

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #7 -

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, February 13, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Svend Hansen

George Nicholson
Wendy Keiver
Don Williams

Officials

Bob Holt
Donna Barrett
Ron MacNeil

Tanni Parker
Edgar Schmidt
Betty Tams

Bruce Coggles
Bryan Evans
Henry Madsen
Sherri O'Keefe
Nancy Iriye

Board Chair: Bev Esslinger

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Edmonton Public Teachers – Mark Ramsankar, President

A. **O Canada** –  *District's O Canada DVD*

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The board chair noted that one of the district's priorities is to expand its leadership capacity. In this light, leadership development opportunities have been established for staff members who have demonstrated the potential for district leadership. As part of the leadership development program, candidates are encouraged to attend board meetings and observe the district governance in action. She recognized the 25 members of this year's Principal Education and Development class who were in the audience.

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The board chair noted that this week (February 12th to 18th) is Random Acts of Kindness Week. The board has endorsed and recognized Random Acts of Kindness Week since 1996. The board encourages everyone to recognize and participate in random acts of kindness week whether it be to help a needy friend or anonymously shovel a neighbour's sidewalk. Hopefully kindness is something we practice throughout the year.

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

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #6 – January 30, 2007

MOVED BY Trustee Williams:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held January 30, 2007 be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. Recognition:

2. “An Act to Follow” Staff Recognition Program

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘*An Act to Follow* Staff Recognition Program’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Reports:

3. Report #6 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 6, 2007)

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“1. That report #6 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held February 6, 2007 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “2. That the following principal designations to the district, effective September 1, 2007, be confirmed:**

Susan Bell	Kathy Muhlethaler
Chris Coggins	Roma Paul
Aryn Ford	Diane Smarsh
Carolyn Gartke	Robert Smilanich
Dave Jones	Marilyn Solesbury
Ken Lam	Mike Suderman
Al Lowrie	Sheila Tingley”
Eddie Mah	
Brad Mamchur	

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Agreement with the City of Edmonton for the Conduct of the 2007 School Board Election

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That, in accordance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*:

- a) **Section 2(2), authorization for the Board Chair and the Board Secretary to sign an agreement with the City of Edmonton to conduct the school board election on behalf of Edmonton School District No. 7 in conjunction with the 2007 municipal election, be approved; and,**
- b) **Section 13(1), the appointment of the City’s Returning Officer as the Returning Officer for the purposes of the 2007 school board election for Edmonton School District No. 7 be approved.”**

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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5. Process and Timeline for 2007-2008 Planning

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the process and timeline for review of 2007-2008 plans and review of the 2007-2008 operating budget be approved.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Policy HCA.BP: Approval of the School Year Calendar

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the rescission of board regulation HCA.BR – School Year Calendar and replacement with new policy HCA.BP – Approval of the School Year Calendar be considered for the third time and approved.”

Trustee Gibeault requested that information be provided regarding the number of remaining board regulations.

Trustee Keiver requested that information be provided regarding the rationale for schools adopting modified school year calendars and whether the desired results have been achieved.

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. New Locations for District Programs for 2007-2008

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the report entitled ‘New Locations for District Programs for 2007-2008’ be received for information.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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8. Plan for Ellerslie Due to Municipal Upgrade

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘Plan for Ellerslie Due to Municipal Upgrade’ be received for information.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

9. Bereavement

The board vice-chair reported on the death of Mr. Douglas Tipple, a member of the district’s maintenance staff.

MOVED BY Board Vice-Chair Nicholson:

“That the report be received with regret and the actions of the administration in this regard be confirmed.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• Community Relations Activities

Trustee Keiver reported that she had attended and was a judge last week at Londonderry School’s 22nd Annual Social Dance Contest.

Trustee Gibeault advised that he had attended the ASBA Board of Directors meeting last Thursday and Friday. He noted the following issues were discussed:

- a new agreement on property taxation involving the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)
- the process for the review of the ASBA governance structure.

Trustee Gibson noted that he and the board chair will be attending a luncheon meeting this Friday with representatives from Economic Development Edmonton in furtherance of the board’s advocacy of public education.

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The board chair noted that she and Trustees Gibeault and Williams had attended the 25th Anniversary of the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Association this weekend, as did the Premier and Mayor. She noted that over the past 25 years, the Mandarin Program has expanded to 12 district schools and 2,000 students.

The board chair noted that she and Trustee Keiver had attended the Learning Partnership luncheon yesterday regarding the welcome kindergarten program.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Joyce Pittman, President Virginia Park Parent Council, expressed the following concerns following the Parent Council meeting last evening with respect to a proposed multi-campus of Virginia Park and Mount Royal Schools:

- There is not an overabundance of children currently attending Virginia Park School and sending children who would otherwise attend Virginia Park to Mount Royal School could jeopardize the sustainability of both schools in the future.
- Lack of consultation previous to the meeting
- Concern about adequate future consultation

Ms Joanne Dykstra, parent Virginia Park, shared similar concerns. She was also very concerned about the conflicting messages she has received regarding the status of the proposal.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Colburn requested that a board report be provided comparing the provincial level of per student funding as well as a comparison of provincial high school completion rates across the country.

Trustee Keiver asked that information be provided regarding whether technology user agreements used in the district are agreements set by the district or whether schools can choose to design and implement the agreements themselves. She also asked if there is a requirement for the agreements to be signed and, if so, by whom (e.g. students and staff).

Trustee Esslinger requested that trustees be provided with the information that had been prepared regarding the feasibility of establishing a foundation.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

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The board meeting adjourned to conference committee.

The board meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

All trustees were present.

Report #7 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 13, 2007)

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “1. That report #7 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held February 13, 2007 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “2. That the appointment of Bob Holt as Acting Superintendent of Operations be approved.**
- 3. That, for consideration of revisions to Board Policy CH.BP – Board Delegation of Authority, the board’s requirement for three readings of policy revisions be waived.**
- 4. That sections 1 to 5 of Board Policy CHA.BP – Board Delegation of Authority be rescinded.**
- 5. That the following new section 1 of Board Policy CHA.BP – Board Delegation of Authority be approved:**

The board authorizes the administration, under the direction of the Acting Superintendent of Operations, to exercise those powers not specifically reserved to the board under the School Act or as delegated by the board from time to time.”

The board chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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M. Adjournment: (9:15 p.m.)

The board chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary