



Summary of Board Meeting #10 Tuesday, March 25, 2003

A. **O Canada** – District Video.

B. **Roll Call:** (6:15 p.m.) - All trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

1. **Long Service Recognition**

The chairman advised that on Thursday, March 27, 2003 the Board of Trustees will pay tribute to staff members who have provided twenty-five and thirty years of service to Edmonton Public Schools.

This year the board of trustees is proud to honour:

- 143 staff members for 25 years of service; and
- 82 staff members who have achieved 30 years of service

2. **Presentation to Trustee George Nicholson**

The chairman advised that the district opened a new school in the Twin Brooks neighbourhood last fall, which was our first new school since 1994. The school was named after someone who has made and continues to make significant contributions to the district and to public education – Trustee George Nicholson. He noted that Mr. Dermot O’Neill from the firm of O’Neill, O’Neill and Procinsky Architects would be making a presentation to Trustee Nicholson on behalf of his firm. The firm of O’Neill, O’Neill and Procinsky Architects were commissioned by the district to design and oversee the construction of George P. Nicholson School. The challenges associated with developing and completing the project were extraordinary, and we are grateful for the work that Mr. O’Neill’s firm did. Trustee Nicholson was presented with a framed 3D computer rendering of the George P. Nicholson School.

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

E. **Minutes:**

1. **Board Meeting #9 – March 11, 2003** - Approved as printed.

F. Focus on Student Achievement

2. Harry Ainlay Instructional Focus: Reading Comprehension

Received for information.

G. Recognition:

3. Edwin Parr Teacher Award

a) Received for information.

b) Mr. Brady Van Ry, of Edmonton Christian School Northeast Campus, was selected as the district's nominee for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award.

H. Reports:

4. Issues for the 2003 ASBA Fall General Meeting

Approved recommendation.

5. Proposed School Closures for 2002-2003

Approved recommendation.

6. Edmonton Preschool Association Delegation

a) Heard the presentation by the delegation.

b) The delegation was instructed to contact the board secretary if they did not believe the District Lease Rate Review report addressed their concerns.

7. District Lease Rate Review

Approved recommendation.

8. Resolution Regarding Indemnification

This report was deferred to the conference committee.

9. Program Distribution Status Report

a) Received for information.

b) The superintendent advised that the administration would be bringing forward a report with respect to providing programming for gifted students.

10. Second Quarterly Report: December 1, 2002 to February 28, 2003

11. Literacy M.A.P.: Meaningful Applied Phonics

These reports were deferred to the April 22, 2003 board meeting.

12. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

Received for information.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports – None.

- **Community Relations Activities** – None.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Trudy Grebenstein, President CUPE Local 474, read the following resolution that was unanimously passed by the CUPE Alberta Division Convention on March 22, 2003:

WHEREAS learning is a lifelong process; and

WHEREAS Metro Community College (formerly Edmonton Public Schools Continuing Education) has offered support for adult learners seeking affordable self-improvement in arts, crafts, music, family programs, career programs, language programs, vocational programs, computers, academic, internet on-line courses and high-school completion programs; and

WHEREAS through Metro Community College, the expertise, services and resources of Edmonton Public Schools are linked with the people, institutions, businesses, and communities of the greater Edmonton area to help meet the educational, social and economic needs of adult learners; and

WHEREAS Metro Community College has an extensive history and excellent reputation of offering relevant, meaningful and affordable education for adult learners, on a cost-recovery basis; and

WHEREAS the Minister of Learning has directed Edmonton Public Schools to divest itself of providing education for adult learners over twenty (20) years of age at Metro Community College;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CUPE Alberta in conjunction with Edmonton and area locals and interested groups demand that the Minister of Learning reverse this arbitrary and regressive decision; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CUPE Alberta, area locals and community groups condemn this decision and mobilize the community in support of affordable education for adult education opportunities at Metro Community College.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

1. Trustee Martin provided a copy of an article from Seattle University with respect to a “poverty unit” being taught to middle school students and asked that the administration provide more information about the unit and whether or not this would be something that would be appropriate for the district.
2. Trustee Odyński indicated that she would provide the administration with a list of questions with respect to the issue of the school closure process.

The superintendent advised that the administration would bring answers to her questions at a public board meeting.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2003 - 6:00 p.m. - Board

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:15 p.m. to 9:25 p.m.