

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #4 -

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, October 28, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Sue Huff

George Rice
Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Donna Barrett
Jenise Bidulock

Bruce Coggles
Tanni Parker

Dean Power
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Bev Esslinger

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers: Mark Ramsankar, President

A. **O Canada** 

B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

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C. Communications from the Board Chair

The board chair advised that Mr. Will Simpson and Dr. Maureen Stratton Lemieux were present along with a number of students from an after-degree education course at Concordia University College of Alberta. The course taught by both Mr. Simpson and Dr. Stratton Lemieux focuses on issues in the organizational framework of teaching. One of the requirements of the course is that the students have a first-hand experience to see how public school governance works.

The board chair advised that she had been invited to participate in a conference call with the Minister of Education and board chairs on November 6, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. regarding Phase Two of the Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement Project.

She noted that the following two questions have been identified to be asked during the conference call:

- clarification of community use of Phase Two ASAP schools
- will the current economic situation affect the construction of Phase Two ASAP schools

She asked that trustees wishing to provide additional questions for the conference call to advise her by October 30, 2008.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The superintendent advised, with regret, that former staff member, Dale Armstrong, passed away last week. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held at McDougall United Church on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #3 – October 14, 2008

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #3 held October 14, 2008 be approved as printed.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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F. Improving Student Achievement:

2. Improving Student Achievement Through Consulting Services: The Student Focus

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement Through Consulting Services: The Student Focus’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

3. Accountability Pillar and Student Achievement Results

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the report entitled ‘Accountability Pillar and Student Achievement Results’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The board took a short break at this point.

4. 2007-08 Student, Parent, Staff Satisfaction Survey Results and 2007-08 Community Satisfaction Survey Results

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the report entitled ‘2007-08 Student, Parent, Staff Satisfaction Survey Results and 2007-08 Community Satisfaction Survey Results’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Career Education Focus: The Skill Centre Pilot

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the report entitled ‘Career Education Focus: The Skill Centre Pilot’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

6. School Capital Projects Update

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘School Capital Projects Update’ be received for information.”

Trustee Gibeault requested that information be provided regarding the status of the South Campus of Eglerslie School and when it may be available for students.

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The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

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

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

8. Motion re SchoolZone

Trustee Colburn advised that, while he had given notice of a motion with respect to SchoolZone, he had done some refinement of the wording.

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the administration engage in discussions with the Edmonton Public Local of the Alberta Teachers’ Association on ways to improve parent engagement, including a review of all current tools and resources currently supporting parent engagement and that the administration report back to public board on the outcome of these discussions before the end of the school year.”

Trustee Fleming called a point of order that the motion as moved was substantially different from the motion for which notice was given at the last board meeting.

The board chair called the question on accepting the substitute motion without notice.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn, Gibeault and Huff

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming, Esslinger, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

The Motion on accepting the substitute motion without notice was DEFEATED.

The motion as moved will serve as notice of motion and will be brought forward to the November 12, 2008 board meeting for consideration.

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9. Proposed Board Policy GBCB.BP – District Staff Code of Conduct

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That proposed Board Policy GBCB.BP District Staff Code of Conduct BE considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

10. Policy Reviews: DG.BP – Appointment of Principal Banker and DIE.BP – Auditor

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That Board Policies DG.BP – Appointment of Principal Banker and DIE.BP – Auditor be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

11. Policy Review: DJ.BP – Purchasing

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That Board Policy DJ.BP – Purchasing be considered for the third time and approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That Board Policy DJ.BP – Purchasing be amended to delete the second sentence.”

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

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

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustee Fleming

The Motion was CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the Board Policy DJ.BP – Purchasing be referred to the Planning and Policy Committee.”

The board chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

The Referral Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Other Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley reported that she and Trustee Gibeault represented the board today at the signing of a partnership agreement between the district, Goethe-Intitut (which is based in Toronto) and the Central Agency for German Schools Abroad. The intent of the agreement is to support and enhance German language and culture education.

Trustee Gibson reported that he, Trustees Esslinger and Gibeault and Assistant Superintendent Donna Barrett and Programs Director Gloria Chalmers were guests at the Edmonton & Area Child and Family Services Region 6 Annual General Meeting on Monday, October 27, 2008.

Trustee Rice reported on PSBAA University Year II held October 16 to 17, 2008. The sessions dealt with trustee professional development. He noted that Trustees Huff, Ripley and Fleming attended the sessions as well.

Trustee Rice reported on the PSBAA Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, October 18, 2008. Trustees Fleming, Ripley and Shipka were also in attendance. He indicated that he would provide further information to the trustees with respect to the meeting.

Trustee Colburn reported that he has been invited, as a member of the Alberta Coalition for Healthy School Communities, to sit on an Alberta Education external advisory committee to review all health and wellness programs and initiatives in the province including K-12 physical education curriculum, the CALM program and the daily physical activity requirement. The work of the committee will begin in a few weeks.

Trustee Esslinger reported that she and Trustees Colburn, Huff and Rice attended the district’s School Health Symposium held on Monday, October 27, 2008.

Trustee Esslinger reported that, today, she attended an Alberta School Boards Association Transportation Task Force meeting.

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

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Huff requested that information be provided regarding what mechanisms are in place to track development and success of special needs students.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: (9:10 p.m.)

The board chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary