

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 14, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to Delegation re: Renaming the Centre for Education

ORIGINATOR: A. Habinski, Executive Director, School and District Services

RESOURCE
STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Anne Sherwood

RECOMMENDATION

That a deferral of a decision to rename the Centre for Education, until a policy and regulation on naming non-school buildings is in place, be approved.

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On May 25th, at a public meeting of the Edmonton Public School Board, the board heard a delegation proposing to rename the Center for Education the “Michael A. Strembitsky Center for Education”. The presentation was made on behalf of a number of former trustees of Edmonton Public School District #7 by Mr. Doug Tupper and Dr. Don Massey. (Appendix I)

Edmonton Public Schools recognizes the outstanding contributions made by former superintendent Michael A. Strembitsky to public education in the Edmonton area. The fact that Edmonton Public Schools continues to be recognized nationally and internationally, as well as in several recent publications, is a testament to the legacy left by former superintendent Michael A. Strembitsky.

The board also appreciates that, since leaving Edmonton Public Schools, Michael A. Strembitsky has continued to promote Edmonton Public Schools through his work with a variety of other school jurisdictions in the United States, and a number of other countries including New Zealand, Germany, and Hong Kong. Former superintendent Strembitsky was innovative, and was seen as a distinguished practitioner of high performance management in education.

The following is provided in support of the response to the delegation. Board Policy FF.BP, Naming of Schools, (Appendix II) reserves the authority to name schools to the board of trustees. This policy states that preference shall be given to the names of persons who have made a valuable contribution to education and to the names of neighborhoods. The policy, however, does not speak to the naming of buildings other than schools.

Administrative Regulation FF.AR, Naming of Schools, (Appendix III) states that the board secretary shall keep a list of suggested school names and that the superintendent shall provide

the board with a short list of school names to be considered. Most schools opened since 1990 were named after persons. (Appendix IV) This regulation also does not speak to the naming of buildings other than schools.

It is recommended that there be a review of Board Policy FF.BP and Board Regulation FF.AR to consider the inclusion of policy and regulation to guide the board in the naming of non school buildings. The most recent Capital Plan and Capital Priorities included proposals to construct new Elementary and Junior High schools, as well as the construction of a new High School on the south side of Edmonton.

JB:pn

Appendix I	Copy of Letter from Delegation
Appendix II	Board Policy FF.BP: Naming of Schools
Appendix III	Administrative Regulation FF.AR: Naming of Schools
Appendix IV	Schools Opened Since 1990

Edmonton Public Schools Opened Since 1990

Year Opened		
1990	Earl Buxton	Teacher, professor, author and trustee
	T.D. Baker	Teacher and administrator
1991	S. Bruce Smith	Trustee, lawyer and judge
1992	John D. Bracco	Teacher, administrator, trustee, lawyer and judge
	Kate Chegwin	Teacher and administrator
	Mary Butterworth	Trustee
1993	George H. Luck	Administrator and trustee
	Velma E. Baker	Custodial assistant and member of CUPE Local 474 executive
1994	Michael A. Kostek	Teacher, administrator, author and district archivist
1997	Centre High	Named for it's location and the positive connotations of "centre"
2000	Amiskwaciy Academy	Cree for Beaver Hills, the original name of Edmonton
2002	George P. Nicholson	Teacher, Administrator, Associate Superintendent, Trustee
	Jackson Heights	Neighbourhood Name: Neighbourhood named for Anne May Jackson, first full-time policewoman in Canada