



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Summary of Board Meeting #14 Held Tuesday, April 13, 2010

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 35 district teachers are among the 136 semi-finalists for 2010 Excellence in Teaching Awards. The semi-finalists were selected from 338 eligible nominees.

The teachers were chosen because of their excellence in a variety of areas – including knowledge of subject matter, effectiveness with students, creative and innovative teaching practices, involvement with parents and collaboration with colleagues. Being named a semi-finalist is an acknowledgement from the local school community that these teachers are held in high esteem for their valuable and lasting contribution to the lives of their students – and it is testament to the outstanding teachers we have in Edmonton Public Schools.

On Thursday, April 29th the Board of Trustees will recognize our district's semi-finalists during a special ceremony. The Board is looking forward to meeting and congratulating each of them.

2. The Board Chair advised that, next week is Support Staff Appreciation Week with Wednesday, April 21st designated as Support Staff Appreciation Day in the district. On this day, schools and central service decision units will have the opportunity to recognize the important contributions of all support staff for the excellent work that they do in supporting the success of all students and staff.
3. The Board Chair advised that April is Earth Month and Wednesday, April 22nd is International Earth Day which is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of Earth Day. Many district students will be involved in activities recognizing Earth Month and Earth Day – everything ranging from eco-tours, Earth Day assemblies, waste reduction projects, planting trees and gardens -- to pitch-in and clean-up drives.

Several years ago, the Board identified Earth Day and Week as an initiative to promote within the district. Schools are encouraged to participate.

To that end, all district schools and departments have been asked to participate in the second annual *Westglen "Lights Out" Challenge*. Staff and students are being asked to turn off as many lights and electrical devices as is safe and practical for at least one hour on Thursday, April 22nd. This event is intended to bring awareness of the District's impact on the environment and bring about actions to help reduce it.

While Earth Day and Week only come around once a year, taking pride in our school grounds and keeping our communities beautiful and litter-free is a worthy cause for all – every day of the year.

He also noted that a district website called EnviroMatters <http://enviromatters.epsb.ca> was launched last year by the District's Facilities Services Department to report on district environmental initiatives, recommend best practices to reduce environmental impacts, track district utility consumption and explore efficiency strategies and to provide links to curricular resources, student activities and to local, provincial, federal and international energy and environmental websites.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #13 – March 23, 2010

Approved as printed.

F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Eileen Taylor urged the Board not to close inner-city schools.

G. Reports

2. Greater Hardisty Area – Closure of Schools

a) The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Ms Anna Carlson
- Ms. Dena Boyle
- Ms Gerry Hoffs
- Mr. Gavin Martinson
- Ms Alana Simons
- Ms Christine Hood

- Ms Temar Harajdic
- Ms Laurie Simpson
- Dr. Raquel Feroe

- b) The Board approved the closure of Capilano School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.
- c) The Board approved the closure of Fulton Place School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

3. City Centre Education Partnership – Closure of Schools

- a) The Board heard from the following speakers:
 - Mr. Chris Hayduk
 - Mr. John Buterman
 - Dr. Joanne McNeal
 - Ms Michelle Puffer
 - Ms Yvonne Chiu
 - Ms Ema Hailu – a copy of Ms Hailu’s remarks was provided to Trustees
 - Ms Madeline Rainey
 - Ms Tricia Kester
 - Mr. Rob Stack
 - Ms Pamela Mollison
- b) The Board approved the closure of Eastwood School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.
- c) The Board approved the closure of McCauley School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.
- d) The Board approved the closure of Parkdale School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.
- e) The Board approved the closure of the elementary program at Spruce Avenue School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.
- f) The Board Approved the following: *That, further to the April 24, 2001 approved recommendations, the following be reaffirmed:*
 - a) *That schools in the City Centre Education Partnership (CCEP) be exempt from the board approved schedule of transportation fees.*
 - b) *That elementary and junior high students residing in CCEP attendance areas, where a school or program is closed, be eligible for transportation at no cost to parents to the designated receiving school, be approved.*

4. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Gibeault advised that, earlier today, he attended the Mayor's State of the City Address. He provided a copy of the *State of the City Report (City of Edmonton – April 2009 to March 2010)* to the Board Secretary for Trustee information.

H. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

I. Notices of Motion – None.

J. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

K. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 1:10 a.m.