

Summary of Board Meeting #14 Held Tuesday, May 8, 2012

A. O Canada:  (2:00 p.m.) – *District O Canada Video*

B. Roll Call: All Trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

- The Board Chair advised that May 17th is *International Day Against Homophobia*. Inspired by all world theme-days, the day set aside to fight homophobia needs to be appropriated by all of those actively involved in civil society: gay and lesbian community organizations, those organizations focusing on other types of sexual diversity, unions, employers, private businesses, governments, public administration, professional associations, and all individuals seeking equality.
- The Board Chair advised that, on Saturday, he attended the Chinese Bridge Competition at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton at Woodcroft School.
- The Board Chair advised that, yesterday, May 7, 2012, he attended the Mental Health Week Kickoff held at Dan Knott School. Ministers Thomas Lukaszuk and Fred Horne were also in attendance.
- The Board Chair congratulated Mr. Jeff Johnson on his appointment as the new Minister of Education.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

- The Superintendent advised the Board of the following actions taken by students and school staff aligned to the District Priority of deepening students, understanding of equity and empathy as key citizenship traits:
 - Students and staff hosted special events celebrating “Leaders in a Global Village” at Bannerman School. For one of their projects, students are making baby blankets and donating them to WINGS of Providence – a women’s shelter.
 - Amiskwaciy Academy students built and donated 12 Houses for Hounds to the Second Chance Animal Society. The project was possible through a Lowe’s Toolbox for Education grant.

- The Superintendent informed the Board that the District will be hosting two groups of visitors from Singapore on May 14 and 15th. They will be visiting schools and are interesting in how we develop citizenship among students and how we develop safe and caring attitudes and behaviours in our schools.

E. Minutes:

1. Board Meeting #13 – April 10, 2012
 - a) Trustee MacKenzie referred to page 11, report 5 of the minutes and noted that Trustee Hoffman was not recorded as voting.
 - b) The minutes were approved as amended.

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

G. Reports

2. Report #9 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held May 1, 2012)
 - a) The Board heard from the following individuals with respect to Recommendation #3:
 - Ms Patty Dittrick, President Public School Boards Association of Alberta
 - Ms Karen Prokopowich, First Vice President PSBAA
 - Ms Cheryl MacIsaac, Director PSBAA
 - b) The recommendations were approved.
3. Staff Group Presentation re 2012-2013 Budget
 - CUPE Local 474 (custodial staff)
 - a) Received verbal presentation for information.
 - b) CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) declined to make a presentation this year.
 - c) The Administration will prepare a report in response to the staff group presentations. Copies of the response and the presentations will be disseminated to schools and central service decision unit managers for consideration in developing 2012-2013 plans.
4. Continuation of the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation

Approved recommendation.

5. Motion re Financial Literacy

The motion was referred to the ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee to develop a Directive for Action request that will be brought back to the Board for consideration at the May 22, 2012 board meeting.

6. Motion re Modified School Calendar for High Schools

The recommendation was defeated.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

- None.

7. Borrowing Resolution

Approved recommendation.

8. Locally Developed Courses

Approved recommendation.

9. Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools 2010-2011

Approved recommendation.

10. Board Policy IA.BP – Inclusive Education

Approved recommendation.

11. Revised JA.BP Parent and Community Involvement

Approved recommendation.

12. JAC.BP – Funding and Endorsement Requests from External Organizations

a) Approved recommendation.

b) Trustee Shipka asked for the breakdown of the 34 people who participated in the online survey for JAC.BP – Funding and Endorsement Requests from External Organizations of how many supported the creation of the new policy and how many did not.

13. Board Policy Review – FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

The policy was referred back to the Policy Review Committee for consultation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. The policy, once amended to take cultural ceremonies into account, should be brought back to public board for first and second consideration no later than the June 12, 2012 board meeting.

14. Literacy (Reading and Writing) Annual Report

Received for information.

15. Special Education Annual Report

Received for information.

16. Overview of Junior Achievement Program Delivery in District Schools (Response to Trustee Request #170)

17. Allocations for Students with Moderate and Severe Education Needs (Response to Trustee Request #176)

18. Pesticide Use in the District (Response to Trustee Request #178)

19. Educational Opportunities (Response to Trustee Request #191)

a) Received for information.

b) Trustee Colburn requested that the following information be provided:

- How much does the district spend to fertilize?
- How many acres does the district manage?
- What is the overall cost for turf management?
- How much do one or two of the eleven schools that have gone pesticide free spend to manage their grounds?

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

This information will be included in the minutes of the May 8, 2012 board meeting.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

- Trustee Shipka requested that the following information be provided:
 - What are the reasons that students in some designated communities, such as McConachie and Schonsee, have as many as three under-capacity schools closer to the students' residence than their designated schools?
 - What would be the impact of changing the designation of those communities to underutilize schools that are closer to where those students live?
- Trustee Johner requested that information be provided on a range of practices around the province on how boards gather feedback and dialogue with their staff.

K. Notices of Motion

- Trustee Cleary served notice of the following motion:

That the Edmonton Public School Board, together with the Edmonton Catholic School District, propose and approve a Memorandum of Understanding agreement that junior highs consider incorporating Junior Achievement's "Dollars with Sense" financial literacy program in Grade 8 classrooms in the 2012-13 school year.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

M. Duration of Meeting: 2:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m.