



Summary of Board Meeting #10 Tuesday, March 23, 2004

- A. **O Canada** – District Video.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) - All trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

The chairman advised that, on Thursday, March 25, 2004, the Board of Trustees will pay tribute to staff members who have provided 25 and 30 years of service to Edmonton Public Schools. This year there are 214 staff members with 25 years of service and 149 staff members with 30 years of service. The staff presentations will be held in the Eva O. Howard Theatre, Victoria School, with a reception to follow in the Centre for Education Atrium.

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

E. **Minutes:**

1. **Board Meeting #9 – March 9, 2004**

Approved as printed.

F. **Focus on Student Achievement**

2. **Norwood School: Focused on Research**

Received for information.

G. **Recognition:**

3. **Edwin Parr Teacher Award**

Received for information.

4. **“An Act to Follow” Staff Recognition Program**

Received for information.

H. Reports:

5. Board Determined Accountability Measure
 - a) Approved recommendation.
 - b) Trustee Hansen requested that the administration convey to Alberta Learning that, even though the district's indicator is the successful completion of grade 10 high school core courses, all courses are considered to be equally important.
6. Resource Development Services – Supporting Teaching and Learning in Edmonton Public Schools and Beyond
 - a) Received for information.
 - b) Trustee Hansen suggested working with the communications department to profile the work that Resource Development Services does.
7. District Training Plan for the 2004-2005 School Year

Received for information.
8. District Rates for 2004-2005
 - a) Received for information.
 - b) Trustee Gibeault suggested that, with respect to textbook rental fees, a rationale for the fees in relation to total cost be developed that can be used to communicate to parents why fees are being charged.
 - c) Trustee Gibeault requested that the administration give consideration to gradual modest fee increases over the years rather than a single large increase; e.g. textbook rental fee.
 - d) Trustee Fleming asked whether information regarding payment options for the music enrichment program fees are provided to parents.
 - e) Trustee Hansen asked how much of the music enrichment fees are salary costs.
 - f) Trustee Hansen requested information on how the maintenance rates compare to those in the private sector.

9. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Oydnski further to TT#394 regarding on-line courses through the Argyll Home Education Centre requested that the following information be provided:
 - How many students who complete the on-line courses actually pass the courses?
 - How do we ensure that the students who enrol for on-line courses are good candidates for on-line courses?
 - What plans are in place to ensure that we see improvement in the completion rates of on-line courses at the high school level.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Hansen advised that on March 15, 2004 he had the professional day at Centre High on Career Counselling. He noted that it was an excellent session.

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

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

1. Trustee Bonko referred to an article in today's Edmonton Sun with respect to the use of drug-sniffing dogs in schools. He asked whether the district has a position with respect to the use of drug-sniffing dogs in high schools.
2. Trustee Woodrow requested a report on what financial and other benefits City Centre Schools derive from the district, government agencies and other fundraising in addition to the normal allocation. She also asked what can and should the district do to extend these benefits to schools with similar needs and problems in other parts of the city.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Meeting Date: April 13, 2004 – 6:00 p.m. - Board

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.