

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #14** -

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, April 13, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Sue Huff

George Rice
Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Donna Barrett
Jenise Bidulock

Bruce Coggles
Ron MacNeil

Tanni Parker
Dean Power

Board Chair: Don Fleming

Board Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. **O Canada** 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President
CUPE Local 474 – Doug Luellman, President

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

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.

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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.

The Board of Trustees will recognize the District's semi-finalists during a special ceremony on Thursday, April 29, 2010. The Board is looking forward to meeting and congratulating each of them.

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.

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.

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The Board Chair 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

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #13 held March 23, 2010 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

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 Tamar Harajdic
- Ms Laurie Simpson
- Dr. Raquel Feroe

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MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That the order of the recommendations be changed so that the recommendation with respect to the closure of Capilano School be dealt with first followed by the recommendation with respect to the closure of Fulton Place School.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Gibeault, Huff, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming, Esslinger Gibson and Rice

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“1. That the closure of Capilano School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn

The Motion was CARRIED.

The Board took a break at this point.

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“2. That the closure of Fulton Place School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

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

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Gibeault and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

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The Board took a break at this point.

3. City Centre Education Partnership – Closure of Schools

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 her remarks was provided to Trustees
- Ms Madeline Rainey
- Ms Tricia Kester
- Mr. Rob Stack
- Ms Pamela Mollison

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “1. That the closure of Eastwood School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”**

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “2. That the closure of McCauley School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”**

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Gibeault and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “3. That the closure of Parkdale School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”**

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Gibeault and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

- “4. That the closure of the elementary program at Spruce Avenue School at the end of the 2009-2010 school year be approved.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

- “5. 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.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

- 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.

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- 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. Adjournment: (1:10 a.m.)**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary