



## Summary of Board Meeting #12 Tuesday, April 26, 2005

A. **O Canada** – District Video.

B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) – Trustee Hansen was absent.

C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

1. Trustee Fleming advised that April is Earth Month and April 22<sup>nd</sup> was International Earth Day which is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. More than 6 million Canadians join 500 million people in over 180 countries in staging events and projects to address local environmental issues. Many district students have been involved in activities recognizing Earth Day and Earth Month – 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. We encourage schools to participate. 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.

2. Trustee Fleming noted that Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, is the National Day of Mourning for Workers Injured or Killed at the Workplace.

On average, over a million cases of occupational injuries have been reported by Worker's Compensation Boards across Canada for each of the last 13 years. There are at least 1,000 occupational deaths reported each year. It is these types of statistics that prompted the Canadian Labour Congress to set aside April 28<sup>th</sup> each year as a Day of Mourning for victims of workplace accidents and disease.

In recognition of the men and women of our province and of the district who are part of those statistics, the Edmonton Public School Board on April 27, 1998 proclaimed every April 28<sup>th</sup> as an annual 'Day of Mourning' in recognition of workers killed, injured or disabled on the job.

The board encourages each and everyone to do their part to ensure that Edmonton Public Schools' work and learning environments are as healthy and safe for staff, students and community as possible.

3. Trustee Fleming noted that Support Staff Appreciation Week is observed from April 24 to 30 and April 27<sup>th</sup> has been designated as Support Staff Appreciation Day in the district and schools and central service decision units will have the opportunity to recognize the contributions of all support staff for the excellent work that they do in supporting Superb Results from all Students. The shift from Administrative Professionals Week and Day to Support Staff Appreciation Day is intended to demonstrate that the district values the important work that is done by all support staff.
4. Trustee Fleming noted that a request was received for Ms Cynthia Garnier, a parent from Strathearn School, and several students to present 2 petitions to the board. Ms Garnier presented a petition containing 711 signatures of Strathearn community residents requesting that the board not close Strathearn School.

Strathearn students Jenavieve Duchesne, Amanda and Jessica Nielsen presented the board with a petition containing 142 signatures of Strathearn School students also requesting that the board not close Strathearn School.

**D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.**

**E. Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #11 – April 12, 2005

Approved as printed.

**F. Focus on Student Achievement**

2. Laurier Heights School – Focus on Achievement

Received for information.

**G. Reports:**

3. Report #8 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held April 12 and 13, 2005)

Approved recommendations re:

- Exemption from criminal records checks
- Changes in trustee remuneration
- Salary schedules, benefits and working conditions for exempt staff and lunchroom aides
- Supplementary Integrated Pension Plan (SiPP)

Report #9 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held April 26, 2005)

Approved recommendation re central service appointment.

4. Pre-Advanced Placement Alternative Program

a) Ms Deanna Dixon, speaking on behalf of the Strathearn parent community and community league, urged the board to consider Strathearn as a site for a pre-advanced placement alternative program.

b) Approved recommendation.

5. Offer to Purchase Cromdale School

Approved recommendation.

6. ATA/EPS Joint Committee on Professional Learning Communities

Received for information.

7. Successful Strategies to Enhance High School Completion Rates

Received for information.

8. Plan for Student Program Distribution

Received for information.

**H. Committee and Board Representative Reports**

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Keiver commended the M.E. LaZerte students, staff and parents for the April 22, 2005 *Taste of LaZerte* event. She was very impressed with the ethnically diverse cuisine and cultural entertainment. She was particularly impressed with the orderly conduct of the students.

**I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.**

**J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**

Trustee Keiver requested that a report be provided regarding J. Percy Page's School Council involvement in supporting the 10-2 pilot project with respect to students at risk of not completing high school so that the positive results can be shared with other School Councils through the Key Communicator Program in the fall.

**K. Notices of Motion** – None.

**L. Next Meeting Date: May 10, 2005 – 6:00 p.m. - Board**

**M. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**