

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #11** -

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 Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Leslie Cleary
David Colburn (via Skype)
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser

Ron MacNeil
Jamie Pallett

Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Acting Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Staff Group Representatives

CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

A. O Canada 

B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present and that Trustee Colburn was participating via Skype.

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C. Communications from the Acting Board Chair

The Acting Board Chair advised that April is Earth Month and Friday, April 22nd is International Earth Day which is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. As a means of increasing awareness about energy conservation and our impact on the environment, all schools and district departments are being encouraged to participate in the third annual 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 21st.

Last year, 58 district sites participating in the one-day event managed to turn off 46,700 lights, over 1650 computers and monitors, as well as 445 Smartboards to reduce the district's energy consumption by 7300 kilo-watt hours. This was the equivalent of planting over 990 trees to help reduce CO2.

This year, the District is again linked with Lights Out Canada to add the district's energy savings to the national and world totals on Earth Day. Schools registering with EnviroMatters will have their name added to the national list. Several years ago, the Board identified Earth Day and Week as an initiative to promote within the district. The Board encourages schools to participate.

The Acting Board Chair noted that Mr. Elwin "Sonny" Kalynchuk is the Acting President for CUPE Local 474, Edmonton Public Schools Custodial Workers. Mr. Doug Luellman, the past President of CUPE Local 474, has been hired into a new position within EPSB as the Supervisor, Custodial Support Services. Mr. Mitch Peel is the newly elected President for CUPE Local 784, Edmonton Public Schools Maintenance Workers.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent noted the District hosted visitors from Israel who had come to examine the District's management system. They expressed appreciation to the staff who met with them.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #10 – March 22, 2011

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

"That the minutes of Board Meeting #10 held March 22, 2011 be approved as printed." (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Tina Jardine expressed concern the public School Closure Moratorium Committee meetings are all scheduled between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. She requested the time for the public input portion of the meetings be scheduled for earlier in the meeting to allow parents to attend.

Mr. Bill Moore-Kilgannon, Executive Director Public Interest in Alberta, expressed concern regarding the possible rental of space to EDLEUN, a private, for-profit childcare corporation in four district schools. He noted Public Interest Alberta issued a media release today with respect to this matter.

G. Reports

2. Report #2 of the Audit Committee (From the Meeting Held April 5, 2011)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That Report #2 of the Audit Committee from the meeting held April 5, 2011 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That the appointment of KPMG LLP, Chartered Accountants, as auditors of the Edmonton School District No. 7 for the fiscal year September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

3. Report #6 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held April 5, 2011)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That Report #6 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held April 5, 2011 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That Ellen Ogilvy and Kent Pharis be approved as co-spokespersons for negotiations with CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff).” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “3. That Faye Parker and Diana Bolan be approved as co-spokespersons for negotiations with CUPE Local 474 (Custodial).”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “4. That Faye Parker and Darrel Robertson be approved as co-spokespersons for negotiations with CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance).”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “5. That referral of a review of Board Policy JA.BP – Parent and Community Involvement to the Policy Review Committee be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

4. Process and Timeline for 2011-2012 Planning

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “That the process and timeline for review of the 2011-2012 District Plan and review of the 2011-2012 operating budget be approved.”**

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

5. Proposed Issue for the ASBA 2011 Policy Process

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

- “That submission of the following Directive for Action for submission to ASBA Zone 23 be approved:**

Directive for Action: That the Alberta School Boards Association develop a policy advisory to assist school boards in supporting the specialized health, safety, and learning needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, and two-spirit (LGBT) students and employees in Alberta schools.”

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Trustee Ripley offered the following friendly amendment:

“That the recommendation be amended to read: ... (LGBT) students, *families* and employees in Alberta schools.”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

The Acting Board Chair called the question on the Recommendation as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Review of Board Policy JJ.BP – Assisting Community Organizations

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That revised Board Policy JJ.BP – Assisting Community Organizations be considered for the third time and approved.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Review of Board Policy JG.BP – Community Use of District Buildings

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“1. That revised Board Policy JG.BP - Community Use of District Buildings be considered for the first time.”

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the policy be amended by adding the following as the last sentence: *Those organizations leasing or licensing space must provide evidence of recognized, acceptable, social and ethical standards through policies, practices and procedures.*”

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MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the proposed amendment to revised Board Policy JG.BP – Community use of District Buildings be referred to the Administration to provide information regarding its implications.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question on the Referral.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Johner and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

The Referral Motion was DEFEATED.

The Acting Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Johner and Ripley

The Amendment was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That paragraph three of the policy be amended to read: Members of the community *excluding publicly-traded companies providing day care and early education* can access space through the following methods: ...”

At 7:30 p.m. the Board set this item aside temporarily to deal with the following time-specific item.

9. Presentation by Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA)

The Board heard from Ms Michele Mulder, Executive Director Alberta School Councils’ Association.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the report entitled ‘Presentation by Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA)’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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The Board took a short break at this point.

7. Review of Board Policy JG.BP – Community Use of District Buildings
(Continued)

PREVIOUSLY MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That paragraph three of the policy be amended to read: Members of the community *excluding publicly-traded companies providing day care and early education* can access space through the following methods: ...”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the proposed amendment to revised Board Policy JG.BP – Community use of District Buildings be referred to the Administration to provide information regarding the operational implications.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, MacKenize, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

8. Motion re In-Camera Meetings

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the amendments to the Board’s procedures regarding In-Camera Sessions Committee of the Whole – Conference be approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the first sentence of the second paragraph of the Board’s procedures regarding In-Camera Sessions Committee of the Whole – Conference be deleted: *The Board holds regularly scheduled in-camera meetings to deal with land, labour, and legal matters.*”

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn and Johner

The Amendment was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

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“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Trustee Janz offered the following friendly amendment:

“That item 1.d. under ‘Purpose’ of the Board’s procedures regarding In-Camera Sessions Committee of the Whole – Conference be amended to read: *Reviewing the functioning of the Board and Board development activities.*”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That item 1.e. under ‘Purpose’ remain in the Board’s procedures regarding In-Camera Sessions Committee of the Whole – Conference: *Providing advice to the Superintendent of Schools.*”

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That the vote on the Amendment be called at this time.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Johner and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, MacKenzie, Ripley and Shipka

The Motion on calling the question was DEFEATED.

Following further discussion, the Acting Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Johner and Ripley, Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie and Spencer

The Amendment was CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That the motion be referred back to Trustee Janz in order to consult with General Counsel to bring back to public board.”

The Acting Chair called the question on the Referral.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Johner, Ripley, Spencer and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Hoffman, Janz and MacKenzie

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

10. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“1. That the response to Trustee Request #55 contained in the report entitled ‘Responses to Trustee Requests for Information’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“2. That the response to Trustee Request #64 contained in the report entitled ‘Responses to Trustee Requests for Information’ be received for information.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Janz, Mackenzie and Spencer

The Motion was CARRIED.

11. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Colburn, the Board’s Representative on the Alberta School Boards Association Board of Directors, provided the following report from the March 10-11, 2011 ASBA Board of Directors meeting:

- The Board of Directors approved a draft budget for the 2011-2012 budget which will be presented to boards across the province at the ASBA Spring General Meeting in Red Deer in June for approval. There will be a significant reduction in spending; e.g. there will be fewer Board of Directors meetings, the Association will not conduct a telephone

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survey of school boards, the annual invitational Leadership Retreat will be turned into a revenue-generating event.

- The Board of Directors is proposing to draw \$30,455 from the Association's building reserve to balance the 2011-2012 budget which will result in a 1% increase in membership fees for the coming year.

