

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, December 9, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Sue Huff

George Rice
Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka

Officials

Tanni Parker,
Acting Superintendent

Jenise Bidulock
Bruce Coggles
Ron MacNeil

Dean Power
Betty Tams

Acting Board Chair: Catherine Ripley

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Staff Group Representatives:

CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

A. **O Canada** 

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that Trustee Esslinger was absent.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

Trustee Fleming, the Board's Representative on Alberta School Boards' Association Zone 23, advised that the Minister of Education's Leadership Recognition Awards were presented at the ASBA Zone 23 meeting held on November 28, 2008.

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The Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Awards celebrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement at the district or jurisdiction level. The awards were created in collaboration with education stakeholders and recognize those school board leaders who make a difference in classrooms every day. Many of the award categories are based on the Province's Accountability Pillar – which is a measurement of learning goals at the school district and provincial level.

School boards are eligible to receive a Minister's Award if their annual results demonstrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement across the Accountability Pillar categories.

The district was the recipient of the Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Award in a number of categories:

Very High Achievement

- Program of Studies
- Education Quality

Significant Improvement

- Safe and Caring
- Program of Studies
- Education Quality
- High School Completion Rate (3 year)
- Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate
- Transition Rate (6 year)
- Work Preparation
- Citizenship
- School Improvement
- Practical Arts
- Healthful Living
- Other Non-Diploma

The Minister noted during the presentation that Edmonton Public Schools had received the highest number of awards.

Trustee Shipka apologized for his comments at the November 25, 2008 Board Meeting.

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D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

Acting Superintendent Tanni Parker advised that a series by the *Des Moines Register* on world-class schools features Riverbend and J. Percy Page schools. *Des Moines Register* reporter Linda Fandel and videographer Mary Chind visited the schools at the end of October and interviewed the principals, teachers, students and parents.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #6 – November 25, 2008

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held November 25, 2008 be approved as printed.”

Trustee Gibson noted that the name of the person being designated was omitted from the bottom of page five of the minutes.

Trustee Ripley noted a correction to the spelling of Ms Fankhanel on page four of the minutes.

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

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

F. Improving Student Achievement:

2. Improving Student Achievement at Evansdale Elementary School

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement at Evansdale Elementary School’ be received for information.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

3. District Energy and Environmental Management

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the report entitled ‘District Energy and Environmental Management’ be received for information.”

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding how many District schools still have boilers and, of those, how many boilers are over 50 years of age.

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Curriculum Additions, Locally Developed Courses

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the following locally developed courses and resources for use in Edmonton Public Schools be approved:

Course Name	Credit Value	Subject Area	Approved
Advanced Acting 15-25-35	3 (62.5 hrs) or 5 (125 hrs)	Reacquiring from Calgary Catholic School District	To Aug. 31, 2009
Advanced Acting/ Touring Theatre 15-25-35	5 (125 hrs)	New acquire from Calgary Board of Education	To Aug. 31, 2009
Introduction to Engineering 25	3 (62.5 hrs)	Revision of previously offered EPS course	To Aug. 31, 2011”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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5. 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 Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The board took a short break at this point.

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

6. Report #5 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held December 2, 2008)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“1. That Report #5 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held December 2, 2008 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“2. That the revised District Planning Base be approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That consideration of the revised District Planning Base be deferred until such time as the administration can address the issue of special needs transportation.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn and Huff

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

The Deferral Motion was DEFEATED.

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

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

7. Motion re Special Education

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“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.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Huff and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice and Ripley

The Motion was DEFEATED.

I. Other Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley advised that she and Trustees Rice and Esslinger attended the Community Partner Recognition Event and launch of the 2008 Report to the Community on November 26, 2008.

Trustee Ripley advised that she had attended the Community Collaboration AISI Project Day with Dr. Martin Brokenleg on November 28, 2008.

Trustee Ripley advised that she and Trustees Esslinger, Huff, Rice and Shipka attended the PSAA Christmas Reception on December 3, 2008.

Trustee Ripley advised that she had represented the Board at the launch of the Olweus Anti-Bullying Program at Delton School on December 4, 2008.

Trustee Ripley advised that she and Trustee Esslinger had participated in the 25th Annual 1881 School House Christmas Concert.

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Trustee Ripley advised that she had represented the Board at the Alberta Health Services Board luncheon today with the Board and members of the Executive Team.

Trustee Colburn advised that he would be attending Winterfest: A Celebration of Seasonal Music by Students in the Music Enrichment Program on Friday.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mr. Rodney French, Principal Representative Edmonton Public Teachers, extended Season Greetings to the Board on behalf of the Local.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Gibeault requested that Board Policy FO.BP – Energy Conservation be reviewed with consideration of both District energy and environmental management and brought to the Planning and Policy Committee.

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Colburn served notice of the following motion:

That the administration conduct a feasibility study on geothermal heating as an alternative, environmentally-friendly model for existing and new schools.

Trustee Huff served notice of the following motion:

That the administration create an overarching environmental policy.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.

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N. **Adjournment:** (8:50 p.m.)

The Acting Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Acting Board Chair

Board Secretary