

**MINUTE BOOK**

**- Board Meeting #9 -**

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, March 11, 2008 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

Phillip Grehan  
Jennifer Lawley  
Jane Moore  
Elizabeth Norris-Kartz

**Board Chair:** Bev Esslinger

**Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

**Employee Representatives:**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Mark Ramsankar, President  
CUPE Local 474 – Doug Luellman, President

A. **O Canada** –  *District DVD*

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The board chair advised that the Provincial Executive Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association has proclaimed March 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, as Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week throughout Alberta. Schools are encouraged, during this week especially, and throughout the year, to recognize the contributions substitute teachers make in providing continuity

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to the learning experiences of district students. We value our substitute teachers and applaud the excellent work they do.

### **D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The superintendent advised that, yesterday, he had attended the launch of the Safe Place Classroom at Dan Knott School. The initiative is a collaborative partnership between Edmonton Public Schools, AADAC, Alberta Health Board and other agencies to provide specialized early intervention services for students who are experiencing mental health challenges. Students can attend the program from two weeks up to four months to assist them in integrating back into school. There are three junior high schools in Mill Woods participating in this program.

### **E. Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #8 – February 26, 2008

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #7 held February 26, 2008 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **F. Improving Student Achievement:**

2. Improving Student Achievement at Earl Buxton Elementary School

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement at Earl Buxton Elementary School’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **G. Recognition:**

3. Edwin Parr Teacher Award

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Huff:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Edwin Parr Teacher Award’ be received for information.”**

The superintendent announced that the district’s nominee for the 2008 Edwin Parr Teacher Award is Natalie Sanderson from Ross Sheppard School

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**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**H. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:**

4. Process and Timeline for 2008-2009 Planning

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“That the process and timeline for review of 2008-2009 plans and review of the 2008-2009 operating budget be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

5. 2008-2009 Proposed Planning Base

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

- “1. That the framework of the planning base be approved.**
- 2. That the administration be authorized to adjust the resources in the planning base in accordance with the Alberta Education funding announcements contained in the 2008-2009 Provincial Budget, be approved.”**

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

6. Basis of Allocation

**MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Basis of Allocation’ be received for information.”**

Trustee Ripley requested that information be provided as to whether the Community Use of Schools allocation and the money available under the Joint Use Agreement is sufficient for schools to cover their costs for weekend use of their gyms.

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

The board took a short break at this point.

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### 7. Presentation from CUPE Local 474 (Custodial Staff) re 2008-2009 Budget

The board chair advised that Edmonton Public Teachers and the district's exempt staff presented at the February 26, 2008 board meeting. CUPE Local 3550 (support staff) will make their presentation at the March 25, 2008 board meeting. CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) have declined to make a presentation this year. 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 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Doug Luellman, president CUPE Local 474, verbally presented the Local's brief.

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

**“That the verbal presentation from CUPE Local 474 be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

A copy of the Local's brief was distributed to trustees.

### 8. Delegation – Sustain Woodcroft Parent Committee

The board heard from Mr. Darrel Lucas and Ms Arlene Huhn who urged the board not to close Woodcroft School.

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:**

**“That the verbal presentation from the Sustain Woodcroft Parent Committee delegation be received for information.”**

The board chair advised the delegation that the information they provided will be considered by the board in its decision regarding Woodcroft School on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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9. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

**MOVED BY Trustee Rice:**

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

Trustee Huff referred to the information provided in response to Trustee Request #66 regarding the impact on West 1 sector schools by the new ASAP schools (page 9 and 10 of the report) and asked that clarification be provided regarding previous information regarding the extent of the impact.

