

A. O Canada:  (6:00 p.m.) – District O Canada Video

B. Roll Call: All trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

1. The board chair advised that October 2nd is Custodial Workers Recognition Day. The district appreciates and values the members of CUPE Local 474 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.
2. The board chair advised that October 5th is World Teachers' Day, a day set aside by the world community to celebrate teachers. The district 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.
3. The board chair advised that October 6th to 10th is READ-IN. On behalf of the board of trustees, she invited all Edmontonians to participate in the many READ-IN activities and special events hosted around the city.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The superintendent reported on a meeting he had attended last week with principals and school staff regarding support for Metis and Inuit students. There were 44 schools represented as well as staff members from partner agencies such as: Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society, Metis Child and Family, Aboriginal Youth and Family Wellbeing Education Society. Six promising practices taken from research were explained by members of the Aboriginal Education Unit, partner organizations and a principal with a high population of First Nations Metis and Inuit (FNMI) students. Principals then worked with partners and the unit to devise a plan for their school based on these six areas. Followup will include meeting with each school or school clusters to provide support (based on the plans) in areas such as linking with the community, providing staff PD, developing mentorship programs, etc. It is also planned to meet regularly with agency staff and the Aboriginal Education Unit so that the work remains collaborative and responsive.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #15 – June 10, 2008

Approved as printed.

2. Organizational Board Meeting – September 9, 2008

Approved as amended (*Trustee Shipka requested that the minutes reflect the amount of the increases to the superintendent of schools' salary as well as to the trustee remuneration schedules and per diem rates.*).

F. Improving Student Achievement:

3. Improving Student Achievement Through the New Teacher Induction Program

Received for information.

G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

4. Proposed Plan for Comprehensive School Health Symposium

Approved recommendation.

5. Borrowing Resolution

Approved recommendation.

6. Process and Timeline of the 2007-2008 Results Review

a) Approved recommendation.

b) Trustee Huff suggested that the school groupings be reviewed to ensure adequate time for the reviews.

7. Funds for 2009-2010 Professional Improvement

Approved recommendation.

8. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

a) Received for information.

- b) Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding the number of schools that have used SchoolZone over the past 3 years. He also requested supplementary information regarding how SchoolZone works and highlights of the program for the benefit of new trustees.
- c) Trustee Esslinger requested that additional information be provided regarding what other school districts are doing with respect to full-day kindergarten research.

9. Bereavement

Received with regret.

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports:

10. Motion re Change of Board Meeting Date

The recommendation was defeated.

I. Other Trustee Reports:

1. Trustee Rice reported on the September 4 to 7, 2008 PSBC meeting he had attended as the board's representative held in Elkwater hosted by the Prairie Rose School Division. Information regarding the meeting was provided by Trustee Rice to trustees.
2. Trustee Ripley advised that she and the superintendent had attended the CASA Annual General Meeting last week with the superintendent. The CASA president gave high praise regarding the work of district teachers in supporting the organization.
3. Trustee Huff advised that, on September 10th, she attended a Safe and Caring Communities meeting held in the Westmount area. She provided information at that meeting regarding district initiatives to help at-risk youth.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mark Ramsankar, President of Edmonton Public Teachers, brought greetings on behalf of the Local's Executive and expressed appreciation for the collaborative working relationship with the district.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

1. Trustee Rice requested that information be provided regarding gender education; i.e., differentiated instruction for males and females.

2. Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding special needs reviews that have been conducted over the past 10 years in terms of the following:
 - What were the recommendations coming out the reviews?
 - What were the outcomes of the recommendations coming out of the reviews?
 - How is the impact of the recommendations monitored?
3. Trustee Huff requested that information be provided for last year and this month regarding the number of times the requests for supply teachers or workers could not be fulfilled due to a shortage of staff.
4. Trustee Huff requested that information be provided prior to the trustee fall retreat regarding Canadian court cases and existing guidelines on the use of in-camera meetings by elected bodies.
5. Trustee Shipka requested information regarding the status of initiatives to improve school completion and the transition from school to work.

L. Notices of Motion: None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.