

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #15** -

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, May 22, 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

Tanni Parker
Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: David Colburn

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

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C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that Minister of Education Jeff Johnson briefly attended the ASBA Board of Directors meeting Friday, May 11, 2012. The Minister indicated his three areas of priority are: infrastructure, the *Education Act* and bargaining.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent congratulated the students from J. Percy Page School for working together on a Bike-a-Thon to support the *Make A Wish* Foundation, which supports children and families dealing with cancer. This is one of several fundraising activities students have participated in to support *Make a Wish*.

The Superintendent also congratulated McNally School student, Keegan Tsetta, who celebrated a second medal win in two years after taking home a bronze medal at the recent Skills Alberta Competition for work in 2D Computer Animation. Keegan was the team leader in this area and represented McNally School and the District extremely well.

The Superintendent advised he was pleased to participate in last week's Imagination Conversation, a local conference with guests from across the city and from North America. It was an opportunity for learning about and discussing how creativity in education could be enhanced and supported. This is an area for further discussion and development with District leaders as this relates to the District Plan and the District priorities.

The Superintendent advised he was also pleased to host a delegation of educators from Singapore last week. They had extensive discussions about citizenship and the role teachers play in enhancing student engagement. In all, six delegates visited two district schools and indicated this trip was very worthwhile from a professional development perspective. He thanked the principals and school staff involved for making this delegation welcome.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #14 – May 8, 2012

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #14 held May 8, 2012 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Janice Melnychuk, a member of the Action to End Poverty in Alberta (AEPA) steering committee, spoke with respect to report #15 – Diversity and Equity Annual Report. The AEPA encourages the Board to consider signing on to its network, read the Caledon Institute’s Poverty Policy document outlining the ten key policy areas which align with social vulnerability index and continue to publish the District’s reports that help people understand more of what needs to be addressed to create more equity of outcomes. She provided a copy of her presentation as well as copy of the AEPA publication *Poverty Costs – An Economic Case for Preventative Poverty Reduction Strategy in Alberta*.

Dr. Wally Lazaruk commended the Board for creating one of the best second language education programs in Canada. He urged the Board to implement a systematic program of collaboration in language education with public and private sectors. He provided a copy of his presentation.

G. Recognition

2. Margaret T. Stevenson Award

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the report titled ‘Margaret T. Stevenson Award’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

H. Tracking Progress and Excellence in the 2011-2014 Priorities

3. Supporting Second Languages Across the District

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report titled ‘Supporting Second Languages Across the District’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board took a break at this point.

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I. Reports

4. Introduction of Review of Proposed 2012-2013 Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the report titled ‘Introduction of Review of Proposed 2012-2013 Budget’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Motion re Junior Achievement and Memorandum of Understanding

Trustee Cleary withdrew her motion.

6. Student Transportation Fees for 2012-2013

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the schedule noting bus pass fees for the 2012-2013 school year be approved, effective August 2012.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the report be referred back to the Administration for consideration of an annual fee structure for conditional riders and that the report be brought back to the June 12, 2012 board meeting for decision.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Hoffman

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Janz, Johner, MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

The Referral Motion was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board took a break at this point.

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7. School Year Calendar 2013-2014

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the 2013-2014 school year calendar be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED.

8. Alberta School Councils’ Association District Membership

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the Administration renew the Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) district membership for a further two-year term.”

Trustee Shipka asked which school boards are members of the ASCA.

Trustee Spencer asked what mechanisms there are for school councils to be involved in the governance of the ASCA. Would school councils require a separate membership to become involved or would the District’s membership suffice?

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That the report be referred to the Administration to report back on whether or not school councils will become full, autonomous members of the Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA).”

The Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner and Ripley

The Referral Motion was DEFEATED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the motion be amended to read: That the Administration renew the Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) district membership for a further two-year term *and pay for the membership out of the Board Initiative Fund.*”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

The Amendment was CARRIED.

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

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, MacKenzie, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Janz and Spencer

The Motion was CARRIED.

The Board took a break at this point.

9. Issues, Budget and Bylaws Bulletin for the 2012 ASBA Spring General Meeting

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the Board support the Alberta School Boards’ Association (ASBA) proposed budget for 2012-2013.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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10. ASBA Proposed Bylaw Amendment for 2012 ASBA Spring General Meeting

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the Edmonton Public School Board not support the proposed amendment to Bylaw No. 9, Section 11.”

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Ripley

The Motion was CARRIED.

11. Financial Literacy

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the policy position proposal regarding financial literacy be submitted to the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 23 for consideration.”

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Ripley

The Motion was CARRIED.

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

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

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

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13. Review of Board Policy IEC.BP – Student Admission to the District

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That Board Policy IEC.BP – Student Admission to the District be considered for the first time.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That Board Policy IEC.BP – Student Admission to the District be considered for the second time.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

14. Review of Board Policy CH.BP – Framework for Policy Development and Review

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That revised Board Policy CH.BP – Framework for Policy Development and Review be considered for the first time.”**

Trustee Johner referred to item 9 of the policy and noted the term “readings” was used rather than “considerations”

Mr. Fraser undertook to make this change to ensure consistency.

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

- “That item 14 of the policy be amended to read: 14. The Superintendent of Schools shall report to the Board on the implementation of board policy on a regular basis. Accordingly, the Board shall be informed of new administrative regulations and substantive changes to existing administrative regulations *prior to these regulations being made public.*”**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That item 9 be amended to read as follows:

- 9. With the exception of board governance policies, every new policy or substantive change to the intent of an existing policy shall receive ~~three~~ two separate considerations by the Board before the policy is finally approved. Not more than ~~two~~ one considerations may be given at any one meeting unless the Trustees present at the meeting unanimously agree.**
 - a. First Consideration: The proposed policy change is recommended by the Policy Review Committee to provide the Board the opportunity to seek clarification, request additional information and make suggestions for change.**
 - b. After first consideration of a proposed policy change, the Policy Review Committee shall oversee the updating of the draft policy as needed and request the Superintendent of Schools to circulate the draft policy for broad stakeholder review. At minimum, each policy shall be made available on the district website for four weeks for stakeholder input.**
 - c. The Superintendent of Schools shall review and summarize the stakeholder input received and recommend any changes to the Policy Review Committee as deemed necessary. The Policy Review Committee shall review stakeholder input received, and consider any recommended changes.**
 - d. Second Consideration: ~~The proposed policy, with changes as needed, is recommended by the Policy Review Committee to the Board for second consideration. Amendments may be made.~~**
 - e. ~~Third Consideration: The proposed policy, with changes as needed, is recommended by the Policy Review Committee for approval.”~~**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Johner and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie, Ripley and Spencer

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

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

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

15. Diversity and Equity Annual Report

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the report titled ‘Diversity and Equity Annual Report’ be received for information.”

Trustee Hoffman requested information be provided regarding how many indicators are included in the socially-vulnerable calculations.

Trustee Colburn noted the previous Board had approved a motion that the scheduling of annual reports on district work will be indicated on the District website.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

16. Feasibility of Development of Active Transportation Plans for All Schools (Response to Trustee Request #182)
17. Feasibility of Offering Mandarin Bilingual Program at Lillian Osborne School (Response to Trustee Request #183)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the following reports be received for information:

- **Feasibility of Development of Active Transportation Plans for All Schools (Response to Trustee Request #182)**
- **Feasibility of Offering Mandarin Bilingual Program at Lillian Osborne School (Response to Trustee Request #183)”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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18. Bereavement

Vice-Chair Hoffman reported on the passing of Ms Ann Reyes.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

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

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley, the Board’s representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, noted the third annual *Ready for Life* breakfast will be held at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2012.

Trustee Colburn, the Board’s representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported on the following items from the Board of Directors meeting held May 10 and 11, 2012:

- A report was received on “We Day” which will take place on October 24, 2012 at the Saddledome in Calgary. The event, which will be livestreamed, is designed to examine how youth can change the world. There is an impressive array of key note speakers and the event is sold out. He noted the Calgary Board of Education has sponsored its own “We Day” for the last two years and now has over 400 students attending.
- The ASBA has rejoined the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA). The CSBA Executive has agreed to co-ordinate their fall meeting with the ASBA Health Conference in Banff in September.
- Thirty-two school boards across the province have received notice to bargain from the Alberta Teachers Association. Nineteen have responded and three have exchanged proposals. The ASBA will be rolling out an information labour portal shortly designed to provide boards access to information on what is happening across the province regarding teacher bargaining.
- The Board of Directors approved the key issues advocacy initiative for a two-year trial period. This initiative will give the Executive some latitude to advocate on emerging issues. The Board of Directors also approved an amendment that, as much as possible, policy be developed to link itself to emerging advocacy initiatives that are being pursued by the ASBA Executive.

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Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised that the next ASBA Zone 23 general meeting will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 25, 2012 at the Royal Executive Inn. The Board's three proposed policy positions will be considered at the meeting. She thanked Trustee Hoffman, the Board's alternate representative on ASBA Zone 23, for sending a note to Board members encouraging them to attend the meeting in support. She also advised that the Edwin Parr Teacher Award Banquet will be held later that evening – the event is sold out.

Trustee MacKenzie, the Board's representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), did not have anything to report.

Trustee Hoffman, the Board's alternate representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, advised she attended the meeting held on May 10, 2012. There was presentation on the work that is going to be done in the Human Services Ministry. The next round of public engagement on how best to serve Albertans through the Ministry will begin shortly. Region 6 asked school boards involved with Linkages to provide feedback – three dates have been set for meetings in the upcoming year. She has provided this information to the Administration for Trustee calendars.

Trustee MacKenzie advised that Talmud Torah School, one of the District's first alternative program schools, celebrated its one-hundred-year anniversary. She and Trustee Hoffman represented the Board at the gala celebration held on Sunday, May 20, 2012. Superintendent Schmidt and past Superintendent Michael Strembitsky were also in attendance. It is also the thirty-fifth year of the District's partnership with Talmud Torah School and the school presented the Board with a plaque to commemorate this. A plaque was also presented to Talmud Torah School on behalf of the Board.

Trustee Johner advised she attended the First Nations, Métis, Inuit Conference at River Cree May 16 and 17, 2012. The Conference was well attended. Assistant Superintendents Pallett, Coggles, MacNeil and Parker were also in attendance as were a number of the District's directors, supervisors, consultants and liaison workers.

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

L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Janz requested information be provided regarding the feasibility of implementing term limits for school trustees.

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M. Notices of Motion

Trustee MacKenzie served notice of the following motion:

That the Board reconsider its decision to purchase a two-year district membership in the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA).

Trustee Janz served notice of the following motion:

That the District develop active transportation plans for every school.

N. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

O. Adjournment (7:15 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

David Colburn, Board Chair

Brian Smith, Secretary-Treasurer