

MINUTE BOOK

**- Organizational Meeting -**

Minutes of the organizational 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, October 28, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

Bill Bonko  
Bob Dean  
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault  
Svend Hansen  
Ray Martin

George Nicholson  
Lynn Odynski  
Jean Woodrow

**Officials**

Angus McBeath  
Norm Diemert

Avi Habinski  
Bob Holt

Donna Barrett  
Ron MacNeil  
Corinne McCabe

**Chairman:** D. Fleming (pro tem)

**Secretary:** A. Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** M. Fraser

**A. O Canada – CD.**

**B. Call to Order by the Chairman: (7:30 p.m.)**

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

**C. Communications from the Board Chairman**

The chairman expressed appreciation to his fellow board members for their support during his three terms as chairman and advised that he would not be standing for re-election as board chairman.

**D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.**

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**E. Report:**

Confirmation of Committees, Board Representation and Regular Meetings

**MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:**

**“1. That the following standing committees of the whole be confirmed:**

- **Conference Committee**
- **Audit Committee**

**2. That the following standing subcommittees be confirmed:**

- a) **Community Relations**
- b) **Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools**
- c) **District Priorities**
- d) **Board Evaluation and Results**
- e) **Planning and Policy**
- f) **Results Review**
- g) **Budget Review**

**3. That board representation on the following district staff negotiating committees be confirmed:**

- **Teaching**
- **Custodial**
- **Maintenance**
- **Support**

**4. That board representation on the following external agencies be confirmed:**

- a) **Alberta School Boards Association**
  - **Provincial Executive**
  - **Zone 23 Executive**
  - **ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee**
  - **Alberta School Boards Association for Bilingual Education (ASBABE)**
- b) **Public School Boards' Association of Alberta**
  - **provincial executive nominee**
  - **liaison representative**

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c) **City of Edmonton Names Advisory**

5. **That the board's membership and representation on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee be confirmed.**
6. **That the board's ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee comprised of the board chairman or vice-chairman, the ASBA provincial executive member and the Zone 23 representative be confirmed.**
7. **That the following dates and times of regular meetings be confirmed:**

a) **Board**

**Regular board meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Special meetings may be held at the call of the chairman.**

b) **Conference Committee**

**Regular meetings of the conference committee are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The third Tuesday morning of each month will be held as a reserve meeting date for special meetings which may be held at the call of the chairman.**

**In order to accommodate guests at conference committee for such purposes as appeal, expulsion and termination hearings, the third Tuesday evening of the month will continue to be held in reserve.**

c) **Meeting of the Superintendent and Trustees (MST)**

**Regular meetings of the superintendent and trustees (MST) are held on the first Tuesday of each month commencing at 9:00 a.m. Special meetings may be held at the call of the superintendent."**

**The chairman called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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### 1. Chairman of the Board

Trustee Fleming called for nominations for the position of chairman of the board.

Trustee Fleming nominated Trustee Hansen.

Trustee Fleming, noting that there were no further nominations, declared Trustee Hansen had been elected as chairman of the board by acclamation for the forthcoming year.

Trustee Hansen accepted the chair and thanked his colleagues for their vote of confidence. He indicated he would work hard to live up to the trust that had been placed in him. He looked forward to their support and counsel as he assumed the chair's role and responsibility.

Trustee Hansen expressed sincere thanks, on behalf of himself, the entire board, the district's staff, constituents and community, for the outstanding leadership that Trustee Fleming has provided during his three terms as board chair. He commended Trustee Fleming for his dedication and commitment to public education.

Trustee Hansen noted that it was his commitment as board chair to continue the board's advocacy for public education. Edmonton Public Schools has an outstanding reputation as a lighthouse district. We need to continue our advocacy focus on acquiring adequate and sustainable funding for public education. To that end, he would encourage the immediate implementation of Recommendation #87 of the Learning Commission which speaks to the shortfall in current funding of \$90.6 million. Trustees have been engaged in the past two weeks in results review with schools and central services and the message they have heard is that schools are prepared to reorganize immediately to provide the optimum learning environment that students deserve.

