

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #9** -

Minutes of a 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, March 11, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Bill Bonko
Bob Dean
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Svend Hansen
Ray Martin

George Nicholson
Lynn Odynski

Officials

Angus McBeath
Donna Barrett
Norm Diemert

Avi Habinski
Bob Holt
John Beaton
Patti Christensen
Richard Dietrich

Kathy Goudreau
David Morris
Tanni Parker
Dale Skoreyko

Chairman: D. Fleming

Board Secretary: A. Sherwood
Recording Secretary: M. Fraser

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers: K. Beaton
CUPE Local 474: D. Luellman
CUPE Local 3550: T. Grebenstein

A. **O Canada** - District Video

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Woodrow was absent. All other trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chairman** – None.

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

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E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #8 – February 25, 2003

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #8 held February 25, 2003 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. Focus on Student Achievement:

2. Bannerman School’s Instructional Focus: Reading for Understanding

MOVED BY Trustee Dean:

“That the report entitled ‘Bannerman School’s Instructional Focus: Reading for Understanding’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Recognition:

3. “An Act to Follow” Staff Recognition Program

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That the report entitled ‘An Act to Follow Staff Recognition Program’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

H. Reports:

4. Report #8 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held March 4, 2003)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

“1. That report #8 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held March 4, 2003 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

“2. That the Board of Trustees accept the resignations of the following teacher certificated staff:

Case No.	Date	Resignation/Retirement
2002-2003 - 1	October 26, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 2	February 11, 2003	Resign

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Case No.	Date	Resignation/Retirement
2002-2003 - 3	November 30, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 4	February 10, 2003	Resign
2002-2003 - 5	January 15, 2003	Resign
2002-2003 - 6	November 11, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 7	January 30, 2003	Resign
2002-2003 - 8	August 29, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 9	January 1, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 10	February 28, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 11	June 30, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 12	November 9, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 13	February 28, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 14	December 31, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 15	December 31, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 16	September 1, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 17	November 21, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 18	September 14, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 19	December 31, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 20	December 31, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 21	September 1, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 22	February 1, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 23	February 28, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 24	January 1, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 25	October 25, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 26	October 12, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 27	December 31, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 28	January 12, 2003	Resign
2002-2003 - 29	October 31, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 30	December 31, 2002	Resign
2002-2003 - 31	January 11, 2003	Resign
2002-2003 - 32	October 1, 2002	Retire
2002-2003 - 33	January 31, 2003	Retire
2002-2003 - 34	October 9, 2002	Resign”

The chairman called the question.

The Motion UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

- “3. That the Board of Trustees delegate to the Superintendent of Schools, authority for the designation of teacher administrators, for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year, and only for instances where the staff member has applied for the 2002-2003 Retirement Transition Option Plan (RTOP).” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

5. Motion re Trustee Initiatives

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That all trustee initiatives for the 2003-2004 budget be submitted to conference committee for approval prior to being given to the administration for consideration in the budget plans.”

MOVED BY Trustee Odynski:

“That the report be deferred to the next board meeting on March 25, 2003 when Trustee Woodrow will be present.”

The chairman called the question on the Deferral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Martin and Odynski

OPPOSED: Trustees Bonko, Dean, Fleming, Gibeault, Hansen, and Nicholson

The Deferral Motion was DEFEATED.

MOVED BY Trustee Odynski:

“That the recommendation be amended to read: *That all trustee initiatives for the 2003-2004 budget be submitted to public board for approval prior to being given to the administration for consideration in the budget plans.*”

The chairman called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Odynski

OPPOSED: Trustees Bonko, Dean, Fleming, Gibeault, Hansen, Martin and Nicholson

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

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The chairman called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Bonko, Dean, Fleming, Gibeault, Hansen, and Nicholson

OPPOSED: Trustees Martin and Odynski

The Motion was CARRIED.

6. Approval of Board Policies: HD.BP – Instructional Time & HGAF.BP – French Language Education

MOVED BY Trustee Dean:

“1. That policy HD.BP Instructional Time be approved and that current board regulation HD.BR Instructional Time be deleted.

2. That policy HGAF.BP French Language Education be approved.”

A correction was made to HD.BP section B.1. to read: Kindergarten students shall have access to a minimum of 475 *hours* of instructional program activities for each child in a centre during a fiscal year, or at least 22 in-home visits for one-and-a-half hours duration or more (child must be in attendance) to each child in an in-home program during the fiscal year, or the equivalent in a combination of centre hours and in-home visits.

Trustee Nicholson asked for clarification of how staggered entry and alternate day small-group instruction affects the requirement to provide each kindergarten student access to 475 hours of instructional program activities.

Trustee Odynski requested that, in future, existing policies be included for information.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Idylwylde School Closure Process

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the administration be authorized to undertake the provincial and board mandated processes to consider the feasibility of closure of Idylwylde School.”

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Trustee Hansen asked the administration to address the concern raised by the community regarding the closure of Idylwyld School and the effect on Rutherford School and, in particular, with respect to the rental revenue from Idylwyld School.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

8. Appointment of the Student Accident Insurance Broker

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

**“That the appointment of Aon Consulting as Student Accident Broker for the five-year term commencing with the 2003-04 school year be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

9. Alberta Initiative for School Improvement Update

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the report entitled ‘Alberta Initiative for School Improvement Update’ be received for information.”

The superintendent advised that he would TM information regarding the result of the meeting with Alberta Learning with respect to AISI funding.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. Random Selection Process Review

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That the report entitled ‘Random Selection Process Review’ be received for information.”

Trustee Dean requested that information be provided with respect to the number of students who have gone through the random selection process and how many of those students were successful.

The chairman called the question.

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The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Odynski:

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

Trustee Odynski requested information regarding the Cogito Program – is it operating as originally intended and is it consistently implemented across the district?

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports

•Community Relations Activities

Trustee Gibeault advised that he had attended an education funding forum on March 6, 2003 sponsored by Kate Chegwin School. A number of MLAs were in attendance including Gene Zwozdesky, Ken Nicol and Raj Pannu. Larry Booi and Janice Bell were also present.

Trustee Gibeault noted that he had served three days as the ASBA representative on the Excellence in Teaching selection committee last week. He believed that, when the teacher finalists are announced, the district will be very proud of the number of district teachers who were selected.

Trustee Odynski noted that she had participated in an education funding forum on CBC Radio. MLA Mary O’Neill, a student and Cathy Starring-Parrish were also participants.

Trustee Odynski noted that she and Trustee Woodrow would be attending a Ward C & E education funding forum on Thursday evening. Five MLAs from those wards will be in attendance.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Ms Virginia Hartley, a Ward G resident and Rutherford School parent, expressed concern regarding the impact the reduction in allocation will have on their school. She noted that a recently introduced advanced reading program and the school’s music program are in jeopardy. She also expressed great concern that an increase in the lease rate will jeopardize

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the day care in the school and hence the future kindergarten enrolment and the future viability of the school. She asked what help is available to assist the day care in remaining in the school.

The chairman indicated that, normally, a response to a delegation request is made at the next meeting. He asked that the administration contact Ms Hartley to discuss her concerns.

Ms Diane Waddell, another Ward G resident and Rutherford School parent, also expressed great concern about the impact of a lease rate increase of almost 500% on the day care at the school which represents \$4,200 in revenue to the school. She noted that the day care is a source of 15 kindergarten students per year which translates to \$26,250 revenue per year or \$296,500 over the course of a student's enrolment at the school. She would like the board to consider the impact that this decision and reduced funding will have on small school programs. She noted that it is proposed that the school will lose \$100,000 from its budget allocation. She noted that the school council raised \$150,000 to fund the advanced reading program; however, with the loss of the library assistant this would jeopardize the program. She urged the board for help.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Hansen requested that a report be provided for the next conference committee meeting regarding what the impact of the present basis of allocation will have on small schools of 100 to 125 students or less, such as Rutherford School. Include a comparison of the impact on staff component and class size for mid-range and larger schools. Is there a basis to amend the allocation formula to provide additional funding for smaller schools to maintain their viability?

Trustee Dean requested an update on the RAP Program in terms of: completion rates, course offerings, possible partnerships and number of schools and students involved.

Trustee Odynski requested that information be provided regarding the status of the Calgary Public School Board's deficit repayment schedule.

L. Notices of Motion

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That a letter from the Board Chairman to the Minister of Learning be prepared and delivered this week indicating the urgency in receiving a response to the Chairman's letter requesting permission to pay the district's deficit over three years.”

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MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That notice of motion be waived.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

M. Next Meeting:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Tuesday, March 25, 2003	Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: (8:35 p.m.)

The chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Board Secretary