

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #6 -

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, November 25, 2008 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
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Bev Esslinger

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Staff Group Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers – Mark Ramsankar, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

A. **O Canada** 

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that the White Ribbon Campaign began today and will run through December 6th. The White Ribbon Campaign is intended to make the public aware that violence against women is unacceptable. The Board endorsed this campaign in 1996 and urges schools and staff to recognize this initiative. CUPE Local 474 has provided each Trustee and staff member with a white ribbon.

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The Board Chair advised that the Community Partner Recognition Event and Launch of the 2008 Report to the Community will be held tomorrow evening at the Centre for Education at 5:00 p.m.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #5 – November 12, 2008

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #5 held November 12, 2008 be approved as printed.”

Trustee Ripley referred to page eight of the minutes and advised that she had not attended the Writings on the Wall Conference.

The Board Chair called the question on approving the minutes as amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

F. Improving Student Achievement:

2. Improving Student Achievement Through Technology Integration Planning Services

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement Through Technology Integration Planning Services’ be received for information.”

Trustee Gibson requested that Trustees be provided with a copy of the slide of the seven Technology Integration Planning Services (TIPS) Guiding Principles.

Trustee Fleming asked how much the Province allocates to the District for technology.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

3. School Year Calendar 2010-2011

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the 2010-2011 school year calendar be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED.

4. Annual Implementation Plan: 2008-2009

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the Annual Implementation Plan: 2008-2009 be approved.”

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Mr. Christopher Spencer, Secretary Grovenor School Council. Mr. Spencer provided a copy of his speaking notes to trustees.
- Mr. Scott Laurie, Chair Coronation Parents Committee.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The board took a short break at this point.

5. Aboriginal Education Policy and Regulation Implementation Plan: Year One

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the report entitled ‘Aboriginal Education Policy and Regulation Implementation Plan: Year One’ be received for information.”

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Trustee Gibson requested that a letter be prepared for the Board Chair's signature to accompany this report to be sent to the following groups:

- Minister of Education
- Minister of Aboriginal Relations
- Minister of Children and Youth Services
- Edmonton Area MLAs
- City Council
- Post-Secondary Institutions
- Community newsletters catering to the Aboriginal community

Trustees concurred with sending the letter.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. District Energy and Environmental Management

This item was deferred to the December 9, 2008 Board Meeting.

7. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Trustee Requests for Information’ be received for information.”

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Mrs. Kathryn Burke, Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta, and Chair Academy at King Edward Academy Parent Council
- Ms Madeline Rainey, parent of a special needs child
- Ms Lori Fankhanel, parent of special needs children

Trustee Huff requested, with respect to the response to TT#134, that further information be provided regarding the specifics of how the District addressed the recommendations from the Alberta Education Programming Standards Review.

Trustee Colburn, also with respect to the response to TT#134, requested that information be provided regarding the role of the Board in terms of the action plan from Edmonton Public Schools (page 2, second bullet).

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Trustee Colburn further requested that information be provided regarding how the District will ensure the parent voice is taken into consideration in the District's response to the Special Education Review.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.”

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Fleming

The Motion was CARRIED.

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

8. Report #4 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held November 19, 2008)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “1. That Report #4 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held November 19, 2008 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “2. That the following designation for the period November 3, 2008 to August 31, 2011 be confirmed: Darwin Martin – Director” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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9. Report #1 of the Audit Committee (From the Meeting Held November 19, 2008)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “1. That Report #1 of the Audit Committee from the meeting held November 19, 2008 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “2. That the financial statements, those audited and as required by Alberta Education, for the year ended August 31, 2008 be received for information.
3. That the auditor’s report be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “4. That \$15.4 million be transferred from the unrestricted net assets to the operating reserve be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2007-2008 School and Central Department Results

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “That the report entitled ‘Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2007-2008 School and Central Department Results’ be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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11. Annual Education Results Report 2007-2008

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the Edmonton Public Schools’ Annual Education Results Report 2007-08 be approved for forwarding to Alberta Education.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

12. Fall 2008 Update to 2008/2009 Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“That the report entitled ‘Fall 2008 Update to 2008/2009 Budget’ be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Other Trustee Reports

Trustee Huff, Co-Chair Ad Hoc Committee to Review School Closure and Sustainability Review Processes, requested that Trustees provide her with their input regarding the proposed web survey. She advised that the committee will be asking the Board for an extension of the January 30th reporting deadline.

The web survey will be discussed at the December 2, 2008 Conference Committee Meeting.

Trustees were asked to provide their comments in advance of the meeting.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Trustee Esslinger advised that she had been pleased to attend the Teacher Induction Ceremony held last Monday.

Mr. Mark Ramsankar, President Edmonton Public Teachers, reported that a little over 100 teachers were inducted into the profession at the Teacher Induction Ceremony that was held last Monday at Barnett House.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

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Trustee Fleming requested that information be provided regarding the recent provincial supervisory requirements for work experience students in terms of its impact on the District. What will be the District's response?

Trustee Colburn requested information regarding the feasibility of the Board adopting a paperless format in conducting its business (costs, etc.)

Trustees requested that information be provided regarding the status of the Trustee initiative for an alternate certificate of achievement.

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Colburn served notice of the following motion:

That, in accordance with requirements identified in the Alberta Education "Standards for Special Education" a substantive report come to board reporting on the effectiveness of special education programming and services in the District and include information on expenditures and achievement related to the District's special education programming.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.

N Adjournment: 10:00 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary