

**MINUTE BOOK**

**- Board Meeting #8 -**

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, January 17, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

Leslie Cleary  
David Colburn  
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz  
Cheryl Johner  
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley  
Ken Shipka  
Christopher Spencer

**Officials**

Edgar Schmidt  
Bruce Coggles  
David Fraser

Mark Liguori  
Ron MacNeil  
Jamie Pallett

Brian Smith  
Tash Taylor

**Board Chair:** David Colburn

**Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

**Staff Group Representatives**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President

B. **Roll Call:** (2:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Colburn would be joining the meeting later. All other Trustees were present.

Trustee Hoffman assumed the chair.

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

The Acting Board Chair advised that January 18, 2012 is Maintenance Workers' Appreciation Day. The District placed an advertisement in both the *Edmonton Journal* and *Edmonton Sun* acknowledging and thanking district members of CUPE Local 784 for their ongoing contributions to creating safe, comfortable and healthy environments in which students and staff can learn and work.

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

The Superintendent reported on the recognition of the Confucius Institute of Edmonton by the Confucius Institute Headquarters of Hanban, the foreign education department of the Peoples Republic of China. Each December, at the Confucius Institute Conference in Beijing, the Chinese government through Hanban recognizes the efforts of the Confucius Institute's global work in Chinese language development and extending Chinese cultural, historical and artistic knowledge more broadly. The recognition of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton, through the excellent work of its leadership, the visiting teachers from China, and the work of principals and teachers in schools hosting the district's 14 Confucius classrooms, is an indicator of the excellence in programming for district students and the wider community. He is proud of staff efforts and accomplishments in this regard.

The Superintendent advised that he, along with his executive team, will be working in Britannia School tomorrow morning. This is happening as a result of a United Way raffle event that Britannia won. His group will be going into classrooms to support instruction, and will work with support and custodial staff in support of and recognition of the great work district staff does every day and in support of the United Way, whose financial investment assists numerous agencies that provide direct support to students and their families.

### **E. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #7 – December 13, 2011

#### **MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #7 held December 13, 2011 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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

G. Reports

2. Report #6 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting January 10, 2012)

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “1. That Report #6 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held January 10, 2012 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “2. That the Board adopt the new Superintendent of Schools evaluation instrument as presented to Conference Committee January 10, 2012.
3. That the Board proceed with the process as defined, with the evaluation survey taking place from January 22 to February 5, 2012.
4. That the requirements stipulated under Section 5, Board Policy GGB.BP – Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools, be waived for the 2010-2011 evaluation of the Superintendent, and that the policy be referred to the Policy Review Committee for review and updating.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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4. Review of Board Policy HA.BP – Student Programs

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That revised Board Policy HA.BP – Student Programs be considered for the third time and approved.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:**

**“That revised Board Policy HA.BP – Student Programs be referred to the Policy Review Committee.”**

**The Acting Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary**

**The Referral Motion was CARRIED.**

Trustee Colburn joined the meeting at this point in the meeting.

Trustee Colburn assumed the chair.

5. Review of Board Policy GB.BP – Authority for Human Resources Decisions

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That revised and re-titled Board Policy GB.BP – Authority for Human Resources Decisions be considered for the third time and approved.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

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**C. Communications from the Board Chair (Continued)**

The Board Chair reported on his recent trip to China with the Superintendent for the recognition of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton as the Confucius Institute of the Year by the Government of China. He expressed appreciation for the hospitality that was shown. He also commended the efforts of all of the staff at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton and, in particular, Dr. Stuart Wachowicz, Director, and Dr. Wei Li, Assistant Director.

The Board Chair advised that he would be attending the Metro Board Chairs meeting on January 27, 2012 in Calgary. They will also be visiting the Calgary Reception Centre for New Immigrants.

