. **Notices of Motion** – None.

J. **Next Board Meeting Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

K. **Adjournment:** 11:30 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary