

**MINUTE BOOK**

**- Board Meeting #10 -**

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, February 14, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

Leslie Cleary  
David Colburn  
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz  
Cheryl Johner  
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley  
Ken Shipka  
Christopher Spencer

**Officials**

Tanni Parker, Acting  
Superintendent  
Bruce Coggles

David Fraser  
Mark Liguori  
Ron MacNeil

Jamie Pallett  
Brian Smith  
Tash Taylor

**Board Chair:** David Colburn

**Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

**Staff Group Representatives**

CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

A. O Canada 

B. **Roll Call:** (2:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that February 13 to 19<sup>th</sup> is *Random Acts of Kindness Week*. The Board has endorsed and recognized Random Acts of Kindness Week since 1996.

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The Board Chair advised that Cheryl Lafayette, a teacher from Donald Massey School, received a Physical Education award from the Alberta Teachers Association at the Ever Active Schools Shaping the Future Health Conference in Kananaskis in January.

The Board Chair advised that he attended the Gala Evening to celebrate the Chinese New Year and the Confucius Institute of the Year Award on Saturday, February 11, 2012 at the Eva O. Howard Theatre at Victoria School. He noted the Central China Normal University Art Troupe performed at the Gala. The Troupe is sponsored by the Confucius Institute of Beijing. He noted the event was sold out with seven hundred tickets sold, and a waiting list of over one hundred more.

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

Assistant Superintendent Parker advised that Superintendent Schmidt would be absent from the meeting due to illness and has sent his regrets.

Assistant Superintendent Parker noted that the District's Long Service Reception will be held at the Winspear Centre Thursday, February 16, 2012.

Assistant Superintendent Parker noted there were several errors contained in report #12 – *Update re Achievement Performance of Students from Closed Schools (Response to Trustee Request #137)* with respect to the district Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) data. The report will be corrected and brought to the February 28, 2012 board meeting.

### **E. Minutes**

#### 1. Board Meeting #9 – January 31, 2012

Trustee Ripley referred to page four of the minutes regarding the vote on sustaining the ruling of the Chair, and noted that she voted in favour and Trustee Hoffman voted in opposition.

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #9 held January 31, 2012 be approved as amended.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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

**G. Reports**

2. School Closure Moratorium Committee Recommendations

The Board heard from the following individuals:

- Ms Keri Walmsley, parent Mill Creek School
- Mr. Mike Lantane, Chair Esther Starkman School Council

**MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“11. That the Board give first priority in the Three-Year Capital Plan to modernization of existing school buildings.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Janz, Johner and Ripley**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

**MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“12. That the Board engage in discussion with administration about the concept of strategically locating programs to encourage enrolment.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Ripley**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

The Board took a break at this point.

16. Student Accommodation Plans for Esther Starkman and Johnny Bright Schools (Response to Trustee Request #162)

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The Board heard from Ms Elaine Saxer-Gillies, parent from Johnny Bright School.

**MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Student Accommodation Plans for Esther Starkman and Johnny Bright Schools’ be received for information.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

3. Motion re District Space

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“That the Board approve and implement the following proposed recommendations:**

1. **Assess existing infrastructure for the potential to right-size schools.**
2. **Explore shared staffing models to support small schools.**
3. **With support from Alberta Education, collaborate with Edmonton Catholic Schools and explore the opportunities to have joint operations inside of shared facilities.**
4. **Work with the City of Edmonton to identify schools to support in areas under revitalization by the City to give predictability to communities.”**

**Trustee Colburn offered the following friendly amendment:**

**“That the recommendations be included as part of the School Closure Moratorium Committee Recommendations report.”**

**The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.**

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**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #1.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Hoffman, Janz and Johner**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer**

**The Motion was DEFEATED.**

**MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“That the Board engage in discussions with the Calgary Board of Education and the Province regarding the potential to right-size schools.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #2.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn and Johner**

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

**The Motion was DEFEATED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:**

**“That Recommendation #3 be amended to read: *That the Edmonton Public School Board find ways to collaborate with Edmonton Catholic Schools and explore the opportunities to have joint operations in alignment with Edmonton Catholic Schools’ policy on multi-use facilities.*”**

**MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“That the proposed amendment to Recommendation #3 be amended to read: *That the Edmonton Public School Board find ways to collaborate with Edmonton Catholic Schools and explore the opportunities to have joint operations.*”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment to the Amendment.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn and Ripley**

**The Amendment to the Amendment was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amended Amendment.**

**The Amended Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #3 as Amended.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That Recommendation #4 be amended to read: *That the Board identify schools and educational programming to support in areas under revitalization by the City, share this information with the City, communities and other school boards in the province and advocate for commitment to these schools to give predictability to communities.*”**

**The Board Chair called the question on Amendment.**

**The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #4 as Amended.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Trustee Hoffman requested that the recommendations of the School Closure Moratorium Committee be updated to include the additional approved recommendations.

4. Locally Developed Courses – Film Studies 15-25-35 and Physics (AP) 35

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

- “1. That the following locally developed course currently in use in the District be renewed for the period of the 2010-2013 school years:  
- Film Studies 15-25-35, acquired from the Calgary Board of Education.**
- 2. That the following newly acquired locally developed course be approved for the school years from 2010-2013:  
- Physics (AP) 35, acquired from the Calgary Board of Education.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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5. City of Edmonton – ELEVATE Report

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

**“That the Board approve in principle the recommendations outlined in the ELEVATE Report.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

6. Instructional Fees  
(Response to Trustee Request #132)
7. Financial Literacy Training  
(Response to Trustee Request #138)
8. Qualitative Data  
(Response to Trustee Request #142)
9. Student Learning Services Reorganization Update  
(Response to Trustee Request #143)
10. District Award – Social Studies and Language Arts  
(Response to Trustee Request #152)
11. District Definition of Creativity  
(Response to Trustee Request #136)
13. Internal Advisory Committees  
(Response to Trustee Request #141)
14. Barriers to Schools Choosing a Modified Calendar  
(Response to Trustee Request #151)
15. Small School by Necessity  
(Response to Trustee Request #160)  
(Response to Trustee Request #162)
17. Renting Non-District Space  
(Response to Trustee Request #165)

**MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:**

**“That the following reports be received for information:**

- **Instructional Fees (Response to Trustee Request #132)**
- **Financial Literacy Training (Response to Trustee Request #138)**
- **Qualitative Data (Response to Trustee Request #142)**
- **Student Learning Services Reorganization Update (Response to Trustee Request #143)**



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- **District Award – Social Studies and Language Arts (Response to Trustee Request #152)**
- **District Definition of Creativity (Response to Trustee Request #136)**
- **Internal Advisory Committees (Response to Trustee Request #141)**
- **Barriers to Schools Choosing a Modified Calendar (Response to Trustee Request #151)**
- **Small School by Necessity (Response to Trustee Request #160)**
- **Renting Non-District Space (Response to Trustee Request #165)**

Trustee MacKenzie referred to report #14 *Barriers to Schools Choosing a Modified Calendar (Response to Trustee Request #151)* and requested the following information be provided:

- In the past 10 years, which schools have applied for a modified calendar and which have been denied and what was the rationale for the denial.
- Are there other reasons why schools might want a modified calendar not included in policy HCA.BP – Approval of the School Year Policy?

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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

Trustee Ripley, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, provided a reminder that information lunches are ongoing and urged Trustees to attend if they haven't already.

Trustee Colburn, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, advised that the next meeting would be held on Friday, February 17, 2012.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised that the next meeting will be held on February 24, 2012. She noted that the Conversation Café will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Centre for Education on Friday, February 17, 2012 for provincial election candidates.

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Trustee MacKenzie, the Board's representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), advised that she would be providing a report to Conference Committee summarizing her experiences at the last PSBC meeting.

Trustee Spencer, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, advised that the next Linkages Committee meeting will be held in March.

