



**Summary of Board Meeting #9
Tuesday, March 11, 2003**

- A. **O Canada** – District Video.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) – Trustee Woodrow was absent.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chairman** – None.
- D. **Communications from the Superintendent of Schools** – None.
- E. **Minutes:**
1. Board Meeting #8 – February 25, 2003 - Approved as printed.
- F. **Focus on Student Achievement**
2. Bannerman School’s Instructional Focus: Reading for Understanding
Received for information.
- G. **Recognition:**
3. “An Act to Follow” Staff Recognition Program
Received for information.
- H. **Reports:**
4. Report #8 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held March 4, 2003)
Approved recommendations re:
 - Teacher certificated resignations and retirements
 - Delegation of authority to appoint teacher administrators accessing the retirement transition option plan
 5. Motion re Trustee Initiatives
Approved recommendation.

6. Approval of Board Policies: HD.BP - Instructional Time & HGAF.BP- French Language Education

- a) Approved recommendation (amended to include 475 *hours* of instruction time HD.BP section B.1.).
- b) Trustee Nicholson asked that information be TM'd providing clarification on how staggered entry and alternate days small-group instruction affects the requirement to provide each kindergarten student access to 475 hours of instructional program activities.
- c) Trustee Odynski requested that, in future, existing policies be included for information.
- d) Update Policies and Regulations on district website.

7. Idylwylde School Closure Process

- a) Approved recommendation.
- b) Trustee Hansen asked the administration to address the concern raised by the community regarding the closure of Idylwylde School and the effect on Rutherford School and, in particular, with respect to the rental revenue from Idylwylde School.

8. Appointment of the Student Accident Insurance Broker

Approved recommendation.

9. Alberta Initiative for School Improvement Update

- a) Received for information.
- b) The superintendent advised that he would TM information regarding the result of the meeting with Alberta Learning with respect to AISI funding.

10. Random Selection Process Review

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Dean requested that information be provided with respect to the number of students who have gone through the random selection process and how many of those students were successful.

11. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Odynski requested information regarding the Cogito Program – is it operating as originally intended and is it consistently implemented across the district.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• Community Relations Activities

1. Trustee Gibeault advised that he had attended an education funding forum on March 6, 2003 sponsored by Kate Chegwin School. A number of MLAs were in attendance including Gene Zwosdesky, Ken Nicoll and Raj Pannu. Larry Booi and Janice Bell were also present.
2. Trustee Gibeault noted that he had served three days as the ASBA representative on the Excellence in Teaching selection committee last week. He believed that when the teacher finalists are announced the district will be very proud of the number of district teachers who were selected.
3. Trustee Odynski noted that she had participated in an education funding forum on CBC Radio. MLA Mary O'Neill, a student and Kathy Starring-Parrish were also participants.
4. Trustee Odynski noted that she and Trustee Woodrow would be attending a Ward C & E education funding forum on Thursday evening. Five MLAs from those wards will be in attendance.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

1. Virginia Hartley, a Ward G resident and Rutherford School parent, expressed concern with the impact the reduction in allocation will have on their school. She noted that a recently introduced advanced reading program and the school's music program are in jeopardy. She also expressed great concern that an increase in the lease rate will jeopardize the day care in the school and hence the future kindergarten enrolment and the future viability of the school. She asked what help is available to assist the day care in remaining in the school.

The chairman indicated that, normally, a response to a delegation request is made at the next meeting. He asked that the administration contact Ms Hartley to discuss her concerns.

2. Diane Waddell, another Ward G resident and Rutherford School parent, also expressed great concern about the impact of a lease rate increase on the day care at the school of almost 500% and represents \$4,200 revenue to the school. She noted, however, that the day care is a source of 15 kindergarten students per year which translates to \$26,250 revenue per year or \$296,500 over the course of a student's enrolment at the school. She would like the board to consider the impact that this decision and reduced funding will have on small school programs. She noted that it is proposed that the school will lose \$100,000 from its budget allocation. She noted that the school council raised \$150,000 to fund the advanced reading program; however, with the loss of the library assistant this would jeopardize the program. She urged the board for help.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

1. Trustee Hansen requested that a report be provided for the next conference committee meeting regarding what the impact of the present basis of allocation will have on small schools of 100 to 125 students or less, such as Rutherford School. Include a comparison of the impact on staff component and class size for mid-range and larger schools. Is there a basis to amend the allocation formula to provide additional funding for smaller schools to maintain their viability?
2. Trustee Dean requested an update on the RAP Program in terms of:
 - Completion rates
 - Course offerings
 - Possible partnerships
 - Number of schools and students involved
3. Trustee Odynski requested that information be provided regarding the status of the Calgary Board of Education's deficit repayment schedule.

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Hansen served notice of the following motion.

Prepare and deliver a letter this week from the Board Chairman to the Minister of Learning indicating the urgency in receiving a response to the Chairman's letter requesting permission to pay the district's deficit over three years.

Waiver of notice was granted and the motion was approved.

M. Next Meeting Date: March 25, 2003 – 6:00 p.m. - Board

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