

**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 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

Leslie Cleary  
David Colburn  
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz  
Cheryl Johner  
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley  
Ken Shipka (via Skype)  
Christopher Spencer

**Officials**

Edgar Schmidt  
Bruce Coggles  
David Fraser

Mark Liguori  
Ron MacNeil  
Jamie Pallett

Tanni Parker  
Brian Smith  
Tash Taylor

**Board Chair:** David Colburn

**Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

**Staff Group Representatives**

CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

CUPE Local 474 – Doug Luellman, President

A. **O Canada** 

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Shipka would be participating in the meeting via electronic means. All other Trustees were present.

## MINUTE BOOK

### **C. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that the Board provided input for the ASBA's submission to the *Education Act*. This was provided at the January ASBA Board of Directors meeting, of which he is the Board's representative. A copy of the Board's submission will be posted on-line as part of the Board Chair's communications for this meeting.

The Board Chair advised that, next week (February 14th to 20th), 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 -- which would be very much appreciated this year in particular. Hopefully kindness is something practiced throughout the year.

The Board Chair advised that, yesterday, he attended and brought greetings on behalf of the Board to the media launch of the Mayor's Community Sustainability Task Force. He noted that representatives on the Task Force include Trustees from Edmonton Catholic and Public Schools, the Minister of Education, members of City Council and members of the community.

### **D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.**

### **E. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #6 – January 25, 2011

**MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held January 25, 2011 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **F. Recognition**

2. An Act to Follow Staff Recognition Program

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

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

## MINUTE BOOK

### **G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

Ms Wen Kauffman spoke to the response to TT#41 in the Responses to Trustee Requests for Information report regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-Identified and Questioning/Queer (LGBTQ) educational issues. She provided a text of her comments to the Board Secretary.

Mr. Richard Le Sueur, Resource Development Coordinator Alberta Food Banks, advised the Board of a birthday wish by Caige Hancen from Bassanno, Alberta for as many school children in Alberta to bring a can of food to school on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to support their local food bank. He asked that the Board consider providing this information to district students about this initiative. He also asked for assistance from the Board in approaching other school boards in the province. He provided information to the Board Secretary.

The Board Chair advised that a response to Mr. Le Sueur would be provided at the next board meeting on February 22, 2011.

Mr. Todd Heron, co-founder of Capital Club which is a club for LGBTQ professionals, also spoke with respect to the response to TT#41 in the Responses to Trustee Requests for Information report. The Capital Club seeks to build bridges between Edmontonians and the LGBTQ community.

### **H. Reports**

2. Report #4 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 1, 2011)

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “1. That Report #4 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held February 1, 2011 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “2. That the following Board position be confirmed: The Board is not willing to support the petition to disestablish separate schools in Alberta.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MINUTE BOOK

4. Declaration of Surplus Schools

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

- “1. That the declaration of the Prince Rupert School building as surplus to district need, be approved.**
- 2. That the declaration of the Ritchie School building as surplus to district need, be approved.**
- 3. That the declaration of the Wellington School building as surplus to district need, be approved.”**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #1.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #2.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Janz, Johner, MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Hoffman**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #3.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

5. Aspen Program at Woodside Home Name Change

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

- “That the Aspen Program at Woodside Home be renamed to Aspen Program, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MINUTE BOOK**

6. L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy Name Change

The Board heard from Ms Joan Conniff, Co-Chair L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy School Council.

**MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:**

**“That L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy be renamed to Vimy Ridge, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

7. Response to the Literacy and Learning Day Society of Edmonton Delegation

The Board heard from Ms Wendy Keiver, President Literacy and Learning Day Society.

The Superintendent advised that the motions should read: *1. That Literacy and Learning Day Society Conference material be distributed to district parents via District communication vehicles be approved. 2. That the District provide communications to district parents advising of the Literacy and Learning Day Society Conference be approved.*

**MOVED BY Trustee Johner:**

- “1. That Literacy and Learning Day Society Conference material be distributed to district parents via District communication vehicles be approved.**
- 2. That the District provide communications to district parents advising of the Literacy and Learning Day Society Conference be approved.**
- 3. That the request for a \$5,000 donation (Double Platinum Level) in support of the Literacy and Learning Day Conference being held April 9, 2011 be denied.”**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #1.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #2.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

MINUTE BOOK

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“That Recommendation #3 be amended to read: *That the request for a \$5,000 donation (Double Platinum Level) in support of the Literacy and Learning Day Conference being held April 9, 2011 be approved.*”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, Mackenzie, Ripley and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Shipka**

**The Amendment was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #3 as Amended.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz and Johner**

**OPPOSED: Trustees MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

8. Responses to Board Requests for Information

**MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Board Requests for Information’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

9. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Cleary reported that she will be serving on the Alberta School Boards Association for Languages Education (ASBALE) Bursary Selection Committee.

Trustee Cleary reported that she had her first quarterly meeting with the Mill Woods Community Advisory Council which represents the 26 school councils in Ward I. The next Council meeting will take place April 21, 2011.

Trustee Spencer reported on the February 3-5, 2011 meetings of the Public School Boards’ Council (PSBC).

## MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Ripley, Chair of the District Priorities Committee, reported that the public consultation sessions regarding input into the District Mission, Vision, Beliefs and Priorities have concluded. She thanked the Communications Department for their efforts.

Trustee Ripley reported that, on Saturday, she and Trustees Janz, MacKenzie, Johner and Cleary attended the Chinese New Years' Celebration put on by the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association.

Trustee Johner reported on January 28, 2011 ASBA Zone 23 General Meeting. She noted that the March 24<sup>th</sup> ASBA Zone 23 General Meeting is also scheduled for MLA advocacy.

Trustee Johner reported that, on January 28, 2011 she attended the first graduation ceremony of two students from Howard House.

### **I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**

Trustee Shipka requested that the Administration consult with the public who attend board meetings, including those who participate electronically, regarding any impact of moving from evening to daytime meetings. Further, that Administration confer with senior staff and the Board Chair to ascertain the most effective time, day, and frequency of public daytime meetings, and recommend to the Board when such meetings could take effect.

Trustee Cleary requested that information be provided regarding what criteria is necessary to expand the Chinese Bilingual Program to the new schools in south west Edmonton and in the Southeast in Summerside and Ellerslie scheduled to open in 2012.

Trustee Johner requested that information be provided regarding the status of the work done on the following motion approved at the May 11, 2010 board meeting: *That the Board develop a policy articulating the values and principles for setting attendance areas including to be closest to where students live.*

**MINUTE BOOK**

**J. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Hoffman served notice of the following motion

*That the Board establish an Anti-Bullying Advisory Committee that will develop a list of recommendations for the Administration to consider implementing in an effort to identify the scope and reduce the extent of bullying in Edmonton Public Schools. The Advisory Committee would consist of one Trustee, a member of Central Administration who specializes in this area, one active staff member of school, one high school student, one elementary school parent and one person from the Society for Safe and Caring Schools and Communities. The Committee would provide recommendations to the Administration by May 31, 2011.*

Trustee MacKenzie served notice of the following motion:

*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, consider making a recommendation to the Board for the development of a comparable EPSB-appropriate document.*

Trustee MacKenzie requested that a copy of the Edmonton Catholic School Board document be provided as background to the motion.

**K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.**

**L. Adjournment: 8:00 p.m.**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Board Chair

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Board Secretary