Trustee Hansen noted that we have a wide variance in class sizes which are impacted by a range of variables but this year there are a significant number of classes with larger enrolments than has been the case in previous years. The administration will make available tomorrow to the media the district's class size report which has been submitted to Alberta Learning.

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Trustee Hansen wanted to go on record as being willing to meet with the Minister of Learning at his earliest convenience to: discuss the district's response and recommendations to each of the 95 recommendations of the Learning Commission; dialogue on co-operative initiatives for continued support and improvement in public education; and to discuss other issues identified by the board or the Minister. He also wanted to initiate dialogue with the members of the Capital City Caucus at an early date. He believed there is a need to clarify our and their perceived roles in supporting adequate, sustainable funding for public education.

Trustee Hansen noted that solid, positive relationships have been established with all of the district's staff groups and he is committed to maintaining these relationships. We are provided with outstanding leadership by the superintendent and senior staff. The board values this and will continue to look at these individuals for advise and counsel in their decision making.

Trustee Hansen, in closing, noted that the course of Edmonton Public Schools has been set – we know where we want to be, we know our destination. The last two “captains”, Trustees Nicholson and Fleming, have provided excellent leadership and have steered the course. A change in “captain” will not alter the course. However, he could only hope for somewhat “smoother waters” ahead.

### 2. Vice-Chairman of the Board

The chairman called for nominations for vice-chairman of the board.

Trustee Martin nominated Trustee Bonko.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Odynski.

Ballots were distributed and collected.

The superintendent of schools and the board secretary left the room to count the ballots.

Mrs. Sherwood announced that the majority of the board had elected Trustee Bonko as vice-chairman of the board for the forthcoming year.

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3. Chairman of Standing Committees of the Whole:

- i) Conference Committee
- ii) Audit Committee

The chairman noted that the practice of the board has been to have the same trustee serve as chairman of both the conference committee and audit committee. He then called for nominations for the position of chairman of conference committee and audit committee.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Nicholson.

The chairman declared Trustee Nicholson as chairman of the audit and conference committee.

4. Representatives on Other Standing Committees

- i) Community Relations

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to serve on the community relations committee. He noted that the committee only requires two named trustees as the board chairman serves as the third member of the committee.

Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Fleming.

Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Odynski.

The chairman declared Trustees Fleming, Odynski, and himself as the board's representatives on the community relations committee for the forthcoming year.

- ii) Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to serve on the evaluation of the superintendent of schools committee.

Trustee Odynski nominated Trustee Woodrow.

Trustee Fleming nominated Trustee Dean.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Gibeault.

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The chairman declared Trustees Dean, Gibeault and Woodrow as the board's representatives on the evaluation of the superintendent of schools committee for the forthcoming year.

iii) District Priorities Committee

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to serve on the district priorities committee.

Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Nicholson.

Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Hansen.

Trustee Nicholson nominated Trustee Woodrow.

The chairman declared Trustees Hansen, Nicholson and Woodrow as the board's representatives on the district priorities committee for the forthcoming year.

iv) Board Evaluation and Results Committee

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to serve on the board evaluation and results committee.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Dean.

Trustee Martin nominated Trustee Odynski.

Trustee Hansen nominated Trustee Martin.

The chairman declared Trustees Dean, Martin and Odynski as the board's representatives on the board evaluation and results committee for the forthcoming year.

vi) Planning and Policy Review

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to serve on the planning and policy review committee.

Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Bonko.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Fleming.

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Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Odynski.

The chairman declared Trustees Bonko, Fleming and Odynski as the board's representatives on the planning and policy review committee for the forthcoming year.

5. Ad Hoc Negotiation Assignments:

i) Teaching Staff

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to be assigned to negotiations with the district's teaching staff.

Trustee Nicholson nominated Trustee Martin.

Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Woodrow.

The chairman declared Trustees Martin and Woodrow as the board's representatives assigned to negotiations with the district's teaching staff.

ii) Custodial Staff

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to be assigned to negotiations with the district's custodial staff.

Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Fleming.

Trustee Martin nominated Trustee Odynski.

The chairman declared Trustees Fleming and Odynski as the board's representatives assigned to negotiations with the district's custodial staff.

iii) Maintenance Staff

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to be assigned to negotiations with the district's maintenance staff.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Fleming.



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Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Dean.

The chairman declared Trustees Dean and Fleming as the board's representatives assigned to negotiations with the district's maintenance staff.

iv) Support Staff

The chairman called for nominations for trustee representatives to be assigned to negotiations with the district's support staff.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Gibeault.

Trustee Nicholson nominated Trustee Bonko.

The chairman declared Trustees Bonko and Gibeault as the board's representatives assigned to negotiations with the district's support staff.

6. Representatives to Other Agencies:

i) Alberta School Boards' Association Positions

a) Provincial Executive

No nominations were required as the current term expires in June 2004.

Alternate

No nominations were required as the current term expires in June 2004.

b) Zone 23 Executive

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve on the ASBA Zone 23 executive.

Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Odyanski.

The chairman declared Trustee Odyanski as the board's representative to serve on the ASBA Zone 23 executive.

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Alternate

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve as Trustee Odynski's alternate on the ASBA Zone 23 executive.

Trustee Woodrow nominated Trustee Gibeault.

The chairman declared Trustee Gibeault as Trustee Odynski's alternate on the ASBA Zone 23 executive.

ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee

Trustee Hansen (as chairman of the board), Trustee Fleming (as the board's representative on the ASBA Provincial Executive) and Trustee Odynski (as the board's representative on the ASBA Zone 23 executive) will serve as the board's representatives on the ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee.

Alberta School Boards Association for Bilingual Education

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve on the Alberta School Boards Association for Bilingual Education.

Trustee Bonko nominated Trustee Martin.

The chairman declared Trustee Martin as the board's representative to serve on the Alberta School Boards Association for Bilingual Education.

ii) Public School Boards' Association of Alberta Positions:

a) Executive Nominee

No nominations were required as Trustee Fleming sits on the Executive as the PSBAA's past president.

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b) Liaison

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve as the board's liaison with the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta.

Trustee Hansen nominated Trustee Bonko.

The chairman declared Trustee Bonko as the board's liaison representative with the PSBAA for the coming year.

iii) City of Edmonton Names Advisory Committee

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve as the board's representative on the City of Edmonton Names Advisory Committee.

Trustee Martin nominated Trustee Dean.

The chairman declared Trustee Dean as the board's representative on the City of Edmonton Names Advisory Committee for the forthcoming year.

iv) Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to serve as the board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee.

Trustee Fleming nominated Trustee Martin.

The chairman declared Trustee Martin as the board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee for the forthcoming year.

**F. Committee and Board Representative Reports**

▪ **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Odyński advised that there would be a Ward C & E meeting on Tuesday, November 4, 2003. Patricia MacKenize and the 5 MLAs from this area have been invited to attend to discuss the Learning Commission recommendations and our board's response.

Trustee Bonko advised that there would be a Town Hall Meeting on November 20, 2003 at Kensington School with the Learning Minister, MLA Brent Rathgeber, Trustee Odyński and Edmonton Catholic Trustee Janice Sarich and himself.

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G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.

H. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

I. Notices of Motion

Trustee Hansen served notice of the following motion:

**That the administration prepare a letter for the chairman's signature to the Minister of Learning with copies to the Premier, the Provincial Treasurer and the Capital Region Caucus requesting immediate implementation of Recommendation #87 of the Learning Commission which speaks to the shortfall in current funding of \$90.6 million.**

**MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:**

**“That notice of motion be waived with respect to this item.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

J. Meeting Dates:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Wednesday, November 12, 2003	Public Board	6:00 p.m.

K. Adjournment: (8:05 p.m.)

The chairman adjourned the meeting.

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Board Chairman

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Secretary