




AGENDA

Edmonton School District No. 7
One Kingsway
Edmonton, Alberta

McCauley Chambers
Tuesday, October 9, 2012
2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting #3

- A. O Canada 
- B. Roll Call
- C. Communications from the Board Chair
- D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools
- E. Minutes
 - 1. DRAFT – Board Meeting #2 – September 25, 2012
- F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives
- G. Reports
 - 2. Policy Review Committee: FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions
(Recommendation)
 - 3. Webcasting Update
(Information)
 - 4. Community Relations Committee: School Tours 2012
(Information)
 - 5. Boards Gathering Feedback and Dialoguing with Staff
(Information - Response to Request for Information #201)
 - 6. Financial Disclosure Practices
(Information - Response to Request for Information #220)
 - 7. Bereavement
(Information with Introduction)

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

Sarah Hoffman
Board Chair

Michael Janz
Board Vice-Chair

Heather MacKenzie
Conference Chair

David Colburn
Leslie Cleary
Cheryl Johner
Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

- H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**
- I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**
– 5:00 p.m. (*NOTE: Pre-registration is required for this item.*)
- J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**
- K. Notices of Motion**
- L. Meeting Dates**
- M. Adjournment**

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #2 -

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, September 25, 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

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser

Cheryl Hagen
Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil

Jamie Pallett
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

MINUTE BOOK

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that the theme of this year's Read-In Week, which runs from October 1st to 5th, is *Read the World*. Read-In is a remarkable success story, thanks to the support of the District's many partners, community and generous sponsors. This annual week-long celebration, which is now in its 23rd year, has expanded partner involvement, renewed interest and focus on the joy of reading within the entire Edmonton Community. She invited all Edmontonians, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to participate in Read-In 2012.

The Board Chair advised that October 2nd is Custodial Workers Recognition Day. The District appreciates and values the members of CUPE Local 474, the District's custodial staff, who ensure that the District's buildings are comfortable, clean and safe for students and staff and recognizes the contributions custodial staff make in supporting teaching and learning in the classroom. She also noted that October 5th is World Teachers' Day, a day set aside by the world community to celebrate teachers. The District also appreciates and values the Edmonton Public Teachers and recognizes the central role they play in nurturing and guiding infants, children, youth and adults through the life-long learning process. In recognition of these days the Board of Trustees and the Administration will be placing ads in local and provincial newspapers.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent commended McNally student Mackenzie Martin for her outstanding work as the prime organizer of the *United Nations International Day of the Girl Child* Conference which will be held October 9th at the Winspear. He noted that Premier Redford will open the Conference.

E. Minutes

1. Organizational Board Meeting – September 11, 2012

The Superintendent referred to page sixteen, report #9 and noted the words *as a first priority* should not be struck out in the original recommendation.

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held September 11, 2012 be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

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

G. Reports

2. Presentation Early Child Development Mapping Project Alberta

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the report titled ‘Presentation Early Child Development Mapping Project Alberta’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

3. Motion re Active Transportation Plans for All Schools

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the District develop active transportation plans for every school.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That this item be referred to the Administration to develop a plan to share information throughout our schools regarding current ‘active transportation plans’. This information should include details on how other schools interested in developing an active transportation plan can do so. This information will be distributed by March 2013.”

Trustee MacKenzie challenged the ruling of the Board Chair that the referral motion was in order.

The Board Chair called the question on sustaining the ruling of the Chair.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Hoffman, Janz, Johner and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

The Board Chair’s ruling was sustained.

The Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Hoffman, Janz, Johner and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

4. Policy Review Committee: FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That revised Board Policy FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions be considered for the first time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That revised Board Policy FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions be considered for the second time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Process and Timelines for the Review of 2011-2012 Results and the Plans for 2012-2013

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “That the process and timeline for review of the 2011-2012 results and the 2012-2013 plans be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn

The Motion was CARRIED.

The Board took a short break at this point.

MINUTE BOOK

6. Funds for 2013-2014 Professional Improvement Program

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That an allocation of \$1,200,000 from the 2013-2014 operating budget for the purpose of granting professional improvement leaves and/or tuition support for the 2013-2014 school year be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Student Smartphones and Mobile Devices
(Response to Request for Information #209)
8. Vancouver School Board Community Engagement Practices
(Response to Request for Information #210)
9. FNMI Funding
(Response to Request for Information #211)
10. Spring Elections Impact on Budget Process
(Response to Request for Information #212)
11. Zero-Based Budgeting
(Response to Request for Information #213)

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the following reports be received for information:

- **Student Smartphones and Mobile Devices (Response to Request for Information #209)**
- **Vancouver School Board Community Engagement Practices (Response to Request for Information #210)**
- **FNMI Funding (Response to Request for Information #211)**
- **Spring Elections Impact on Budget Process (Response to Request for Information #212)**
- **Zero-Based Budgeting (Response to Request for Information #213)”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

11. Bereavements

Vice-Chair Janz reported on the deaths of Mr. Gerald Vandament and Mrs. Catherine Kennett.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the report be received with regret and the actions of the Administration in this regard be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Cleary, the Board’s representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, highlighted the following upcoming Foundation friend and fundraising events:

- Princess Florence handbags and accessories will be having a sale event on October 3, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. with 10% of the purchases being gifted to the Foundation.
- There will be a culinary fundraiser on October 30, 2012 at Murietta’s Bar & Grill restaurant located in Old Strathcona from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The evening will feature Chef Shane Chartrand with special guest speaker, Mr. Allan Watt. Further details will be announced.

Trustee Colburn, the Board’s representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported on the following from the Board of Directors meeting held September 13 to 14, 2012:

- Nine recommendations from the ASBA Community Engagement Task Force were approved. A copy of the Task Force report has been distributed to all trustees and administrations across the province. The report will be available on the ASBA website in October.
- The ASBA work plan for this year was approved.
- Embargoed information regarding provincial achievement and diploma results was received. This information will be made public the first week of October.
- The Board of Directors’ Self-Evaluation and Executive Director’s evaluation were approved.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised that the next ASBA Zone 23 general meeting will be held Friday, September 28, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Centre.

Trustee Janz, the Board's representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), had nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Cleary, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, had nothing to report at this time.

Trustee Colburn advised that, yesterday, he and Trustee Johner visited Amiskwaciy Academy. They began the day with morning song, a rich cultural drum and song, and met a delegation from New Zealand that is in North America to study practices and supports for indigenous people. The group's five-week visit, which began and ended at Amiskwaciy, is being funded by the Rotary Club. He noted that Amiskwaciy has undertaken an initiative to invite elementary students to a morning-long visit to Amiskwaciy to participate in a series of Aboriginal teachings. This initiative has been very well received and speaks to District's expanding the capacity in the areas of equity, empathy and broadening our understanding of Aboriginal culture.

Trustee Cleary advised that she had attended the 2012 APEGA (Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta) Teacher Awards Program on September 24, 2012. This program recognizes excellence in teaching math and science, and annually celebrates innovative and creative teaching through the selection of 20 teacher award recipients across Alberta. She congratulated the four District Award winners: Cheryl Devin, Colin Lacey, Barb Vezina and Scott Winter. Each of their schools will benefit from the \$2,000 awarded to further science or math education.

Trustee Cleary advised that she had attended the Meyokumin School Picnic on Saturday, September 22, 2012. This annual event is organized by the Meyokumin Parent Association and sponsored by many community partners in Mill Woods including Servus Credit Union, Starbucks, Save On Foods, Edmonton Public Libraries Mill Woods Branch and the Millhurst Community League.

Trustee Hoffman advised that she and Superintendent Schmidt represented the Board at a meeting with the Mayor's office, the Minister of Education, the Edmonton Catholic School Board and the Francophone Board to discuss the ELEVATE report and how we might work together to respond or further some of the actions within the report.

MINUTE BOOK

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Johner requested that information be provided regarding how other metro districts support their school councils, both at school level and Committee of School Councils (COSC) level. She asked that the information also include how principals and Assistant Superintendents are involved

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided on how the Board could advocate to the City for an elimination of pesticide application on playing fields.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting recessed at 4:30 p.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

All Trustees were present.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

The Board heard from Mr. Michael Tachynski regarding the “zero” grade practice.

M. Adjournment (5:10 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

Cheryl Hagen, Acting Secretary-Treasurer

DATE: October 9, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Michael Janz, Chair, 2011-12 Policy Review Committee
Trustee Heather MacKenzie, 2011-12 Policy Review Committee
Trustee Catherine Ripley, 2011-12 Policy Review Committee

SUBJECT: Policy Review Committee - FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

ORIGINATOR: Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent, Student Learning Services

RESOURCE STAFF: Eileen Marthiensen, Bob Morter, Carol Symons

REFERENCE: [FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions](#)
[JGD.AR - Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages](#)
[HICA.BP - Field Trips](#)
[HICA.AR - Field Trips](#)
[IAA.AR – Aboriginal Education](#)

ISSUE

Board Policy FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions was scheduled for review effective January 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

That revised Board Policy FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions (Attachment I) be considered for the third time and approved.

BACKGROUND

The proposed policy was brought forward to public board on September 25, 2012 to be considered for the first and second reading. At that time, the policy was approved as written for both first and second readings.

Prior to the September 25, 2012 Board Meeting the policy had been posted for input through web survey and additional feedback had been sought through the District First Nations, Metis and Inuit External Advisory Committee.

RELATED FACTS

N/A

OPTIONS

The following options are selected for consideration as they are deemed the most admissible:

1. Approve the policy as recommended.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

The Administration is recommending approval of the policy as drafted.

NEXT STEPS

Pending approval of FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions, the policy will be posted on the district website. In addition, notification will be provided to all district staff regarding the approval of the policy. Finally, a reference to IAA.AR – Aboriginal Education will be included on FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises once the Aboriginal Education regulation has been revised.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

- ATTACHMENT I Proposed Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions
- ATTACHMENT II Current Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions showing recommended changes
- APPENDIX I Current Administrative Regulation JGD.AR – Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages
- APPENDIX II May 8, 2012 Board Report, Board Policy Review - FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions
- APPENDIX III Current Administrative Regulation IAA.AR – Aboriginal Education

BM:ts

Edmonton Public Schools

Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: FM.BP

TOPIC: Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco
Use on District Premises and at District
Sponsored Functions

EFFECTIVE DATE:

ISSUE DATE:

REVIEW DATE:

The Board of Trustees believes that the consumption of alcohol in schools or at district sponsored student functions is inappropriate. Further, the Board believes that the use of tobacco in district facilities or on district property should be prohibited.

A. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited:
 - in schools; and
 - at all student functions, including but not limited to, such functions as graduations and field trips, whether held at a district facility or elsewhere.
2. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the consumption of alcoholic beverages may be permitted:
 - in district facilities, other than schools, used for district sponsored functions or rented for the use of external groups, which would not include district students.
3. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the performance by students at venues where alcoholic beverages are available may be permitted.

B. TOBACCO

1. Tobacco use is prohibited in district facilities and on district property utilized in whole or in part by district staff.

Reference(s):

[IG.BP](#) - Student Behaviour and Conduct

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings

[HICA.BP](#) – Field Trips

[HICA.AR](#) – Field Trips

Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: FM.BP

TOPIC: Alcoholic Beverages and ~~Smoking~~
Tobacco Use on District Premises and at
District-Sponsored Functions

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-01-2005

ISSUE DATE: 03-01-2005

REVIEW DATE: 01-2012

The Board of Trustees believes that the consumption of alcohol in schools or at district sponsored student functions is inappropriate. Further, the Board believes that the use of tobacco in district facilities or on district property should be prohibited.

A. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited:
 - in schools; and
 - ~~at off-site, district-sponsored student functions~~ **at all student functions, including but not limited to, such functions as graduations and field trips, whether held at a district facility or elsewhere.**
2. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the consumption of alcoholic beverages ~~on other district premises used for District-sponsored functions~~ may be permitted:
 - **in district facilities, other than schools, used for district sponsored functions or rented for the use of external groups, which would not include district students.**
3. **Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the performance by students at venues where alcoholic beverages are available may be permitted.**

~~B. SMOKING TOBACCO~~

1. Tobacco use is prohibited in ~~Edmonton Public Schools'~~ **district facilities and on district property** utilized in whole or in part by district staff.
2. ~~Tobacco use is banned from all district property.~~

Reference(s):

[IG.BP](#) - Student Behaviour and Conduct

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings

~~[JGD.AR](#) - Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages~~

[HICA.BP](#) – Field Trips

[HICA.AR](#) – Field Trips

Edmonton Public Schools

Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: JGD.AR

TOPIC: Consumption of Alcoholic
Beverages

EFFECTIVE DATE: 31-01-2000

ISSUE DATE: 04-02-2000

REVIEW DATE: 02-2005

1. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited at:
 - a. all student functions sponsored by the district or held at a district facility; and
 - b. district facilities which are used for the accommodation of students, with the exception of the serving of communion wine by church rental groups.
 2. The superintendent may authorize the serving of alcoholic beverages:
 - a. at non-student functions sponsored by the district; and
 - b. in district facilities not used for the accommodation of students.
 3. The Alberta Liquor Control Board requires a letter of approval from the superintendent of schools or designate when making an application for a permit to serve alcoholic beverages at a district sponsored function.
-

Reference(s):

[FM.BP](#) - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings

DATE: May 8, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Policy Review Committee

SUBJECT: Board Policy Review - FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

ORIGINATOR: Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent, Student Learning Services

RESOURCE STAFF: Bob Morter, Carol Symons

REFERENCE: FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions
JGD.AR – Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages
HICA.BP – Field Trips
HICA.AR – Field Trips

ISSUE

Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions was scheduled for review effective January 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That revised Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions (Attachment I) be considered for the first time and approved.**
- 2. That revised Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions (Attachment I) be considered for the second time and approved.**

BACKGROUND

The policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions was last reviewed in 2005. This current review of the policy arose not through any specific concerns with the policy, but rather that it was due for review. The intention of the policy in the original form was and remains to limit use of alcohol and tobacco in and around district facilities and students.

RELATED FACTS

The proposed policy was posted from January 25, 2012 to February 22, 2012 for public input. A total of 116 responses were received including 30 responses from parents and 76 responses from staff. In all, 84 per cent of the respondents were in favour of the policy as provided. Of the 16 per cent of responses that felt changes were required, the majority were seeking clarification. Two common concerns existed amongst those seeking clarity: the impact on the

cultural use of tobacco and smoking in front of the Centre for Education. The concern around the cultural use of tobacco can be clarified by noting that the policy does not prohibit the gifting of tobacco, rather only the use within district facilities. The issue of smoking in front of the Centre for Education is more aligned with enforcement of the existing policy, than any required change to the policy.

Finally, a concern was raised a number of times regarding students performing at events sponsored by other organizations, off of district property, where alcohol may be served. An example of this type of event would be a gala put on by a parent society where a school band or choir performs. While this situation is not directly relevant to the existing policy dealing with school sponsored events, it was determined that this policy would be an appropriate place to provide clarity to school administrators. As a result, a clause has been added to Section A, allowing students to perform at events where alcohol is served providing approval of the Superintendent of Schools is obtained. In this situation, the event may not be on school property. In addition, as the performance would be off school property all requirements of the Field Trip Regulation [HICA.AR](#) would need to be met.

OPTIONS

The following options are selected for consideration as they are deemed the most admissible:

1. Approve the policy as recommended.
2. Reaffirm the existing policy.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

The proposed policy retains the intended meaning from the existing policy with the exception of the addition of the clause on student performances. This clause, as well as the provision of examples will assist school administrators in understanding and implementing the policy.

NEXT STEPS

Subsequent to a decision by the Board of Trustees, a recommendation, with amendments if approved, will be brought forward for third consideration and final approval on May 22, 2012. In addition, the Superintendent of Schools will consider Administrative Regulation JGD.AR, Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages, and determine if it can be rescinded.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ATTACHMENT I | Proposed Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions |
| ATTACHMENT II | Current Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions showing recommended changes |
| APPENDIX I | Current Administrative Regulation JGD.AR – Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages |

BM:il

Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: IAA.AR
TOPIC: Aboriginal Education

EFFECTIVE DATE: 22-05-2007
ISSUE DATE: 24-05-2007
REVIEW DATE: 05-2012

A. RESPECT AND RECOGNITION

Schools are expected to provide opportunities for all students to become knowledgeable about Aboriginal values and culture and to demonstrate respect and recognition of Aboriginal values and culture. In fulfilling this expectation, schools may:

- invite Elders and other knowledgeable people into the classroom
- permit use of Sweetgrass and practice of Smudging in the school
- celebrate National Aboriginal Day on a yearly basis
- employ Aboriginal protocols in meetings with parents and in dealing with disciplinary matters
- acknowledge through permanent and rotating school displays of Aboriginal art, symbols and student work that Aboriginal students are part of the school community
- use district supports such as the Aboriginal Collection On-line, Aboriginal consultants and liaison workers.

B. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

To ensure community involvement, the district will:

- maintain an external Aboriginal advisory committee
- establish alliances with Aboriginal agencies and organizations in support of shared goals for Aboriginal students and families
- develop and maintain alliances with post-secondary institutions to support effective transitions
- establish relationships with Treaty and Métis authorities
- employ strategies (e.g., family nights, Stepping into School) to encourage the involvement of Aboriginal families.
- support schools to develop and maintain respectful dialogue and partnerships with Aboriginal agencies and organizations, as well as others serving Aboriginal families, to provide resources that respond to the complex needs of some members of the Aboriginal community.

C. STAFFING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To assist all staff to become more knowledgeable about Aboriginal values and culture, the district will:

- provide Aboriginal cultural sensitivity training for all staff.
- for new hires to the district provide Aboriginal cultural sensitivity training as soon as possible but within two years of employment.
- provide opportunities for staff to participate in professional development regarding:
 - infusion of Aboriginal outcomes, including the resources that support the outcomes
 - practices related to the "oral tradition," holistic approaches, hands-on experiences, and other research-based approaches found to be effective with Aboriginal learners.
 - working effectively with Aboriginal families

D. ACHIEVEMENT

For programming purposes and internal use, the district will:

- track the achievement of self-identified Aboriginal students, including graduation rates
- track the attendance and retention rates of self-identified Aboriginal students
- track the involvement of Aboriginal students in various alternative programs such as International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, Youth Apprenticeship, Registered Apprenticeship Program and special education
- disaggregate Aboriginal student achievement results at the school level for schools with sufficient numbers of Aboriginal students for reporting purposes
- report the tracking data to Aboriginal Education Standing Committee and Conference Committee on an annual basis.

All Schools are encouraged to nominate Aboriginal students for a Nellie Carlson award or other awards as appropriate.

E. CURRICULUM

The district will support the continued evolution, development and use of the Aboriginal collection on-line.

F. PROGRAMS AND PROGRAMMING

The district will annually consult with the Aboriginal community regarding the demand and support for Aboriginal language alternatives and develop programs as required.

- The district on an on-going basis will research and evaluate effective practices in Aboriginal education and provide this information to school and

district staff.

- The district will encourage participation in research studies related to Aboriginal education.
- The district will sponsor workshops and seminars related to Aboriginal education.

G. ASSESSMENT

The district within its own decision units and in partnership with external groups (e.g., Community-University Partnership for the Study of Children, Youth and Families and Misericordia Community Pediatric Research Group) will research and evaluate assessment instruments and practices as they relate to Aboriginal students and provide this information to school and district staff.

H. ENHANCED SUPPORTS FOR LEARNING

1. The district will encourage and support effective transitions by:
 - establishing links with reserves in the region with the intent of developing practices that will support the transition of students between reserves and the district and between schools in the district
 - assisting schools to liaise and collaborate with Head Start programs, home visitation programs and child care providers to support the transition of students between early learning and district programming
 - establishing links with Aboriginal employment agencies, organizations and programs (e.g., Oteenow, Yellowhead Tribal Council) to support the transition of students to the world of work
 - collaborating with post-secondary institutions to support the transition of students to a range of post-secondary opportunities
2. The district will support a range of strategies to encourage and support students to stay in school, including:
 - collaborating with community organizations to extend, establish and maintain a range of supports, including Aboriginal mentoring and role-model programs
 - investigating alternative provision of counselling through - Elders and Aboriginal agency staff
 - using alternatives to Attendance Board such as community conferencing.

Reference(s):

[IAA.BP](#) - Aboriginal Education

DATE: October 9, 2012
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Webcasting Update
ORIGINATOR: Tash Taylor, Director Executive and Board Relations
RESOURCE STAFF: Glenn Johnson

ISSUE

At the recent planning retreat, the Trustees requested an update and information about webcasting of public board meetings.

BACKGROUND

Webcasting of board meetings was requested by the Board in November 2010. At that time, the District outsourced an external service provider to undertake this task as the request was unanticipated. Administration was able to accommodate the webcasting request at a temporary rate of \$700 per meeting, as a staff member was able to secure a special rate through his personal network. The external service provider was offering this service purely as a temporary favour outside of his regular daily employment to help meet the Board's request, while the administration looked into a longer-term solution.

Building Operations, Communications, and Information Technology (IT) departments began investigating and experimenting with ways to achieve the desired purpose while balancing quality with costs. During 2011-2012, many equipment and facility upgrades in McCauley Chambers were undertaken, such as a new sound system, replacement cabling for internet feed and sound system, a new high resolution camera and new PC recording equipment, and an extensive review and design for an integrated presentation/sound/mixing system. As a result, the physical environment of equipment in McCauley Chambers was continually changing, and issues with sound, video and lighting quality were frequently encountered during the year. These issues have now been resolved with striking improvement in sound and video quality.

CURRENT SITUATION

The District uses an Internet-hosted service called Livestream for webcasting. The meetings are video recorded live on a feed to the Internet service, which then relays the broadcast over the Internet to users of that website. Each board meeting typically is recorded in several segments (due to brief recess breaks in the meeting). After the meetings, some follow up work is required to annotate the video segments for easier post-meeting viewing.

Viewership Statistics

A detailed table of statistics on webcasting viewership for each meeting was analyzed, using website and Livestream statistics which included each board meeting in 2011-2012. The data provided viewership during each meeting, and for the time period in between each meeting.

Within those categories, the number of viewers is identified as external to EPSB buildings and internal to EPSB. The source data can be provided if desired.

Most board meetings have between 30 to 80 viewers who watch some portion of the meeting live. Typically, 60 to 75 per cent of the viewers are from within EPSB buildings, which includes from within McCauley Chambers itself. The average viewing time is between 20 to 30 minutes. Over the two weeks following the meeting, a similar number of total viewers watch between six to 20 minutes of some recorded portion of a meeting. Of these viewers, typically 50 to 75 per cent are external to EPSB buildings.

There are a few meetings with much higher viewership. These meetings tend to have a high profile issue on the agenda, which seem to separate into either a particular interest to viewers from outside EPSB buildings, or to viewers from within EPSB buildings. The following meeting dates had much higher numbers of viewers:

Meeting Date	Profile Agenda Topics	External Views	Internal Views
November 8, 2011	Review of Policy on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity	93	85
April 10, 2012	Motion re: Plan for District Space Post-Moratorium	55	122
May 22, 2012	Introduction of Proposed 2012-13 Budget	27	97
June 12, 2012	Approval of 2012-13 Budget, & public comments on assessment practices	72	64
June 26, 2012	Motion re: Assessment & public comments on assessment practices	332	202

Interestingly, meetings with high viewership numbers also have a lower average of minutes watched, suggesting that viewership is very much issue based, and viewers only watch for that particular issue. Further, the higher profile meetings do not have a higher post-meeting viewership, possibly because the news media has covered the story which reduces the demand to watch the recording after the fact.

In general, since the meetings are several hours long, the average watch time indicates that nearly all viewers watch only a limited portion of any meeting.

Summary of Costs

- There is a \$3,000 annual license fee for the District account on livestream.com.
- ITS technical support has been required for about 6 to 8 hours on average (\$700+) for each meeting including setup, teardown and the actual monitoring of the video stream capture and connection to the Internet.
- Additional computer hardware was acquired last year including a new computer (\$775) and video capture card (\$250). A new monitor was provided by ITS as well.
- Building Operations purchased a new video camera (several thousand dollars) and incurred extensive facility upgrade costs. These included mounting the monitor in the projection room, re-wiring sound and Internet cabling, a new sound system, and a new presentation mixer control system that was just recently installed.
- There is additional staff time involved to label agenda items on the video feed, and to annotate the video segments after the meeting for easier post-meeting viewership.

Possible Improvements or Alternatives

Several discussions have occurred on ways to improve the video/audio quality and consistency of the webcasting experience. Most issues encountered last year were due to changing configurations and upgrading of equipment and cabling in McCauley Chambers. Other enhancements could include additional camera work, better lighting, or moving to video production as was done for the 2012 Education Forum in the spring.

The addition of automated cameras for speaker close-ups, or cameras operated by additional staff for close-ups would add considerable expense in the realm of \$40,000 for the equipment. Using multiple cameras and video production software and equipment could increase the professional appearance of the broadcasts, but again, the additional equipment and staff to operate it would add significant cost to each meeting.

Another option would be to outsource the production of webcasting. A video production firm would provide the highest quality video; however, costs are significantly more at an estimated cost of \$3,000 to \$6,000 per meeting depending on meeting length. This amount would include fixed costs for the rental of various professional caliber lighting and camera equipment, wiring, audio arrangements and stage set up/tear down, regardless of the length of the meeting. Variable costs for videographers and a producer are based on an hourly rate. This level of webcasting production was used for the 2012 Education Forum at a cost of \$4,882 for the 1.5 hour webcast.

KEY POINTS

- Most board meetings have between 30 to 80 viewers who watched some portion of the meeting live. Typically, 60 to 75 per cent of the viewers are from within EPSB buildings, which includes from within McCauley Chambers itself.
- Over the two weeks following the meeting, a similar number of total viewers watch between six to 20 minutes of some recorded portion of a meeting. Of these viewers, typically 50 to 75 per cent are external to EPSB buildings.
- The highest number of viewers was for the Special Board Meeting held on June 26, 2012 dealing with the assessment topic and motion. The number of views for any length of time was 202 internally and 332 external views.
- Some media outlets prefer the highest quality video as they prefer to pull clips from the webcast for their stories to save them time from having to attend in person onsite.
- As could be expected, viewership tends to be very much issue based.
- Further upgrades to webcasting at this time would involve considerable expense, depending on the direction chosen.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

N/A

TT:ee

DATE: October 9, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Cheryl Johner, Chair Community Relations Committee
Trustee Dave Colburn, Community Relations Committee
Trustee Sarah Hoffman, Community Relations Committee

SUBJECT: Community Relations Committee: School Tours 2012

ORIGINATOR: Tash Taylor, Director Executive and Board Relations

RESOURCE

STAFF: Tash Taylor

REFERENCE: Board Work Plan 2011-2012

ISSUE

The Community Relations Committee (CRC) is reporting on its school tour initiative as tasked by the Board through its 2011-12 work plan.

BACKGROUND

In March and April 2012, the CRC visited one school per ward as a way to build better relationships with staff at the school level. This activity provided the opportunity for trustees to meet and dialogue casually with school principals and available staff.

The CRC visited a range of schools to see the variety in programming, the scale of infrastructure needs, and the diversity in the District's student population across the city. Recognizing that each school is important and unique in its own way, the administration brought forward a list of schools to the CRC that would provide the trustees a balance of situations and that are present in the District.

The CRC visited the following schools:

Esther Starkman	Spruce Avenue
Queen Elizabeth	Talmud Torah
Britannia	Allendale
J.A. Fife	Julia Kiniski
J. Percy Page	

CURRENT SITUATION

The District mission and priorities are being lived out in the schools. The nine schools that were visited all had diverse program offerings over and above the regular programming stream. We had the chance to see some of the unique program and support offerings the District has in place including: Advanced Placement, English as a Second Language, Behaviour and Learning Assistance/Opportunity, Cogito, German Bilingual, Interactions, Hebrew Bilingual, Community Learning Skills, French Immersion, Literacy and Individual Support. The range in programming options and specialized support offerings demonstrate learning experiences that aim to engage students to achieve their full potential and pursue their dreams.

1) Provide supports and programs that will enable all students to complete high school

At Britannia School, we saw how the *Pyramid of Intervention* is incorporated. It is used to communicate to all school staff which students may require additional supports. This enables the staff to work with community organizations to support the students in their school and to provide additional supports in terms of transitioning from this school to further studies.

Each of the schools also talked about work they are doing to support students transitioning either into or out of their school. At Queen Elizabeth school we learned about specialized orientation sessions for the junior high “feeder” school students, staff and parents. Every school talked about how important it is for students to have positive relationships with at least one adult in the school they are currently attending and the next anticipated school.

There were also challenges that were seen. There had been extra supports for the Aboriginal learner at Spruce Avenue however, the federal grant ended for the “Aboriginal Youth Family Well Being and Education Society”. This program used to have two full-time workers to support the students in the school but now there are none.

2) Deepen students’ understanding of equity and empathy as key citizenship traits

At each school we learned about several activities that students and staff participate in to support people in need. At Spruce Avenue School we saw several examples of how our students are challenged on a daily basis to, “Force Fate.” These junior high students are given the skills they need to advocate for themselves and others within the school setting. Posters identified that bullying would not be tolerated and that all students were safe and respected in the school. We also noticed schools displaying bully-free zone posters.

3) Ensure all students and their families are welcomed, respected, accepted and supported in every school

At Julia Kiniski School, student leaders greeted the committee members at the front door, welcomed us to the school and led us on the school tour. It was evident that the students were very proud of their school and eager to share their positive experiences.

All of the schools had recently been welcomed community members and potential students to their school through the open house process. Many schools commented on the positive sense of community and the fact that all staff and students worked to welcome families and individuals their school.

4) Promote health and wellness for all students and staff

This priority is lived out in many ways. Students at Spruce Avenue School participate in a school snack and lunch program through the support of a dedicated staff member, E4C and community partnerships. Students also participate in the preparation of the food to support them in developing skills that they will use throughout their lives. At Allendale School we visited the school gym and workout room. These spaces are used for instructional purposes and they are also made available for student use before school and during the lunch break. J. Percy Paige was holding a charity bike-a-thon to live out health and wellness in support of a good cause.

Britannia School also has a work out facility that was supported through parent fundraising. All students are trained on how to use the equipment safely. Other instrumental supports in achieving health and wellness for Britannia students are offered through the Metis Child and Family Services. A full time worker is on site to help students meet their needs with food and clothing donations and swell as emotional support and traditional Aboriginal practices such as smudging.

5) Listen to staff, honour their contributions and support their opportunities for collaboration, growth and professional development

At Esther Starkman School we learned about the professional learning community model and how it is being used to support staff in developing common assessment tools and practices. At J.A. Fife were pleased to have both the Principal and Assistant Principal join us for the tour and meeting portion of the school visit. This gave us an opportunity to ask questions of both staff members. We also enjoyed learning about the mentorship process and the way that Assistant Principals are included in catchment area meetings. This gives Assistant Principals an opportunity to learn from each other and identify ways that they can further their leadership skills in supporting students in their schools and other area schools.

KEY POINTS

- Every school has many positive things going on and so much to offer children in Edmonton.
- The CRC was very impressed with all of the activities going on in each location, every day.
- Staff and parents really help make the school a live and rich learning environment.
- This was a valuable way to see our board priorities in action.
- We valued seeing a small representation of our schools on the ground.
- We recommend that these tours become an annual occurrence in some form.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

N/A

TT:ee

DATE: October 9, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Boards Gathering Feedback and Dialoguing with Staff (Response to Request for Information #201)

ORIGINATOR: David Fraser, Executive Director, Corporate Services

RESOURCE

STAFF: Tash Taylor

REFERENCE: May 8, 2012 Board Meeting (Trustee Johner)

ISSUE

The following information was requested:

Provide information on a range of practices around the province on how boards gather feedback and dialogue with staff.

BACKGROUND

The Administration contacted several comparable jurisdictions in Alberta and outside the province (e.g., Vancouver, Ottawa-Carleton) regarding their board/staff engagement processes. These practices tended to be divided into two categories: formal practices outlined in policy and informal practices.

KEY POINTS

The following summarizes practices that are utilized by boards, including Edmonton Public School Board (EPSB), to gather feedback and dialogue with staff.

Formal Practices and Opportunities

- Staff group representatives participate as non-voting members on some board committees (e.g., Vancouver School Board has one representative from each staff group on each of their Standing Committees; Ottawa-Carleton has employee representation on the Trustee Remuneration Review Committee);
- Some boards provide an opportunity for staff group representatives to speak at public board meetings and participate in stakeholder engagement processes;
- In all cases, Trustees participate as officials in District and/or school special events. Trustees at EPSB take part in various annual events that provide opportunity for interaction with staff. These events include staff appreciation breakfasts, Trustee Coffee Party, retirement banquet, award and recognition of service events, school graduation ceremonies and other special celebrations occurring at schools;
- Trustees are approved by the Board to be members of District negotiating teams during collective bargaining with unionized staff groups;
- Trustees receive feedback from staff through reports brought to public board by Administration (e.g., annual staff satisfaction surveys, employee engagement surveys, joint Board/Union committee work). In 2012, the Board requested and received feedback from District leaders to understand their concerns and areas of satisfaction;

- At EPSB, Trustees are encouraged to dialogue with school and central staff at budget/results review meetings and through school visits/tours;
- Trustees dialogue with staff group representatives at Board/Union annual dinners.