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

10. Health and Wellness: Plan in Response to Trustee Motion

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Health and Wellness: Plan in Response to Trustee Motion’ be received for information.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

**“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**I. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**

11. Report #6 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held March 4, 2008)

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“1. That Report #6 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held March 4, 2008 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“2. That the following principal designations to the district, effective September 1, 2008, be confirmed:**

<b>Dan Beharry</b>	<b>Lyndi Karbonik</b>
<b>Josué Bensimon</b>	<b>Leona Morrison</b>
<b>Brent Billey</b>	<b>Sheila Nash</b>
<b>Karen Brown</b>	<b>Shauna Paul</b>
<b>Patricia Davidson</b>	<b>Elisabeth Thomsen</b>
<b>Patricia Enokson</b>	<b>Judy Toews</b>
<b>Vince Friesen</b>	<b>Terry Van Leeuwen”</b>
<b>JR Garzon</b>	

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“3. That the following strategies for community engagement be approved:**

- a) Have a board meeting or town hall meeting in the community.**
- b) Publish board agendas more effectively.**
- c) Develop a strategy to strengthen intergovernmental relations in support of our strategic plan.**
- d) Pursue the idea of regular media spots (e.g. SHAW TV, Big Breakfast TV, various radio stations)”**

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

- “4. That authorization for reimbursement of Trustee Huff for a file cabinet and shelving from her trustee expense account be approved.”**

**The board chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

### **J. Other Trustee Reports**

Trustee Gibson reported that he and Trustee Huff attended the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee meeting on February 28, 2008. The committee facilitates linkages amongst municipalities, school boards, Capital Health Authority, Children and Family Services Authority – Region 6 – Edmonton and Area and other organizations. Our board has agreed to participate in a joint proposal around youth in transition to develop a shared identification framework and potential shared services model. A specific case study will be utilized to develop a framework between now and June 2008. The case study is going to involve a sixteen year old youth with a brain injury transitioning from home and school and eventually from youth to adult services. He also noted that information was received at the meeting regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder which affects as many as one percent of all of the students in our city.

Trustee Huff advised that, on March 4<sup>th</sup>, she spoke to a number of BA students at the University of Alberta about what she has done with her BA since graduating.

Trustee Huff advised that, on March 5<sup>th</sup>, she as well as a number of other trustees attended the district’s Night of Music at the Jubilee Auditorium. She commended the students and staff who participated.

Trustee Huff advised that, on March 6<sup>th</sup>, she attended Jasper Place School’s Open House.

Trustee Huff advised that, on March 10<sup>th</sup>, she spoke at the Kiwanis Club about the role of a trustee.

Trustee Colburn advised that, on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, the Alberta Coalition for Health School Communities and the Alberta School Boards Association will be sponsoring a school health symposium. Invitations have been extended to decision-making levels of the education sector. Registrants include a number of superintendents, senior staff, parents and trustees from other school districts as well as five physicians from five of the nine health regions in the province.

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Trustee Gibeault advised that on, March 9<sup>th</sup>, he attended the Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation's Harmony Brunch which launched a variety of events that will be taking place in the coming days around the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Racism (March 21<sup>st</sup>). Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong, Mayor Mandel, several city councillors and a variety community leaders were in attendance.

Trustee Rice advised that, on March 6<sup>th</sup>, he attended the closing ceremonies of McNally High School's annual 24-hour bike-a-thon that raised over \$55,000 for cancer research.

Trustee Esslinger advised that, yesterday, she and Trustees Gibeault and Shipka attended the "A Day with the Chief" luncheon. The luncheon was for students who were spending a day with the Chief of Police in discussion of how youth and the police can work together.

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

Mr. Mark Ramsankar, president Edmonton Public Teachers, spoke regarding its 2007 Class Size Census. A copy of the information was provided to trustees.

The board heard from the following speakers who spoke on behalf of keeping Woodcroft School open:

- Mr. Darrel Lucas
- Ms Lora Yaskow
- Ms Sonya Chudyk
- Mr. Nithi Sothilingam
- Ms Laurie Simpson
- Mr. Reg Appleyard
- Mr. Steve Gould

### **L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**

Trustee Huff requested that information be provided regarding what plans are in place to target those schools that have a higher than average drop-out rate.

**M. Notices of Motion** – None.

**N. Next Board Meeting Date:** Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.



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**O. Adjournment: (9:40 p.m.)**

**The board chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Board Chair

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Board Secretary