

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

**B. Roll Call:** All Trustees were present.

**C. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that, on Monday, January 25, 2010, at the former site of Woodcroft School (now the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education), he had the privilege of taking part in the official opening the Confucius Institute Library. The library is set up to promote Chinese language and culture and contains over 24,000 volumes in print and electronic form. The library provides resources for Chinese language learning, Chinese history, economics, literature, geography and tourism.

The opening was attended via video conference by the Executive Director General of the Hanban Ministry in Beijing and the Minister of Education of Shandong Province.

The Institute, a partnership formed in May 2008 between China and Edmonton Public Schools, is very active in supporting the learning of Chinese language and cultural activities in Edmonton schools. The Institute is also instrumental in linking the Edmonton region with business and cultural interests in China. The CIE also plays a role with the local World Trade Centre and Chamber of Commerce in helping to improve educational and economic connections between Edmonton and China.

Through this partnership, the Board of Trustees continues to nurture a commitment established by the District's first school board over a century ago to ensure youth can successfully offer their gifts and talents with an increasing integrated global community. The Board recognizes that, in the new millennium, employers across all continents are hiring people who have a diverse set of skills and abilities. We are very proud to be a school district that understands this concept, and we're also very proud to have a long history of offering internationally acclaimed instruction in Mandarin and a variety of other languages.

Providing a dynamic environment in which our students can learn, thrive and advance their education is a hallmark of the District's success. By working together we are preparing an entire generation of students to become the confident and capable leaders of tomorrow.

He acknowledged Mr. Stuart Wachowicz and Dr. Wei Li who were in the audience. He noted that Mr. Wachowicz, the director of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton and a former director of the curriculum department at Edmonton Public Schools, received the Qilu Friendship Award -- the highest award that can be bestowed by Shandong Province on foreign experts in business and education.

#### **D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent advised that this afternoon, he along with Assistant Superintendent Dr. Donna Barrett, Director Gloria Chalmers, Manager Karen Bardy, as well as two school principals Dean Michailides and Don Blackwell, met with representatives of various Canadian Somali groups of Edmonton.

He was pleased to be able to report to them the progress being made as a District to meet the educational needs of these Canadian students and that the feedback received from the representatives was cautiously positive. They shared their appreciation for our efforts and expressed the desire to continue to work together to ensure even greater success for their children. We agreed.

He thanked District staff members who have had a positive impact in helping these students experience even more success.

#### **E. Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #8 – January 12, 2010

Approved as printed.

#### **F. Improving Student Achievement:**

2. Improving Student Achievement by Engaging Students in Second Language Learning

Received for information.

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

1. Ms Anna Marie Sewell, a resident of the Norwood community, expressed concern about the sector review process.
2. Ms Kathleen Arnold, from the Norwood community, also expressed concern about the sector review process.

3. Mr. Rory Koopmans had a number of questions regarding the granting of high school credits.

Mr. Koopmans was advised to provide his questions to the Board Secretary for response.

## **H. Reports**

3. Report #6 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held September 15, 2009)

Approved recommendation.

7. Locally Developed Courses – Renewals

Approved recommendation.

9. Dialogue Partners Presentation: Greater Hardisty Area and City Centre Education Partnership Reviews

a) Received for information.

b) The following individuals spoke with respect to this item:

- Mr. Warren Champion, President Central McDougall Community League -- Mr. Champion previously provided a copy of his presentation to Trustees
- Mr. Bill Glass, member of Norwood Community – Mr. Glass also provided a copy of his concerns to the Recording Secretary
- Ms Cathy Mercier, member of Norwood Community
- Ms Kim Morrow, Capilano School parent
- Ms Anna Carlson, Capilano School parent
- Mr. Paul Kuefler, member of the Capilano Community
- Mr. Jeff Eisenkrein, member of Hardisty Community
- Mr. Gene Hochachka, member of Capilano Community

10. Joint Edmonton Public Teachers Local and Edmonton Public Schools Professional Development Framework

Received for information.

4. Motion re Comparison of Student Achievement Outcomes Pre- and Post-School Closure

The Motion was defeated.

5. Motion re Presentation by Alberta Conflict Transformation Society (ACTS)

The motion was withdrawn.

6. School Year Calendar 2011-2012

This report was deferred to the February 9, 2010 board meeting.

8. Board Position on Public School Boards' Association of Alberta Work Plan and Initiatives

This report was deferred to the February 2, 2010 Conference Committee meeting due to being time-specific.

11. Responses to Board Requests for Information

a) Received for information.

b) The Board supported the following items for Trustee Huff to identify as possible priorities for the Linkages Committee:

- Focus on vulnerable populations
- Focus on policy barriers and improved protocols for information sharing
- Building teaching capacity and an administrator position is not supported at this time due to fiscal uncertainty

12. Bereavement

Received with regret.

13. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

1. Trustee Gibson reported on the ASBA First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Student Success Group meeting he attended as the Board's representative. He thanked the Administration for their work on the District's policy and regulation with respect to Aboriginal Education.

2. Trustee Huff reported that, on January 12, 2010, she and the Board Chair met with Chris Smith from the Muttart Foundation and Ilene Fleming from Success by 6 to discuss ways to further our shared focus on early education and strengthen our existing partnership.

3. Trustee Huff reported that, on January 20, 2010, the Board was hosted by the ATA Local for an annual dinner. She thanked Edmonton Public Teachers President Ed Butler.

4. Trustee Huff reported that, on January 21, 2010, she and the Board Chair as well as a number of the Administration met with Carlana Lindeman of the Paul Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative. They heard some very positive news about the projects that Edmonton Public Schools is piloting to support high achieving Aboriginal students.
5. Trustee Huff reported on a meeting of the Sexual Exploitation working group that she is member of as an education representative. She noted that March 15-20, 2010 has been selected as Sexual Exploitation Awareness Week. The theme of the week is *Dare to Care*. A Facebook page has been set up to provide information on the activities that have been planned.

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

1. Trustee Ripley requested that information be provided on what other revenue streams are available to the Board in addition to current revenue streams and what is required to pursue these revenue streams.

The Board unanimously concurred with the request going forward.

2. Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding a comparison of Edmonton Catholic Schools enrolment versus the District's enrolment over past 5 years.

A majority of the Board concurred with the request going forward.

**J. Notices of Motion – None.**

**K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

**L. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 9:25 p.m.**