The Board of Directors adopted the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan. The Plan is now on the ASBA website. Committees and task forces have been formed to support the work of the Strategic Plan. He noted that student wellness has been added to the Strategic Plan. He added that he will be chairing the Student Wellness Task Force on behalf of the ASBA over the next year.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised she will be bringing forward the Directive for Action approved earlier in the evening by the Board at the April 29, 2011 ASBA Zone 23 meeting.

Trustee Cleary, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association for Languages Education (ASBALE), reported that the selection committee comprised of herself, Elk Island School District Trustee Joann Lloyd, Peace River School District Trustee Bryan Imray and Mr. Stuart Wachowicz, who is acting in an advisory capacity, met on March 28, 2011 and awarded two teacher bursaries as no student applications were received. She advised she would circulate a copy of the meeting minutes to Trustees and Superintendent for information and would advise the Board of the names of the recipients at a later date once all of the arrangements have been secured. She congratulated the bursary recipients and wished them well with their studies in China over the summer.

Trustee Spencer, the Board's liaison on the Public School Boards' Council, reported that the PSBC will meet this weekend. He noted several provincial leadership candidates will be dropping by during that time.

Trustee Spencer reported he attended the Alberta Association for Community Living Annual Family Conference last weekend. He noted that Belvedere and Crawford Plains Schools won national awards for their work on inclusion.

Trustee MacKenzie, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, reported that the Committee will meet on May 4, 2011. She advised that Trustee Cleary, her alternate, will attend the meeting since she will be on leave at that time.

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Trustee MacKenzie, Chair of the School Closure Moratorium Committee, reported that, as noted at the last board meeting, the Committee will be holding a series of public committee meetings to review the various factors contributing to school closures and to examine alternatives to school closures. The first public committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in McCauley Chambers. The topic of the meeting is urban sprawl as it pertains to the district. There will be a presentation from the Administration which will be followed by brainstorming some possible means of addressing this challenge. Members of the public are welcome to speak to the topic and can register with the Board Secretary if they wish to do so. More information about the process is available on the district website and Facebook groups.

Trustee Hoffman, the Board's representative on the Anti-Bullying Advisory Committee, reported that the Committee's first meeting was held on Monday, April 11, 2011 at the Centre for Education. The Committee agreed there should be two main focuses – to define “bullying” to identify the scope and reduce the extent and to develop a number of recommendations. The Committee, at their next meeting, will be developing the actual definition of bullying. The definition will then be placed online for feedback. She urged Trustees to advise people in their wards who would be interested in providing feedback on this topic. The Committee will be meeting twice in May.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided identifying the locations of opportunity programs in the district at the junior high and high school level.

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding the particulars of the RAP Program including the approximate percentage of RAP students who enter the RAP Program in Grade 10 and graduate with a diploma as well the percentage of students who dropout.

Trustee Ripley requested that information be provided on the implications, costs and any other considerations to the District and current and future lessors of requiring evidence of recognized, acceptable, social and ethical practices for those leasing or licensing space in District buildings.

Trustee Ripley requested that information be provided summarizing the recent provincial findings about school libraries and a copy of the EPSB results from the school library survey the Province administered.

J. Notices of Motion

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

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That the Administration seek feedback from staff, parents and the community about implementing a district school calendar that offers a start date of the Monday prior to Labour Day and includes a one-week break in November and that a summary of the feedback come to public Board by the end of November, if possible.

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

That approval of the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar be deferred until December 2011, at which time the Board will review suitable school calendar options with consideration to feedback received.

Trustee Cleary served notice of the following motion:

That EPSB become a district supporter of school council membership in the Alberta School Councils' Association.

Trustee Spencer served notice of the following motion:

To improve student safety and encourage walking and cycling to school, Edmonton Public Schools shall join the advocacy efforts of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues and other organizations in pursuing lower speed limits within residential areas. As a first measure, the Chair, on behalf of the Board, will write a letter to City Council expressing our support for such an initiative.

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

L. Adjournment: 10:25 p.m.

The Acting Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Acting Board Chair

Board Secretary