Informal Practices

- Trustees dialogue casually with staff at all aforementioned board-sponsored events.

All of the boards contacted advised that individual trustees do not typically initiate contact with individual employees. These boards follow the Policy Governance Model where the board has one employee, the Superintendent of Schools, who is their point of connection to the operational organization, including staff. In these instances, the board will direct the operational organization only through the Superintendent of Schools or his designate.

EPSB is unique in that the District has the position of Director, Board and Executive Relations who serves as the Superintendent's designate in facilitating the range of needs of the Board and of the Administration. Anecdotally, some other districts are looking at adding a similar type role.

In some jurisdictions, trustees are also in direct contact with the corporate secretary who provides assistance with various administrative functions related to board operations.

DMF:pn

DATE: October 9, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Financial Disclosure Practices
(Response to Request for Information #220)

ORIGINATOR: Cheryl Hagen, Acting Secretary-Treasurer

RESOURCE STAFF: Todd Burnstad, Angela Komick

REFERENCE: September 11, 2012 Board Meeting (Trustee Janz)

ISSUE

The following information was requested: Provide information on how our financial disclosure practices align with the new disclosure guidelines introduced by the provincial government?

BACKGROUND

Earlier this month, the provincial government introduced a new *Public Disclosure of Travel and Expenses Policy* in order to improve accountability and transparency through the disclosure of expense information. The new Alberta policy requires MLAs and senior government officials to disclose travel and hosting expenses along with related receipts online.

CURRENT SITUATION

The *School Act* sets out the timeline and reporting criteria of financial information by school boards. In addition, Alberta Education provides boards with clear direction on budgeting, accounting, and the reporting of the funds they receive from both the ministry and other sources. The audited financial statements provides disclosure on remuneration, benefits, and expenses, which is required to meet regulatory requirements under section 148(1) of the *School Act*. Disclosure with respect to remuneration, benefits, and expenses is required for individual trustees, as well as the superintendent and secretary-treasurer. The required expense disclosure includes all expenses paid on behalf of the school board and includes expenses such as travel, subsistence, and conference fees paid for the identified positions.

The new Alberta policy will not change the school board's reporting or disclosure requirements, which are already in compliance with Alberta Education.

KEY POINTS

- A new Alberta policy was introduced this month with respect to public disclosure of travel and expenses for MLAs and senior government officials.
- The *School Act* defines similar disclosure requirements within the reporting of the annual audited financial statements for all school boards.

DATE: October 9, 2012
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Bereavement
ORIGINATOR: David Fraser, Executive Director, Corporate Services
RESOURCE STAFF: Cheryl Singer
REFERENCE: [GM.BP – Acknowledgement of Deaths and Bereavements](#)
[GM.AR – Deaths and Bereavements](#)

ISSUE

To report the death of a current staff member.

BACKGROUND

Mrs. Agnes Robinson passed away September 14, 2012, at the age of 63 years. Mrs. Robinson began her permanent career with Edmonton Public Schools in 2002, teaching at Donnan School and Vimy Ridge Academy. Mrs. Robinson is survived by her husband Donald and daughters Christine Ingersoll and Amanda McCoy.

CURRENT SITUATION

A donation in memory of Mrs. Robinson has been made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation on behalf of the Administration and Board of Trustees.

KEY POINTS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

N/A

DF:cls



**Summary of Board Meeting #3
Held Tuesday, October 9, 2012**

A. O Canada:  (2:00 p.m.)

Grade 12 students from Victoria School performed the following:

- Natasha Mihell *O Canada*
- Phoebe Davis and Tim Dowler-Coltman *Song: Falling Slowly*
(From the movie/play ONCE)
- Zsakira Del Col, Katherine Semchuk and Morgan Heck *Dance: Sort Of*
- Natasha Mihell *Song: Sally Gardens*

B. Roll Call: Trustee Cleary was absent.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

This information will be included in the minutes of the October 9, 2012 board meeting.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

This information will be included in the minutes of the October 9, 2012 board meeting.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #2 – September 25, 2012

Approved as printed.

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

G. Reports

2. Policy Review Committee: FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

Approved recommendation.

3. Webcasting Update
4. Community Relations Committee: School Tours 2012
5. Boards Gathering Feedback and Dialoguing with Staff (Response to Request for Information #201)
6. Financial Disclosure Practices (Response to Request for Information #220)

Received for information.

7. Bereavement

Received with regret.

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

This information will be included in the minutes of the October 9, 2012 board meeting.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

- Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding the feasibility of a replacement school model becoming the preferred Board strategy in response to school closure.
- Trustee Spencer requested, further to Report #6 – *Financial Disclosure Practices – Response to Request for Information #220*, that information be provided regarding how the District’s financial disclosure practices compare to measures recently adopted by Calgary Public Schools.

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

That the Administration design a program that offers students the opportunity to participate in a tour of the Centre for Education, watch part of a school board meeting, meet school Trustees and the Superintendent, and possibly participate in other activities modelled after the School at the Legislature Program and City Hall School.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

- The Board heard from Mr. Michael Tachynski regarding the “zero” grade practice. Mr. Tachynski provided information to the Board.

M. Duration of Meeting: 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 5:05 p.m.

October 9, 2012

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #3 -

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 9, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Sarah Hoffman
Michael Janz

Cheryl Johner
Heather MacKenzie
Catherine Ripley

Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser

Cheryl Hagen
Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil

Jamie Pallett
Tanni Parker
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Grade 12 students from Victoria School performed the following:

- Natasha Mihell *O Canada*
- Phoebe Davis and Tim Dowler-Coltman *Song: Falling Slowly*
(From the movie/play ONCE)
- Zsakira Del Col, Katherine Semchuk and Morgan Heck *Dance: Sort Of*
- Natasha Mihell *Song: Sally Gardens*

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

MINUTE BOOK

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Cleary was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month across Canada and is intended to improve and deepen the awareness of Learning Disabilities. Most people are not aware that a learning disability is a life-long condition that affects a minimum of one in ten Canadians of all people with average or above-average intelligence. Learning disabilities cross all ages, genders, socio-economic, cultural and linguistic groups.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that, on October 2nd, the Ambassador of France to Canada Phillippe Zeller and representatives from Edmonton Public Schools, including himself, as well as from the French consulate in Calgary welcomed delegates to the annual meeting of the National DELF Centres (Diplôme d'études en langue française). He noted that the Board Chair as well as several Trustees were able to attend. Co-hosted by the Embassy of France and Edmonton Public Schools, the meeting took place at the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education. This is the first time this national meeting has taken place outside of Ottawa, and followed a historic signing on October 1st of a Declaration of Intent between the Ministry of Education of the French Republic and Alberta Education.

Edmonton Public Schools is highly regarded internationally as a leader in the teaching and learning of French and other languages. It was the first school district in Canada to be accredited and approved as an examination centre for Le Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELF) and Le Diplôme approfondi en langue française (DALF). Since 2005, students who have participated in the DELF and DALF exams have received international recognition for their high achievements of French language proficiency, including receiving internationally-recognized diplomas from the French Ministry of Education. These exams serve as a valuable asset for students who are seeking to further their studies in French or to work in settings where knowledge of and proficiency in the French language is vital.

MINUTE BOOK

The District's efforts to deliver high quality second language programs strongly supports a long-standing commitment to literacy development and the preparation of students to be successful in a global world.

The Superintendent advised that the District's student achievement results for the 2011-2012 school year show progress in a number of key measures and that trend is expected to continue over the next several years. The Accountability Pillar, which is used by the Province to monitor all school jurisdictions performance, shows Edmonton Public Schools made significant improvement in creating safe and caring learning environments over the past year, receiving a rating of excellent in this area. The District also maintained its rating of excellence in terms of the high quality of education provided to students.

Edmonton Public Schools continues to see growth in its five-year high school completion rate. From 2006-2007 to 2010-2011, the District saw a 2.3 per cent increase in this rate, rising from 73.8 per cent to 76.1 per cent. High school students showed strong results this year on diploma exams, slightly exceeding the Province at the standard of excellence in all science subjects, while results at the acceptable standard and standard of excellence in English, social studies and math demonstrated room for improvement. In comparison to the Province, students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 did very well in achieving the acceptable standard and standard of excellence.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting # 2 – September 25, 2012

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #2 held September 25, 2012 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

G. Reports

2. Policy Review Committee: FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That revised Board Policy FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

3. Webcasting Update
4. Community Relations Committee: School Tours 2012
5. Boards Gathering Feedback and Dialoguing with Staff
(Response to Request for Information #201)
6. Financial Disclosure Practices
(Response to Request for Information #220)

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the following reports be received for information:

- **Webcasting Update**
- **Community Relations Committee: School Tours 2012**
- **Boards Gathering Feedback and Dialoguing with Staff (Response to Request for Information #201**
- **Financial Disclosure Practices (Response to Request for Information #220).”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Bereavement

Vice-Chair Janz reported on the death of Mrs. Agnes Robinson.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the report be received with regret and the actions of the Administration in this regard be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Colburn, the Board’s representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported that the next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2012.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, reported on the following from the ASBA Zone 23 General Meeting held September 28, 2012:

- The selection criteria for the Edwin Parr Awards were discussed. A number of recommendations will be brought forward from Zone 23 in this regard and she will bring this information forward to the Board as soon as it is available.
- A subcommittee was established to examine the by-laws for Secretary-Treasurers. She will also provide this information as soon as it is available.

The next meeting will be the ASBA Annual General Meeting on October 26, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Centre.

Trustee Janz, the Board's representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), advised that the PSBAA Annual General Meeting will be held October 17, 2012 in Edmonton.

Trustee Spencer was pleased to advise that every student in the Aspen Program at High Park School who wrote diploma exams in June passed. He congratulated the students, Principal Venta Kabzems, and the teachers at the school.

Trustee Colburn advised that he attended the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) national *Time for Student Health Revolution* conference held in September 30 to October 2, 2012. Trustees Cleary and Shipka were in attendance as was Executive Director Corporate Services David Fraser. There were 218 registrants representing eight provinces.

Trustee Hoffman noted, on behalf of the Board, that last week was Read-In Week and expressed appreciation for being able to go to schools and read to students. She noted a number of staff from Central Services, fire fighters, police officers, parents and community members also took the opportunity to participate. She thanked the staff responsible for coordinating this year's Read-In events.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding the feasibility of a replacement school model becoming the preferred Board strategy in response to school closure.

Trustee Spencer, further to report #6 - *Financial Disclosure Practices (Response to Request for Information #220)* requested that information be provided regarding how the District's financial disclosure practices compare to measures recently adopted by Calgary Public Schools.

MINUTE BOOK

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

That the Administration design a program that offers students the opportunity to participate in a tour of the Centre for Education, watch part of a school board meeting, meet school Trustees and the Superintendent, and possibly participate in other activities modelled after the School at the Legislature Program and City Hall School.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting recessed at 3:00 p.m. and reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

Trustees Cleary and MacKenzie were absent. All other Trustees were present.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

The Board heard from Mr. Michael Tachynski regarding the “zero” grade practice. Mr. Tachynski also provided information to the Board.

M. Adjournment (5:05 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

Cheryl Hagen, Acting Secretary-Treasurer