

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #3 -

Minutes of a 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 26, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Bob Dean
Don Fleming
Svend Hansen

Gerry Gibeault
Ray Martin
George Nicholson

Lynn Odynski
Jean Woodrow

Officials

Angus McBeath
Donna Barrett
Norm Diemert
Avi Habinski
Bob Holt

John Beaton
Patti Christensen
Richard Dietrich
Kathy Goudreau

Betty Matwichuk
David Morris
Tanni Parker

Chairman: D. Fleming

Board Secretary: A. Sherwood
Recording Secretary: M. Fraser

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers: K. Beaton
CUPE Local 3500: T. Grebenstein

A. **O Canada** – District video.

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Bonko was absent. All other trustees were present.

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C. Communications from the Board Chairman

The chairman advised that every year since 1994, when a district custodial assistant was assaulted, CUPE Local 474 has conducted a White Ribbon Campaign, distributing white ribbons to its members and district staff to wear. The intent is to make the public aware that violence against women happens at home, on the street, and in the workplace, and that it is unacceptable. Local 474 distributed white ribbons to schools last week as was noted in the *Superintendent's Memo*. The Local is asking its members and district staff to wear the white ribbons from November 25 to December 6. Local 474 will also be asking its members to observe a minute of silence at noon on December 6th. The board supports the intent of this campaign and commends Local 474 for its part in bringing attention to this important social issue. The board encourages schools to participate in and recognize the White Ribbon Campaign during the weeks of November 25 to December 6.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools - None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #2 – November 12, 2002

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #2 held November 12, 2002 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

2. Board Meeting – November 20, 200c2

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the minutes of the board meeting held November 20, 2002 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. Focus on Student Achievement:

3. Minchau School's Instructional Focus: Written Communication Skills

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘Minchau School's Instructional Focus: Written Communication Skills’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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G. Reports:

4. Report #1 of the Audit Committee (From the Meeting Held November 20, 2002)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “1. That report #1 of the Audit Committee from the meeting held November 20, 2002 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “2. That submission of the audited financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2002 to the minister of learning be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2001-2002 School and Central Department Results

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “That the report entitled ‘Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2001-2002 School and Central Department Results’ be received for information.”

Trustee Hansen requested that a copy of the district’s standards, indicators and measures document be provided including the results for 2001-2002.

Trustee Hansen suggested looking at how surpluses are being reported because some of the surpluses are actually committed dollars.

Trustees commented on the concerns of schools with respect to whether AISI funding will be continued and the impact of budget cuts.

Trustees Odynski and Woodrow noted that schools in their wards are concerned regarding the growing inequity between schools caused by their differing ability to fundraise.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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6. Presentation by the YMCA

MOVED BY Trustee Dean:

“That the report entitled ‘Presentation by the YMCA’ be received for information.”

The YMCA board members posed the following questions:

- How can we, together plan for the new City Centre YMCA?
- Who should be our contact?
- Who else should we meet with and involve?

Trustee Martin, as chairman of the Linkages committee, extended an invitation for YMCA board members to attend a future Linkages meeting.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Joint Project Between Canadian Islamic Centre (CIC), the Canadian Arab Friendship Association (CAFA) and Edmonton Public Schools

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the report entitled ‘Joint Project Between Canadian Islamic Centre (CIC), the Canadian Arab Friendship Association (CAFA) and Edmonton Public Schools’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

8. Plan for Offering Summer School

MOVED BY Trustee Odynski:

“That the report entitled ‘Plan for Offering Summer School’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

9. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Woodrow:

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

Trustee Request #198 was referred to the next board meeting due to Trustee Bonko’s absence.

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The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports •Community Relations Activities

Trustee Martin reported that he had attended the 18th anniversary banquet for the Centre for Immigrant Women on behalf of the board. The keynote speaker was the Honourable Jean Augustine, Secretary of State (Multiculturalism) (Status of Women). Also in attendance was MLA Laurie Blakeman, the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky Minister of Community Development, and Councillor Michael Phair.

Trustee Odynski noted that on November 21, 2002 she and Trustee Woodrow held a meeting with school council representatives in Ward C and E. Approximately 35 people attended representing 26 school councils. The terms of reference were approved and will be reviewed in January 2004. Parents expressed concern regarding the impact of budget cuts to learning opportunities, larger class sizes, combined classes, ability to buy supplies, equipment and resources and the possible loss of staff. Parents feel pressure to fundraise to make up the shortfall. Parents believe that public education should be universally available and adequately funded and not rest on the ability of parents to pay fees or to do fundraising for their schools. The parents urged Trustees Odynski and Woodrow to communicate their concerns to the board and for the board to communicate this to the provincial government. The steering committee will be meeting on December 12, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the Glenora School library to consider next steps and the possible formation of a political action committee. The next Ward C and E meeting will take place in January 2003.

Trustee Hansen advised that he had attended the first day of the school at Jackson Heights Elementary School. The students were piped in by two students from Vimy Ridge.

Trustee Hansen noted the official opening of George P. Nicholson School on November 23, 2002 and complimented the organizers.

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

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Hansen requested that information be provided regarding the potential impact of the arbitration award on class sizes for 2003-2004 by division.

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K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Meeting:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Tuesday, December 10, 2002	Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: (8:15 p.m.)

The chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Board Secretary