



Summary of Board Meeting #13 Tuesday, June 13, 2006

- A. **O Canada** – District Video.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:10 p.m.) - All trustees were present.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chair**
1. The board chair advised that Mr. Lyall Thomson, the incoming superintendent, was present for the board meeting.
 2. The board chair advised that district teacher, Sara Tarrant, will be presented with an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Autism Society. Sara teaches interactions for students with autism spectrum disorder at Mee-Yah-Noh School. She is a fierce advocate for special needs students and the fact that Sara was nominated by a parent is testament to her commitment and dedication. She congratulated Ms Tarrant, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, on receiving this award.
 3. The board vice-chair advised that Board Chair, Bev Esslinger, has been nominated for a YWCA Women of Distinction Award – in the Education Category. The nominees will be honoured at the Awards Gala being held later this week, and the award recipient in each category will be announced at that event. He extended the board's congratulations to the Board Chair on receiving this well-deserved nomination.
- D. **Communications from the Acting Superintendent of Schools**
1. The acting superintendent advised that principals from superintendent's council were in attendance to assist with responses to budget questions.
 2. The acting superintendent thanked the board and senior administrative team for their support during his service as acting superintendent of schools.

The board chair expressed appreciation on behalf of the board for Mr. Schmidt's work.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #12 – May 23, 2006

Approved as printed.

F. Focus on Student Achievement

2. Vernon Barford School – Focus on Student Achievement

Received for information.

G. Reports:

12. Concept Design Report – New High School in Southwest Edmonton

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustees questioned whether there would be a cafeteria or a stage in the gymnasium.

3. Report #10 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held May 23, 2006)

Approved recommendations re:

- Central administrative appointments
- Proposed name for the new high school in south west Edmonton.

Report #11 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held June 12, 2006)

Approved recommendations re:

- Principal appointments
- Capital reserve
- Board self-evaluation

4. Board Review of 2006-2007 Plans and Expenditures Budget

a) Discussion of 2006-2007 Plans and the 2006-2007 Budget

- Discussion of and questions arising from school budget reviews
 - Elementary Schools
 - Elementary/Junior High Schools
 - Junior High Schools
 - Senior High Schools
- Discussion of and questions arising from central services budget reviews

1. Trustees noted the following from the budget reviews:

- work of staff in addressing at-risk students
- concern about staffing reductions across all employee groups
- positive comments about English Language Learning Centre but also concerns about the central location making it difficult for new Canadian parents to access the service and the desire for satellite locations
- elimination of programs like reading recovery because of lack of funding
- concern about the adequacy of funding but also the adequacy of planning
- desire to communicate to stakeholders the factors contributing to the current fiscal situation and to build advocacy to support public education
- concern about the loss of probationary teachers – the future of public education
- concern about dealing with staff wellness

2. Trustee Keiver suggested acting on the Minister of Education's invitation for school districts to suggest an alternative funding formula with the concept of a needs-based budget proposal.

Trustees agreed that it would be useful to look at this and suggested that it be added to the trustee retreat in the fall.

b) Trustee Motions for Amendments to the 2006-2007 Budget – None.

c) Consideration of Trustee Motions to the 2006-2007 Budget – None.

5. Approval of the Proposed 2006-2007 Expenditures Budget

a) The 2006-2007 expenditures budget in the amount of \$649,023,000 was approved.

b) Trustee Nicholson asked what the percentage of the budget is for administration this year.

6. Edmonton Public Schools' Three-Year Education Plan 2006-09

- a) Approved recommendation.
- b) Trustee Gibson suggested the following additions:
 - Page 14 – addition of reference to parents as partners
 - Page 22 – addition of reference to Computer Adaptive Assessment
 - Page 22 – addition of reference to partnership with Edmonton Public Library
 - Page 25 – addition of reference to partnership with Careers the Next Generation
 - Page 29 – addition of reference to board policy GC.BP - Recruitment, Employment, Qualifications, and Deployment of Staff and the emphasis on continuous improvement
- c) Trustee Colburn suggested adding a reference to activities in promoting health and nutrition.

Ms Chalmers indicated this would be added to *Outcome 3.2 – The jurisdiction demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.*

The revised copy of the Education Plan is posted on the district website at:
<http://www.epsb.ca/index.shtml>

7. Curriculum Policy Revisions
8. Managing District Information
9. Board Policy GIC.BP – Employee Assistance
10. Board Regulation – GBE.BR – Staff and Students with HIV Infection – AIDS
11. Board Policy GJD.BP - Administrative Recognition

- a) Approved recommendations.
- b) Trustee Williams requested the addition of the word “all” to Board Policy HI.BP Teaching and Learning Resources so that it would read: *The board supports the use of a wide range of teaching and learning resources presenting various points of view to meet the programming and curricular needs of all students.*

13. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Gibeault asked that information be provided regarding the expulsion rates for Calgary Catholic Schools and in particular Edmonton Catholic Schools should the information be made available in future.

14. Delegation of Authority – 2006 Summer Recess

Approved recommendation.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Williams drew attention to the Government of Canada's National Aboriginal Day on June 21, 2006.

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

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Keiver served notice of the following motion:

That the administration prepare a submission for the board chair's signature in response to the Minister of Education's invitation to suggest alternative funding mechanisms.

L. Next Meeting Date: September 12, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

1. The board chair noted that it was Bob Holt's last board meeting. She thanked him on behalf of the board for his exemplary service during his years with Edmonton Public Schools and wished him the best in his retirement.
2. The board chair thanked district staff on behalf of the board for their tremendous work and commitment to students during the past year. She wished everyone a safe and restful summer.

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