



AGENDA

Edmonton School District No. 7
One Kingsway
Edmonton, Alberta

McCauley Chambers
Tuesday, September 10, 2013
2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting #26

- A. O Canada 🇨🇦
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of the Agenda
- D. Communications from the Board Chair
- E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools
- F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives
(NOTE: Pre-registration with the Board Office [780-429-8021] is required by noon Tuesday, September 10, 2013 to speak under this item.)
- G. Reports
 - 1. Report #14 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held September 3, 2013)
(Recommendation)
 - 2. Motion re Student Trustee/Representative
(Recommendation)
- H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports
- I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information
- J. Notices of Motion
- K. Meeting Dates
- L. Adjournment

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sarah Hoffman
Board Chair

Michael Janz
Board Vice-Chair

Heather MacKenzie
Caucus Chair

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

DATE: September 10, 2013

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Heather MacKenzie, Caucus Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Report #14 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held September 3, 2013)

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Sandra Stoddard, Director Executive and Board Relations

REFERENCE: [Terms of Reference – Committee of the Whole – Caucus School Act](#) Section 61
[Board Policy IGD.BP – Student Suspension and Expulsion](#)

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Report #14 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held September 3, 2013 be received and considered.**
- 2. That, effective September 3, 2013, the addition of Diana Bolan, Laurie Elkow, Kathy Muhlethaler, Heather Raymond and Sandra Stoddard as members of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**
- 3. That, effective immediately, the deletion of Bruce Coggles, Jamie Pallett, Tanni Parker, and Darrel Robertson as members of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and student reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**
- 4. That, effective November 1, 2013, the deletion of Corrie Ziegler as a member of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and student reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**

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DATE: September 10, 2013

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Sarah Hoffman

SUBJECT: Motion re Student Trustee/Representative

REFERENCE: June 11, 2013 Board Meeting (Notice of Motion was served)
[Trustees' Manual – Meetings of the Board \(Notices of Motion\)](#)
[Student Voice Initiative](#)
[Vancouver School Board Policy BK – Student Trustee](#)
[Vancouver School Board Regulation BK-R – Student Trustee](#)

ISSUE

Each decision we make as a Board impacts students directly or indirectly. We do not always have a student perspective easily available when it comes to making Board decisions. It would benefit the Board to have a student perspective at the table on a regular basis to ensure that a student voice is always at the forefront of our decision making.

RECOMMENDATION

That the elected position of Student Representative be piloted by the Edmonton Public School Board (EPSB) for the 2014-2015 school year. The purpose is threefold: facilitating dialogue between the student body and the Board, increasing student engagement in Board policy and planning functions and educating students about democratic governance.

BACKGROUND

For approximately 20 years, the Ontario provincial government has had student trustees participate in public board meetings of each school board. This is defined in provincial legislation. The number of student trustees has ranged from one to three for each board. Many students in Ontario feel that this has been a positive addition to ensuring that student perspectives are presented on a regular basis in decision making.

As a result of Ontario student trustee initiatives, they have authored a mental health policy, urged schools to act on cyber bullying, eliminated bottled water in all schools in one school district, assisted policy makers in developing classroom curriculum, made the collection of school fees more transparent and produced a province-wide student survey.

Although British Columbia does not have a statutory basis for student trustees, the Vancouver School Board has recently approved a one-year pilot project which will enable a student trustee to participate in their board meetings. The individual is not entitled to vote on any matter nor is the individual a “member of the Board”. However, the individual may attend all regular public meetings of the board, will present a monthly report, and will participate in matters before the board and provide a student perspective.

There is a national movement called “Student Voice Initiative”. Their mandate is to have greater student voice in education policy making. This would include having a student trustee or representative participating on each school board throughout Canada. Claire Edwards, of Student Voice Alberta, has approached the District to request that the Edmonton Public School Board consider such an initiative.

RELATED FACTS

Although the district policy feedback process is open for students to participate in giving their perspectives, such feedback is rarely received through the online survey process. As a key stakeholder and the primary recipient of public education, students have important perspectives and expertise regarding their educational experiences. It would be beneficial to find a mechanism which can ensure that we hear their perspectives regularly.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The following options have been considered as they are deemed the most admissible:

1. Have students who are already participating in the Student Advisory Council elect a representative among themselves.
2. Have all high school students vote to elect a representative at large from the district.
3. Have the Superintendent appoint a student representative.
4. Continue with no student representative.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

Over the 2012-2013 school year the Board had a Student Advisory Committee (comprised of high-school students) who met with the Board twice to discuss educational items. The perspectives we gained in these meetings were helpful. In an effort to develop a greater understanding of student views, it would be of benefit to include an elected student representative at public board meetings for a one-year trial period.

Should the District move forward with an elected student trustee/representative, we have the opportunity to produce better policies, engage students in the governance of their schools, increase democratic participation and improve decision making.

NEXT STEPS

Should the motion pass, the Administration will develop regulations to support either Option 1 or Option 2. This can be determined by the Administration in consultation with school staff and students. Over the 2013-2014 school year, staff will work with Student Voice Alberta representative(s) to increase awareness of the 2014-2015 student representative position and upcoming student election(s). As of Fall 2014, a student representative will be welcome to attend and participate in public board meetings in a non-voting capacity similar to that of the Vancouver School Board’s pilot project.

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MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #26

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 10, 2013 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

Diana Bolan
Jim Davies
David Fraser

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil
Kathy Muhlethaler

Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the agenda for the September 10, 2013 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that the September 17, 2013 board meeting will commence at 12:00 p.m.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent noted he had advised at the last board meeting about the increased enrolment in the District. This is great news for Edmonton Public Schools. He thanked all staffing groups in schools and in central services for the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure a smooth start to the school year.

The Superintendent advised the Music Enrichment Program will be offered to students this year under the funding and leadership of the Edmonton Strings Players Association. There are twelve district schools hosting the program and after-school lessons start for participating students next week.

F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board heard from Ms Claire Edwards, Student Vote Alberta, who spoke in support of the motion regarding student representatives.

G. Reports

1. Report #14 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held September 3, 2013)

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

- “1. That Report #14 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held September 3, 2013 be received and considered.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

- “2. That, effective September 3, 2013, the addition of Diana Bolan, Laurie Elkow, Kathy Muhlethaler, Heather Raymond and Sandra Stoddard as members of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**

- 3. That, effective immediately, the deletion of Bruce Coggles, Jamie Pallett, Tanni Parker, and Darrel Robertson as members of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and student reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**

- 4. That, effective November 1, 2013, the deletion of Corrie Ziegler as a member of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and student reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

2. Motion re Student Trustee/Representative

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the elected position of Student Representative be piloted by the Edmonton Public School Board (EPSB) for the 2014-2015 school year. The purpose is threefold: facilitating dialogue between the student body and the Board, increasing student engagement in Board policy and planning functions and educating students about democratic governance.”

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the motion be amended to read: That the elected position of Student Representative **be further outlined with the active engagement and participation of District students, and be piloted by the Edmonton Public School Board (EPSB) for the 2014-2015 school year. The purpose is threefold: facilitating dialogue between the student body and the Board, increasing student engagement in Board policy and planning functions and educating students about democratic governance.”**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Shipka

The Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

The Motion was 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, reported on the following:

- a total of approximately \$3,500 was raised through fundraising events held during the summer
- information sessions have been scheduled for the fall
- launch dates for the two new full-day kindergarten sites will be announced in the near future

Trustee Cleary, the Board’s representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, reported that there would be a meeting of the Committee on September 12, 2013 at the Centre for Education.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

J. Notices of Motion – None.

MINUTE BOOK

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.

L. Adjournment (3:10 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

Cheryl Hagen, Acting Secretary-Treasurer