Trustee Cleary highlighted the following:

- She represented the Board at the English Chinese Bilingual Association Chinese Annual New Year Celebration – Year of the Dragon which began with a parade from Metropolis to City Center Mall. She commended the more than 300 volunteers who put on the event which showcased the talents of district students from the twelve schools with the Mandarin Bilingual Program. She note it is possible to learn Mandarin in five minutes with a fifth grader. She thanked her student from Dovercourt School who was very patient with her. By the end of her session, she had a real appreciation for the Chinese language and culture.
- She attended an information meeting in Summerside, on January 20<sup>th</sup>, with over forty parents who came out to learn the difference between a school council and a fundraising society. As a result, support was garnered for a group of parents to play a key role in registering the name of the Strembitsky Parent Foundation as the fundraising society for the Michael Strembitsky School. She thanked Principal Lisa Wright, Ann Parker and Jack Geldart from the Planning Department. She noted that Ms Wendy Keiver from the Alberta School Councils' Association also attended the meeting.
- She attended the Republic of India Day 2012 on February 12, 2012 at the Jubilee Auditorium which was hosted by the Council of India Societies of Edmonton. Elected officials, dignitaries, many special guests, families, and over three hundred children who received academic awards, were in attendance. She thanked the organizing committee for their outstanding work and especially for recognizing and providing formal recognition of the importance of cultural and academic excellence.

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

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

Trustee Cleary requested the following information:

- Through consultation with Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta, develop a report that would indicate the scope and depth that Edmonton Public Schools could partner to enhance the delivery of the Junior Achievement programs delivered in schools. Identify any barriers that may exist to further development and any strategies that would be beneficial.
- List the benefits involved in supporting Junior Achievement by building closer ties in our district and what resources the district would expend in further partnership development.

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided outlining some of the things we learned through the new school openings in September 2010 and how we are using this information to improve for our 2012 school openings.

Trustee Hoffman requested that an analysis on the updated *Education Act* with regard to the anti-bullying section be provided. This analysis should address how it relates to work currently undertaken in our district as well as plans to prevent bullying over the next two years.

*NOTE: At the February 28, 2012 board meeting Trustee Colburn advised that he had spoken to the Superintendent regarding the written request for information with respect to pesticide use in the district he had submitted after the February 14, 2012 board meeting. He asked that this request be withdrawn. He submitted a revised request at the February 28, 2012 board meeting.*

**K. Notices of Motion** – None.

**L. Next Board Meeting Date:** Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

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**M. Adjournment (6:05 p.m.)**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

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**School Closure Moratorium Committee – Approved Recommendations  
from the January 31, 2012 and February 14, 2012 Board Meeting**

Board Actions	City Council	Provincial Government	Federal Government
<b>Space Utilization</b>			
1. Advocate for a revision to the Plant Operations & Maintenance (PO&M) funding formula that is not per pupil.	-	√	-
2. Advocate for adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to address deferred maintenance and infrastructure maintenance renewal (IMR).	-	√	-
3. Advocate for a revision to the provincial Area Capacity and Utilization (ACU) formula to more accurately reflect the schools space available for educational purposes.	-	√	-
4. Work with partners to promote schools as community hubs (i.e. space for senior drop-in, stay at home parent groups)	√	√	-
5. Advocate for lease terms beyond one year.	-	√	-
<b>Community Development</b>			
6. Develop a formal process for both urban boards to meet with the City of Edmonton to address growth and development highlighting the need to promote smart growth and increase densification in established communities.	√	-	-
7. Initiate at least three joint discussions a year between the Board of Trustees, the City of Edmonton and the provincial government to discuss joint planning.	√	√	-

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8. Advocate for family-friendly housing in mature neighbourhoods through new development or by providing housing for seniors so as to “free up” housing for families with children.	√	√	√
9. Encourage and support government incentives for retro-fitting older homes to make them more attractive to younger families.	√	√	√
<b>Program Planning</b>			
10. Give first priority in the Three-Year Capital Plan to modernization of existing school buildings.	-	-	-
11. The Board will engage in discussions with administration about the concept of strategically locating programs to encourage enrolment.	√	-	-

**The following recommendations were also approved at the February 14, 2012 board meeting and are included as part of the School Closure Moratorium Committee Recommendations report:**

1. That the Board engage in discussions with the Calgary Board of Education and the Province regarding the potential to right-size schools.
2. That the Edmonton Public School Board find ways to collaborate with Edmonton Catholic Schools and explore the opportunities to have joint operations.
3. That the Board identify schools and educational programming to support in areas under revitalization by the City, share this information with the City, communities and other school boards in the province and advocate for commitment to these schools to give predictability to communities.