

**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, February 28, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

David Colburn  
Bev Esslinger  
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault  
Ken Gibson

Wendy Keiver  
George Nicholson  
Don Williams

**Officials**

Edgar Schmidt  
Betty Tams

Bob Holt  
Ron MacNeil

Corinne McCabe  
Tanni Parker

**Board Chair:** Bev Esslinger

**Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

Edmonton Public Teachers: Mark Ramsankar, President

CUPE Local 3550: Trudy Grebenstein, President

CUPE Local 784: Bruce Cutting, President

**A. O Canada – District Video**

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

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

**C. Communications from the Board Chair**

The board chair advised that, last March 8<sup>th</sup>, at the request of CUPE Local 3550, the board approved district recognition of March 8<sup>th</sup> as International Women's Day. The theme of this year's International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup> is *Women in decision-making meeting challenges, creating change.*

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**D**     Communications from the Acting Superintendent of Schools – None.

**E.**     Minutes:

1.   Board Meeting #7 – February 14, 2006

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #7 held February 14, 2006 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

**F.**     Focus on Student Achievement:

2.   Ottewell School – Focus on the Eight Expectations

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

“That the report entitled ‘Ottewell School – Focus on the Eight Expectations’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

**G.**     Reports:

3.   Report #4 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held February 14 and 21, 2006)

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

“1.   That report #4 of the Conference Committee from the meetings held February 14 and 21, 2006 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

“2.   That the designation of Dan Beharry as principal to the district, effective September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2008 be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

“3.   That the appointment of KPMG LLP, Chartered Accountants, as auditors of the Edmonton School District No. 7 for the fiscal year September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006 be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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Report #5 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 28, 2006)

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

- “1. That report #5 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held January 17, 2006 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

- “2. That, in accordance with the School Act Section 113, authorization for the board chair to seek written approval of the Minister of Education to appoint Candidate #3 to the position of Superintendent of Schools be approved.”**

**The board chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Keiver and Williams**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Nicholson**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

4. Aboriginal Task Force Update

**MOVED BY Trustee Keiver:**

- “That the report entitled ‘Aboriginal Task Force Update’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

5. SchoolZone

**MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:**

- “That the report entitled ‘SchoolZone’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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### 6. Presentations from Staff Group Representatives re 2006-2007 Budget:

- Edmonton Public Teachers
- CUPE Local 3550 (support staff)
- CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff)

Mr. Mark Ramsankar, president Edmonton Public Teachers, verbally presented the Local's brief.

Ms Trudy Grebenstein, president CUPE Local 3550, verbally presented the Local's brief.

Mr. Bruce Cutting, president CUPE Local 784, verbally presented the Local's brief.

The board chair advised that representatives from the district's custodial and exempt staff would make their presentations at the March 14, 2006 board meeting. She added that a report in response to the employee group presentations will be prepared and that the presentations and responses will be disseminated to school principals and decision unit administrators for consideration in the development of their plans for the 2006-2007 school year.

### **MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:**

**“That the verbal presentations from the Presidents of Edmonton Public Teachers, CUPE Local 3550 (support staff), and CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

Copies of the briefs were distributed to trustees.

### 7. Response to Trustee Request for Information

### **MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Response to Trustee Request for Information’ be received for information.”**

Trustee Gibeault suggested that information be provided for trustees to advocate for funding in a more concrete way: quantitative information re funding shortfalls, reasonable wait times and recommendations to improve ESHIP.

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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### 8. Bereavement

The board vice-chair reported on the death of Joanne Dmetruik a member of the district's support staff.

#### **MOVED BY Board Vice-Chair Gibeault:**

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

#### **H. Committee and Board Representative Reports**

- **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Fleming noted that he, Trustees Esslinger, Keiver and Williams had attended the ASBA Zone 23 hosted MLA luncheon last Friday. The luncheon was well attended with 160 participants. He noted that the Minister of Education spoke and stressed the importance of trusteeship.

Trustee Gibeault noted that he and Trustee Esslinger had attended the opening session of the Legislature on February 26, 2006. He noted that the board has to use every opportunity to advocate for public education both with respect to operational and capital expenses.

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

Mr. Chris Ross, a school bus driver who started last October, expressed concern with respect to low wages, recruitment of bus drivers and the extensive paperwork administration for bus route changes when he, as the bus driver, can best determine the shortest route.

#### **J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.**

#### **K. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Colburn served notice of the following motion:

*That, in light of the surplus recently announced by the provincial government, the board write a letter to the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure asking that funding be provided to address the serious backlog of infrastructure projects within the district.*

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L. Meeting Dates:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Tuesday, March 14, 2006	Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: (8:10 p.m.)

The board chair adjourned the meeting.

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Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary