



**Summary of Board Meeting #8
Held Tuesday, February 22, 2011**

A. O Canada:  (6:00 p.m.) – *District O Canada Video*

B. Roll Call: Trustee Shipka participated in the meeting via Skype. All other Trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

1. The Board Chair advised that Wednesday, March 2, 2011 would be Edmonton Public Schools' 47th Night of Music held at the Jubilee Auditorium. The purpose of this event is to promote the importance of music education and recognize the musical accomplishments of our students. This year's theme is *Music: The Rhythm of Life*.
2. The Board Chair noted that at the last board meeting he advised that he brought greetings on behalf of the Board to at the February 7, 2011 media launch of the Mayor's Community Sustainability Task Force. He noted that Trustee Ripley is the Board's representative on the Mayor's Community Sustainability Task Force.
3. The Board Chair advised that tomorrow, February 23, 2011 is Pink Shirt Anti-Bullying Day. The initiative was started by two high school students in Nova Scotia in 2007 and occurs the third Wednesday in February.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that 56 district teachers including 3 principals have been nominated for Excellence in Teaching Awards. The names of the nominees will be released in the coming days by Alberta Education.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #7 – February 8, 2011 – Approved as printed.

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

G. Reports

2. Response to Alberta Food Banks
 - a) The Board heard from Ms Tina Jardine who spoke on behalf of Mr. Le Sueur.
 - b) Approved recommendation.
3. Rescheduling of the April 12, 2011 Board Meeting

Approved recommendation.
4. Motion re Anti-Bullying Advisory Committee
 - a) The Board heard from Ms Betty Wedman.
 - b) The recommendation was approved as amended (a junior high student will be added as a member of the Anti-Bullying Advisory Committee.)
5. Motion re Advocacy Committee
 - a) The Board Chair heard from Edmonton Catholic Schools Board Chair Debbie Engel.
 - b) Approved the following amended recommendation: *That the Advocacy Committee consult with the Edmonton Catholic School Board on their latest postcard campaign for adequate, predictable and sustainable provincial funding and, in the context of our broader advocacy efforts and relationships, consider making a recommendation to the Board for the development of a complementary EPSB form of advocacy.*
6. School Closure Moratorium Committee – Terms of Reference
 - a) Distributed report with revised terms of reference – *the revised report is posted on the District's website.*
 - b) Approved recommendation.
8. Budget Presentation from Staff Group - Edmonton Public Teachers
 - a) Received verbal report for information.
 - b) A copy of the Local's brief was provided to the Board Secretary.

- c) Presentations from the following staff groups will be heard at the board meetings indicated:
- CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance Staff) – March 8, 2011
 - CUPE Local 474 (Custodial Staff) – March 8, 2011
 - CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff) – March 8, 2011
 - Exempt Staff – March 22, 2011
- d) The Administration will prepare a report in response to the staff group representative presentations. Copies of the response and the presentations will be disseminated to schools and central service decision unit managers for consideration in developing 2011-2012 plans.

7. Tri-Level Meeting Discussion Paper: School Closures and Sustainability: Factors to Consider

Received for information.

9. Bereavements – Received with regret.

10. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

- a) Trustee Cleary reported that, on February 18th, she attended the 6th Annual *Second Languages Matters! Best Practices Day*. She recommended to her colleagues that the Board recognize the necessity of global citizenship as an important quality necessary in the ever-changing world. She thanked the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education and the event sponsor the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium.
- b) Trustee Ripley, as Board's Representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation's Board of Directors, reported that on February 17, 2011, a supper and magic show was held for the Tipaskan full-kindergarten students and their families. The full-day kindergarten at Tipaskan has been made possible by donors to the Foundation. Food for 100 people in attendance was provided free of charge by the Fantasyland Hotel. Door prizes were provided by Dental Choice, the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, Back to School Solutions, Troika foods, Mac's Stores and Apple Schools. Prior to the event, Tipaskan School was visited by the Bear Radio Station Children's Charity and \$5,000 was donated to the Foundation to purchase a smart board and resources for the Tipaskan full-day kindergarten classroom.
- c) Trustee Johner, a member of the Special Needs Task Force, reported that the Task Force Advisory Committee had its first meeting today. There are six

planned consultations – 2 of which are for parents and community members – 2 for district staff – 1 for consultants and 1 for principals. The consultations will be completed before spring break. The first focus group will be held tomorrow with principals.

- d) Trustee Johner reported, that last Thursday, she and a majority of the Trustees attended the EPS Long Service Awards Ceremony.
- e) Trustee Johner reported that, last Friday evening, she and a number of Trustees attended the performance of the Nanjing University Orchestra in the Eva O. Howard Theatre in celebration of Chinese New Year.

Trustee Colburn, who also attended the performance, noted that the Nanjing University Traditional Instrument Orchestra also performed at a number of district schools.

TRUSTEE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM BOARD MEETING #8 HELD FEBRUARY 22, 2011		
TT#	Trustee	
071.	Catherine Ripley	Provide information on the status of the 2020 graduates. Describe how the children who entered Kindergarten in 2007 are doing today in terms of their achievement against key performance benchmarks, including literacy. Are all of these students on track to graduate in 2020, and if not, why not? What resources are needed and what interventions can take place to support them?
072.	Ken Shipka	Why do Division I students have a 20-1 student-teacher ratio as contrasted to the ACOL-recommended 17-1 ratio while other divisions meet the ACOL standards? Further, what can be done within our current budget, and what are the implications, to re-allocate resources to achieve the ACOL recommended class sizes for grades K-3?