3. Motion re Metro Research

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

**“That the Board support the development of metro research that would see simultaneous research take place in all metro districts. The focus of research will be on one or more of the metro three priorities (ELL, Aboriginal and early learning). The process will be determined by the Board Chair in consultation with the Administration.”**

**Trustee Spencer moved the following Substitute Motion (Amendment):**

**“That the Board support the development of focused research in one or more of these priority priorities -- ELL, FNMI and early learning -- in conjunction with other Metro districts and the Community University Partnership. Identification of best practices will be one of the outcomes of this research.”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Substitute Motion (Amendment).**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Janz and Ripley**

**The Substitute Motion (Amendment) was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amended Motion.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, Shipka and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, MacKenzie and Ripley**

**The Amended Motion was CARRIED.**

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The Board took a break at this point.

6. Review of Board Policy JBC.BP – Communications Framework (Formerly Titled News Media Relations)

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That revised and re-titled policy JBC.BP – Communications Framework be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

7. Review of Board Policy FED.BP – Capital Projects

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That revised Board Policy FED.BP – Capital Projects be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

8. Review of Board Policy IC.BP – Student Accommodation

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That revised Board Policy IC.BP – Student Accommodation considered for the third time and approved.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“That the report be deferred until the response to Trustee MacKenzie’s request for information regarding the number of students who are leapfrogging from one school to another is provided.”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Deferral Motion.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Janz, Johner and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Hoffman, MacKenzie, Ripley and Spencer**

**The Deferral Motion was DEFEATED.**

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**The Board Chair called the question.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustees Johner and Shipka**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

9. Fall 2011 Update to the 2011-2012 Budget - Revised

**MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Fall 2011 Update to the 2011-2012 Budget –Revised’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

10. Number of Results Review Meetings Trustees Attended  
(Response to Trustee Request #118)
11. Metro Boards’ Student Engagement Practices  
(Response to Trustee Request #126)
12. Budgetary Impacts on Opening Bessie Nichols and Michael Strembitsky Schools  
(Response to Trustee Request #127)
13. Mental Health Strategy Framework  
(Response to Trustee Request #131a)
14. Lieutenant Governor’s Circle on Mental Health and Addiction  
(Response to Trustee Request #131b)
15. Comparison of Edmonton and Calgary School Districts Unused Student Space  
(Response to Trustee Request #134)
16. Section 11.1 of the *Alberta Human Rights Act*  
(Response to Trustee Requests #148 and #149)
17. Report on the Work Communications is Doing to Support All Schools  
(Response to Trustee Request #53)

**MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That the following reports be received for information:**

- **Number of Results Review Meetings Trustees Attended (Response to Trustee Request #118)**
- **Metro Boards’ Student Engagement Practices (Response to Trustee Request #126)**

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- **Budgetary Impacts on Opening Bessie Nichols and Michael Strembitsky Schools (Response to Trustee Request #127)**
- **Mental Health Strategy Framework (Response to Trustee Request #131a)**
- **Lieutenant Governor's Circle on Mental Health and Addiction (Response to Trustee Request #131b)**
- **Comparison of Edmonton and Calgary School Districts Unused Student Space (Response to Trustee Request #134)**
- **Section 11.1 of the Alberta Human Rights Act (Response to Trustee Requests #148 and #149)**
- **Report on the Work Communications is Doing to Support All Schools (Response to Trustee Request #53)"**

Trustee Spencer requested the following information with respect to Report #15 regarding the \$6.4 million allocation from the operating budget to support schools with less than 275 students: How does this relate to the money received from the province specifically for small schools? Is this in addition to the provincial funds?

The Superintendent undertook to provide clarification.

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

### 18. Bereavements

Vice-Chair Hoffman reported on the passings of former Trustee Don Williams and Mr. Arthur Eastlake, a member of the district's teaching staff.

**MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:**

**"That the report be received with regret and the actions of the Administration in this regard be confirmed." (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**



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### **H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**

19. Participation in Commit to Kids
20. Healthy Kids, Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities – Summary of Feedback, Community Meeting, October 28, 2011

#### **MOVED BY Ripley:**

**“That the following reports be received for information:**

- **Participation in Commit to Kids**
- **Healthy Kids, Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities – Summary of Feedback, Community Meeting, October 28, 2011”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Trustee Ripley, the Board’s representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, reported that the Adam Gregory benefit concert held on December 19, 2011 raised \$10,000 for the Foundation. She commended the efforts of Sandra Woitas, Alva Shewchuk, Metro Continuing Education (for handling the ticketing) and all of the people who were involved in making the event a success. She also noted that Trustees received invitations to the upcoming Foundation information sessions and encouraged them to attend and bring a friend or two.

Trustee Colburn, the Board’s representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported that the Board of Directors had recently concluded a retreat during which they examined the strategic plan. A recommended new strategic plan will come before the Board of Directors in March. The Board of Directors has also been very involved with tripartite discussions.

Trustee Johner, the Board’s representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised that the next general meeting will be held on Friday, January 27, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Centre. All Trustees are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Trustee MacKenzie, the Board’s representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), advised that she would be attending the upcoming PSBC meetings on February 3 and 4, 2012. The Minister of Education will be meeting with the PSBC.

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Trustee Spencer, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, advised that the Linkages Committee met on January 12, 2012 at the Centre for Education. The Committee heard from Dr. Tracey Trudeau, the provincial manager for Addiction and Mental Health, regarding the Mental Health Capacity Building for Children, Youth and Families in Schools Initiative (MHCB). There are two initiatives ongoing in Edmonton Public Schools – one is at Jasper Place School which is focused on fifty grade ten students who are at risk of not completing school due to a variety of social and emotional factors. The other program is centered at three junior highs schools in Mill Woods – Dan Knott, T.D. Baker and Edith Rogers and is working to build resiliency for grade seven students.

Trustee Cleary advised that she has resigned from the Policy Review Committee. She expressed appreciation for working with her colleagues and the Administration during the time she served on the Committee.

Trustee Hoffman advised that, last week, the Board had the opportunity to meet with Minister of Education Lukaszuk. Trustee Colburn was unable to attend and she, therefore, chaired the meeting. The three main topics addressed with the Minister were: the importance of adequate, sustainable and predictable funding for EPSB; infrastructure and space including specific concerns the Board has regarding leased space; and early education. The Board articulated its position in support of mandating half-day kindergarten for all students and fully-funded, publicly-funded full-day kindergarten for children with socio-economic vulnerabilities.

Trustee Hoffman advised that, last Friday, she and Assistant Superintendent Jamie Pallett attended the Metro Continuing Education recognition of staff and instructors event. Particular acknowledgement was given to long-service employees. More than a dozen employees were recognized for having in excess of twenty years of service, and two were recognized for more than forty years of service. Metro Continuing Education is a fine example of how Edmonton Public Schools is supporting the importance of lifelong learning.

Trustee Ripley noted that she has been representing the Board on the Community Sustainability Task Force for the past year and advised that the Task Force will be releasing its report with its recommendations on Thursday, February 2, 2012 at City Hall at 10:00 a.m. The public is welcome to attend. She expressed her appreciation to the Administration for the support they have provided to her.

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Trustee Ripley advised that, before Christmas, she attended a meeting at which the Executive of the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association was present. The Association presented her with 2012 calendars for Trustees and the senior Executive Team. The pictures in the calendar are of the murals the Association sponsored over the last few years. Each school that has the Mandarin Bilingual program has a mural. The calendar celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of the parent Association.

Trustee MacKenzie, Chair of the School Closure Moratorium Committee, advised that the Committee would be meeting to the end of the moratorium but would be bringing its primary recommendations to the next board meeting.

**I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives** – None.

**J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information** - None.

**K. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Johner served notice of the following motion:

*That the Board undertake a full review of all its policies and update them using a standard framework.*

**L. Next Board Meeting Date:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

**M. Adjournment (5:40 p.m.)**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Board Chair

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Board Secretary