

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #11** -

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 23, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Sue Huff

George Rice
Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Donna Barrett
Jenise Bidulock

Bruce Coggles
Ron MacNeil
Tanni Parker

Dean Power
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Don Fleming

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff) – Trudy Grebenstein, President

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair reported that, on February 16, 2010 several Trustees and members of the Executive Team met with a number of chiefs, education department staff and administrators from different bands as well as the Métis Nation and the Inuit community. This was an historic moment as it was a first visit of chiefs and educators from reserves to Edmonton Public Schools.

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The intent of the meeting was to develop ongoing strong relationships in support of the children being collectively served. He thanked the staff in Communications and the Aboriginal Education unit who personally contacted each of the guests and made this event possible.

The Board Chair advised that the Edmonton Public Schools' 46th Night of Music will be held at the Jubilee Auditorium on Wednesday, March 3, 2010. The purpose of this event is to promote the importance of music education and recognize the musical accomplishments of district students. This year's theme is *2010 - A Musical Odyssey*.

The Board Chair advised that, across the district, students and staff have been organizing various events to assist those affected by the devastating earthquake in Haiti. These events have included penny and bottle drives, community dances, pancake breakfasts, floor hockey games, and sales of special bracelets that were made in Darfur. Most of these fundraising efforts were initiated by students themselves, out of a desire to help all those who were suffering. The compassion, character and commitment of these fine young men and women clearly demonstrate the wonderful nature of the students we are privileged to educate here at Edmonton Public Schools.

To date, students and staff from 84 schools have raised over \$140,000 for Haiti. These generous donations will make a significant impact in supporting the relief efforts for that country.

He commended the efforts of the District's staff and students, on behalf of the Board, and thanked them for their generosity and goodwill.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #10 – February 9, 2010

Trustee Huff noted an error at the bottom of page 8 of the minutes regarding the outcome of the vote – it should read – *The Motion was CARRIED*.

Trustee Ripley referred to page 4 of the minutes with respect to the vote on Recommendation #4 regarding denying authorization to the PSBC to transfer \$15,000...she advised that she actually supported authorizing the PSBC to transfer the funds and should have voted with the Trustees who voted in opposition to the recommendation – she requested that a notation be made in the minutes to reflect this.

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MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #10 held February 9, 2010 be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. Improving Student Achievement

2. Improving Student Achievement by Supporting Successful Transitions from High School

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement by Supporting Successful Transitions from High School’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

H. Reports

3. Report #2 of the Audit Committee (From the Meeting Held February 16, 2010

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “1. That Report #2 of the Audit Committee from the meeting held February 16, 2010 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “2. That the appointment of KPMG LLP, Chartered Accountants, as auditors of the Edmonton School District No. 7 for the fiscal year September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

4. Report #8 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 16, 2010

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

- “1. That Report #8 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held February 16, 2010 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“2. That the fundraising priority for the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation to provide support for early intervention and student success be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Motion re Long-Term Space Rationalization

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That a full report on the District’s long-term plan in the area of space rationalization be brought to public board prior to any vote on school closures and that the report provide information in the following areas:

- a) **In the current economic climate, approximately how many schools, over what period of time, would we need to close in order to meet our space rationalization objectives?**
- b) **What is the optimal number of unused spaces that the District is working toward?**
- c) **What is our plan to address the \$24 million spending beyond our level of funding in our Plant Operations and Maintenance budget?**
- d) **Provide specific evidence on how and why the quality of education becomes compromised when a school population falls below a certain level.”**

Trustee Colburn indicated that he believed item c) of the recommendation had been addressed by the response provided to Tracking Request #265 contained in report #10 *Responses to Board Requests for Information* later in the agenda and asked that it be removed.

The Board agreed to the Amendment by General Consent.

The Board Chair called the question on the Recommendation as amended.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Gibeault, Huff and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibson, Rice and Ripley

The Motion was DEFEATED.

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6. Removal of Coronation and Grovenor Schools from Continuation Review

The Board heard from the following registered speakers who spoke in favour of the recommendation:

- Ms Dale Ladouceur – Ms Ladouceur provided Trustees with a copy of The “I Love IBPYP” Colouring Book created by the students of Coronation Elementary School
- Mr. Scott Laurie
- Ms Jen Chivers

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That Coronation and Grovenor schools be removed from the Continuation Review.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

9. Presentation from Staff Group Representatives re 2009-2010 Budget: - Edmonton Public Teachers

Mr. Ed Butler, president Edmonton Public Teachers, verbally presented the Local’s brief.

The Board Chair advised that representatives from CUPE Local 474 (custodial staff), CUPE Local 3550 (support staff), CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) and exempt staff will make presentations at the March 9, 2010 board meeting. A report in response to the employee group presentations will be prepared and the presentations and responses will be disseminated to school principals and decision unit administrators for consideration in the development of their plans for the 2010-2011 school year.

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the verbal presentation from Edmonton Public Teachers be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Copies of the Edmonton Public Teachers’ brief were distributed to Trustees.

The Board took a short break at this point.

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7. Annual Implementation Plan: 2010-2011

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the Annual Implementation Plan: 2010-2011 be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

8. Reviewed Board Policies Recommended for Affirmation, Minor Wording Changes or Rescission

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“I. That the following recommendations be considered as an “omnibus” for the first time:

- 1. That revised Board Policy KA.BP - District Technology be approved.**
- 2. That Board Policy HK.BP – Student Achievement and Growth be affirmed.**
- 3. That revised Board Policy IH.BP – Supervision of Elementary and Junior High Students During Lunch be approved.**
- 4. That revised Board Policy HHHA.BP – Tutoring be approved.**
- 5. That the following Board Policies be rescinded:**
 - CCE.BP - Definition of a School**
 - JBB.BP - School Sponsored Educational Displays**
- 6. That the change of all references to “Personnel” or “Personnel Services” in all policies and administrative regulations to “Human Resources” be approved.**

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7. That the change of all references to job titles as follows in all policies and administrative regulations be approved:
 - From Managing Director, Personnel Services to Managing Director, Human Resources
 - From Director, Personnel Support Services and Director, Personnel Staff Relations to Director, Staff Relations
 - From Director, Personnel Staff Recruitment and Staffing to Director, Staffing and Staff Development.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“II. That the following recommendations be considered as an “omnibus” for the second time:

1. That revised Board Policy KA.BP - District Technology be approved.
2. That Board Policy HK.BP – Student Achievement and Growth be affirmed.
3. That revised Board Policy IH.BP – Supervision of Elementary and Junior High Students During Lunch be approved.
4. That revised Board Policy HHHA.BP – Tutoring be approved.
5. That the following Board Policies be rescinded:
 - CCE.BP - Definition of a School
 - JBB.BP - School Sponsored Educational Displays
6. That the change of all references to “Personnel” or “Personnel Services” in all policies and administrative regulations to “Human Resources” be approved.

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7. **That the change of all references to job titles as follows in all policies and administrative regulations be approved:**
- **From Managing Director, Personnel Services to Managing Director, Human Resources**
 - **From Director, Personnel Support Services and Director, Personnel Staff Relations to Director, Staff Relations**
 - **From Director, Personnel Staff Recruitment and Staffing to Director, Staffing and Staff Development.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. Responses to Board Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Board Requests for Information’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

11. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Esslinger advised that she and Trustees Gibeault and Huff, attended the Chinese Bilingual New Year Celebration on February 10, 2010.

Trustee Ripley reported that on Saturday she attended the Canwest Spelling Bee. A number of district students were regional finalists. Jared Barron from Ottewell School won the Spelling Bee and will go to Ottawa at end of March to compete nationally. He also won \$5,000.

Trustee Ripley reported that she and Trustee Huff attended a Students for Sustainable Schools Facilities Management Conference at the end of January. The conference was about energy management organized by Will Deys and included M.E. LaZerte students.

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I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided regarding whether the funding formula is sufficient in meeting the needs of K-9 students and high school students. He also requested that information be provided regarding when and why the current CEU funding formula for high schools was adopted.

A majority of the Board supported the request going forward.

Trustee Rice requested that information be provided regarding the physical condition of the Fulton Place annex in terms of Occupational Health and Safety and other considerations and what repairs might be required over the next five years.

A majority of the Board supported the request going forward.

Trustee Esslinger requested that information be provided to clarify whether portables can be used for such things as before and after-school care in ASAP I schools opening in 2010 and information on the process for schools to access portables for community use.

A majority of the Board supported the request going forward.

Trustee Ripley requested that the Administration contact the City of Edmonton and request information regarding the requirements and possible impact of a special school tax levy plebiscite. She also requested that Trustees be provided with information from the government regarding sources of revenue that will no longer be available to the District.

A majority of the Board supported the request going forward.

J. Notices of Motion

Trustee Huff served notice of the following motion:

That Administrative Regulation JGB.AR – Utilization of Surplus Space in Schools be reviewed and that the Planning and Policy Committee develop an accompanying Board Policy within this school year. (i.e. prior to June 30, 2010.)

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K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

L. Adjournment: (8:55 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary