

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, June 14, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Svend Hansen

Wendy Keiver
George Nicholson
Don Williams

Officials

Angus McBeath
Edgar Schmidt
Bob Holt
Donna Barrett
Ron MacNeil
Corinne McCabe

Cathy Bible
Cam Colville
Linda Craig
Colin Inglis
George Rice
Carol Symons

Ronda Borchert
Les Duxbury
Tony Fernhout
Darren Fox
Heather Raymond
Diane Rolin
Lloyd Ungeran

Chairman: Svend Hansen

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers – Karen Redhead, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

A. O Canada – District Video

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that Trustee Fleming was absent. All other trustees were present.

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C. Communications from the Board Chairman

The chairman advised that the following four district teachers have received *The Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Certificate of Achievement*:

- Craig Brenan – Victoria School for the Performing and Visual Arts
- Frances Burke – Old Scona Academic High School
- Annie Foster – McNally High School
- Bill Howe – Victoria School for the Performing and Visual Arts

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #14 – May 24, 2005

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #14 held May 24, 2005 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. Focus on Student Achievement

3. Focus on Achievement – Ross Sheppard High School

MOVED BY Trustee Williams:

“That the report entitled ‘Focus on Achievement – Ross Sheppard High School’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Reports:

3. Report #13 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held May 31, 2005)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

“1. That Report #13 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held May 31, 2005 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “2. That the designation of Carolyn Gartke as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.**

- 3. That the designation of Alida Privett as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.**

- 4. That the designation of Marilyn Solesbury as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.**

- 5. That the designation of Aryn Ford as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.**

- 6. That the designation of Mike Suderman as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “7. That the following appointments for the period September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006 be confirmed:**

**Carol Suddards – Director Metro Continuing Education
Stuart Wachowicz – Director Curriculum
Corrie Ziegler – Director Student Achievement Services.”**

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Report #15 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held June 13, 2005)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “1. That Report #15 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held June 13, 2005 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “2. That the designation of Sheila Tingley as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.**

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3. **That the designation of Ken Lam as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007 be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

4. Board Review of 2005-2008 Plans and the 2005-2006 Budget:

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the report entitled ‘Board Review of 2005-2008 Plans and the 2005-2006 Budget’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

- a) Discussion of 2005-2008 Plans and the 2005-2006 Proposed 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

Trustees noted the following concerns were raised during the school budget reviews:

- inadequacy of PO & M funding
- impact of increased staffing costs

Trustee Esslinger noted that the intent of the district priority *to achieve high standards of citizenship, conduct, safety and well-being of students and staff* should be clarified for the schools since student well-being is being interpreted differently at the school level. Schools need to show what is being done in this area in their budget documents.

Trustee Hansen also believed that a better job must be done in communicating the intent of the district’s priority *to improve achievement of all students in core subjects with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy*.

Trustee Keiver noted that clarification is required regarding where school lunch fees and the payment for the lunchroom supervisor should be indicated in the budget documents.

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Trustee Gibeault suggested that, in future, the school profiles include a statement to help parents understand the investment in public education; for example, *The average public investment in students at X School is \$___ (the amount could be the school budget divided by the school enrolment).*

Trustee Colburn also agreed that the information provided to parents and the community about the budget must be understandable. We must clearly identify our financial concerns.

Trustee Nicholson also noted that the public needs to be made aware that the increase of transportation fees for those students where a school has been closed or a school has not been built (from \$7 to \$14) was required because of a projected \$1 million deficit in the transportation budget.

Trustee Colburn noted that, while Alberta Education has provided additional funding targeted for smaller class sizes, the inadequacy of general funding will result in a reduction of 40 teaching staff.

- b) Trustee Motions for Amendments to the 2005-2006 Budget – None.
 - c) Consideration of Trustee Motions to the 2005-2006 Budget – None.
5. Approval of the 2004-2005 Expenditures Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the 2005-2006 expenditures budget in the amount of \$636,021,000 be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

6. Curriculum Addition – Locally Developed Course: Technical Math & Science 35 (2005)

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the following new locally developed course, acquired for September 2005, be approved for a three-year term:

Code	Course Name	Credit Value
LDC	Technical Math & Science ¹ (2005)	5

¹Acquired from Calgary Board of Education”

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The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Edmonton Public Schools' Three Year Education Plan 2005-2008

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the district’s *Three-Year Education Plan 2005-2008* be approved for forwarding to Alberta Education.”

Trustee Hansen referred to page 22 of the report and suggested that an explanation be included regarding how the results are calculated by cohorts.

Trustee Gibson suggested that examples of some of the policy initiatives that have been undertaken in the district be included in the document under the strategies such as:

- Outcome 1.2: Schools are Safe and Caring (page 14) – include mention of the judicious use of records checks
- Outcome 1.3: Children at risk have their needs addressed through effective programs and supports (page 15) – we should qualify the strategies with a note *subject to resources provided by other agencies*
- Outcome 2.1: Learners demonstrate high standards (page 18) – include in the strategy regarding Supporting Teaching and Learning mention of the use of instructional leadership teams, research based best practices, triads, inter-visitations and targeted professional development.
- Outcome 2.2: Learners Complete Programs (page 19) – include strategies we use in the district such as alternatives to providing a zero mark.
- Outcome 3.2: The jurisdiction demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement (page 29) – reference new policy regarding the value we place in teaching qualifications such as subject content knowledge and mastery of teaching as a discipline itself.

Trustees concurred with adding Trustees Gibson’s suggestions to the final document submitted to Alberta Education.

Trustee Colburn referred to page 26 and asked how many people the *Keynotes* newsletter and *Partners in Education* website reach.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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The board took a break at this point.

8. Ten-Year Facilities Plan (2006-2015)

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the Ten-Year Facilities Plan 2006-2015 be approved for submission to Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.”

Trustee Gibeault referred to page 13 of the report and made the following suggestions:

- Clarify what we mean by “right-sizing” if we mean demolishing then this is what should be stated in the documents.
- Include the possibility of future possible school closures in the documents.

Trustee Gibson referred to page 15 of the report and questioned whose perspective is being considered with the use of the phrase “decreased sense of community”. A student’s sense of community might be different.

Trustee Keiver referred to the statement on page 3 of the report: *In addition, the recently instituted Class Size Initiative from Alberta Education has changed the configuration of learning spaces in Edmonton Public Schools* and suggested that this be emphasized for the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure so we are not complaining that we need to make classrooms smaller but that there are some unforeseen consequences.

Trustee Keiver referred to the statement on page 13 of the report: *Eighteen per cent of the district’s elementary students live in neighbourhoods without a local elementary school* and asked what previous years statistics were.

Trustee Nicholson referred to the implications of 2.3 Residential Growth Patterns on page 9 of the report and suggested adding reference in the third bullet to securing means of providing new schools in older areas of the city with a school that has been demolished (as the Separate Board has done).

Trustee Esslinger referred to the last sentence of 4.1 on page 19 of the report and suggested rather than using the word “aggressive” using the word “measured” or “reasoned”.

Trustee Gibson suggested that the administration include both the confirmed census and the more current unconfirmed census from the City of Edmonton in the document.

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The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

9. District Three-Year Capital Plan 2006-2009

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the District Three-Year Capital Plan 2006-2009 be approved for submission to Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.”

Trustee Keiver suggested indicating on the maps in the document that grade configuration of schools are subject to change.

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the meeting be extended beyond 9:00 p.m.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault, Gibson, Hansen, Keiver and Williams

OPPOSED: Trustee Nicholson

The Motion was CARRIED.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. 2005 Major Maintenance Plan

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the report entitled ‘2005 Major Maintenance Plan’ be received for information.”

Trustee Nicholson urged the board chairman to continue to make the case to the provincial government of the need for non-targeted funding for capital construction and maintenance funding.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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11. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:

“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Trustee Requests for Information’ be received for information.”

Trustee Keiver referred to TT #72 (Provide information on possible ways to establish and administer a district subsidy to assist financially challenged families with transportation) and asked the following information be provided:

- a dollar estimate of how much it would cost to administer a bus pass subsidy.
- A detailed accounting by schools receiving a high needs allocation regarding how much of the high needs allocation is being spent on non-paid transportation fees.
- A detailed accounting of district schools that don’t receive a high needs allocation with respect to how much is spent on non-paid transportation fees.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports **•Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Gibson advised that he had participated, as a board representative, in a consultation organized by Alberta Education, Alberta Advanced Education and Alberta Human Resources and Employment on Monday. This was one of the early consultations regarding review of the Career and Guidance Policy and program implementation.

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

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Esslinger requested that a report be prepared discussing the feasibility of incorporating a long-term space utilization plan in the next the 10-Year Facilities Plan. She asked that the feasibility report address the criteria and the principles of reviewing and rationalizing district space utilization including consideration of such topics as long-term viability, leasing options, community use options, the right-sizing of schools and potential school closures within sectors of the city and that the report would be aligned with the principles of the 10-Year Facilities Plan (2006-2016).

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Trustee Colburn referred to TT#59 (Provide a report regarding the number of librarians, physical education teachers and counsellors employed by Edmonton Public Schools....) and asked that the following information be provided:

- Clarification of training, job description for the 3 categories of library associated personnel – Learning Resources, Library Technicians and Library Technicians E
- Identify the numbers of counsellors and library personnel assigned at the elementary, junior and senior high levels for 1990-91, 1996-97 and 2004-05.
- A comparison of library technicians, learning resource and counsellors in adjoining school districts.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Meeting Dates:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Tuesday, June 28, 2005	Special Public Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: (9:20 p.m.)

The chairman adjourned the meeting.

Board Chairman

Secretary