

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #12** -

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, April 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Leslie Cleary
Dave Colburn
Sarah Hoffman

Cheryl Johner
Catherine Ripley

Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser
Mark Liguori

Ron MacNeil
Cheryl Oxford
Jamie Pallett
Tanni Parker

Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: Dave Colburn

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President

A. **O Canada** 

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustees Janz and MacKenzie were absent. All other all Trustees were present.

MINUTE BOOK

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that April 28th is the 27th Anniversary of the National Day of Mourning for Workers Injured or Killed at the Workplace. The numbers are staggering. In 2009, 939 workplace deaths were recorded in Canada - down from 1036 the previous year. This represents more than 2.57 deaths every single day. It is these types of statistics that prompted the Canadian Labour Congress to set aside April 28th each year as a Day of Mourning for victims of workplace accidents and disease. In recognition of the men and women of our province and of the district who are part of those statistics, the Edmonton Public School Board on April 27, 1998 proclaimed every April 28th as an annual 'Day of Mourning' in recognition of workers killed, injured or disabled on the job. The Board encourages each and everyone to do their part to ensure that Edmonton Public Schools' work and learning environments are as healthy and safe for staff, students and community as possible throughout the year.

The Board Chair advised that, this week, is Support Staff Appreciation Week with tomorrow, April 27th, designated as Support Staff Appreciation Day in the district. On this day, schools and central service decision units will have the opportunity to recognize the important contributions of all support staff for the excellent work that they do in supporting the success of all students and staff.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #11 – April 13, 2011

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #11 held April 13, 2011 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

MINUTE BOOK

G. Reports

2. Motion re Membership in the Alberta School Councils' Association

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That EPSB become a district supporter of school council membership in the Alberta School Councils' Association.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be deferred to the next board meeting.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Deferral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Johner

The Deferral Motion was CARRIED.

3. Motion re Lower Speed Limits in Residential Areas

The Board heard comments from the following individuals:

- Mr. Shahriyar Kahn, Community Development Officer of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues
- Ms Patricia Grell - Ms Grell also provided information to the Trustees

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“To improve student safety and encourage walking and cycling to school, Edmonton Public Schools shall join the advocacy efforts of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues and other organizations in pursuing lower speed limits within residential areas. As a first measure, the Chair, on behalf of the Board, will write a letter to City Council expressing our support for such an initiative.”

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the motion be amended to read: To improve student safety and encourage walking and cycling to school, Edmonton Public Schools shall join the advocacy efforts of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues and other organizations in pursuing and enforcing lower speed limits within residential areas. As a first measure, the Chair, on behalf of the Board, will write a letter to City Council expressing our support for such an initiative.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Motion re Implementing a Modified District School Calendar

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the Administration seek feedback from staff, parents and the community about implementing a district school calendar that offers a start date of the Monday prior to Labour Day and includes a one-week break in November and that a summary of the feedback come to public Board by the end of November, if possible.”

Trustee Hoffman offered the following friendly amendment.

“That the motion be amended to read: That the Administration seek feedback from staff, parents and the community about a district school calendar that offers a start date of the Monday prior to Labour Day and includes a one-week break in November and that a summary of the feedback come to public Board by the end of November, if possible.”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

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

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary

The Motion was CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

5. Motion re Deferral of Approval of the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That approval of the 2012-2013 School Year Calendar be deferred until December 2011, at which time the Board will review suitable school calendar options with consideration to feedback received.”

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary

The Motion was CARRIED.

6. School Year Calendar 2012-2013

The report was deferred until December 2011.

The Board took a short break at this point.

7. 2011-2012 Proposed Distribution of Funds

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the distribution of funds be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

8. District Three-Year Capital Plan 2012-2015

The Board heard from the following speakers: Mr. Daylin Breen and Ms Charlene Bowman.

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

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

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the *District Three-Year Capital Plan 2012-2015* be approved for submission to Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure.”

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the *District Three-Year Capital Plan 2012-2015* be amended by deleting any reference to new school construction and adding language that will identify the urgent need for funding to maintain and upgrade our aging schools in mature neighbourhoods.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the report be deferred until the next public board meeting.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Deferral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Ripley

The Deferral Motion was CARRIED.

Trustee Hoffman will meet with the Director Executive and Board Relations to outline her questions and concerns.

9. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

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

10. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley, the Board’s Representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, reported on the Board of Governors meeting she had attended on April 21, 2011. She noted that there was a lot of excellent “friend” raising for public education happening – from information sessions that get people in the doors of a public school to the Twestival that occurred. She noted that April 27, 2011 is the Foundation’s *Ready to Shine?* Student fashion show at Kingsway Garden Mall featuring 19 student teams from five high schools. She noted that several Trustees will be in attendance for this event. She advised it is a sold-out event. There are tickets available, however, for the *Ready for Life* breakfast Foundation fundraiser at 7:30 a.m. on May 12, 2011.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Colburn, the Board's Representative on the Alberta School Boards Association Board of Directors, provided the following report from the April 14-15, 2011 ASBA Board of Directors meeting:

- The Board of Directors heard a presentation by Diane McConnell on the Action for Inclusion Initiative
- The Board of Directors reviewed Executive Director David Anderson's interim accountability portfolio and deemed his accomplishments to date acceptable and commended him in a number of areas.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, advised that the April 29, 2011 ASBA Zone 23 meeting she will bring forward the Directive for Action approved by the Board at the April 13, 2011 board meeting asking the ASBA to develop a policy advisory to assist school boards in supporting the specialized health, safety, and learning needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, and two-spirit (LGBTT) students, families and employees in Alberta schools. All Trustees are welcome to attend this meeting. She added that Edwin Parr Awards Banquet for Zone 23 will be held on Friday, May 27, 2011. All Trustee are encouraged to attend this event.

Trustee Cleary, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association for Languages Education (ASBALE), reported that, today, she forwarded the official release of the names of bursary recipients she had reported on at the last board meeting.

Trustee Spencer, the Board's liaison on the Public School Boards' Council, reported that the PSBC met the weekend of April 16th. The group heard from three provincial leadership candidates – Laurie Blakeman, Alison Redford and Doug Horner.

Trustee Cleary, the Board's alternate representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, reported that the Committee will meet on May 4, 2011. She reminded Trustees that she circulated information that will be discussed at this meeting and asked for their feedback as soon as possible.

Trustee Johner, Chair of the Special Needs Task Force, reported that the Task Force has held several meetings including a meeting this morning. An additional Advisory Committee meeting has been scheduled for May 4, 2011. She noted that all Trustees are welcome to attend.

MINUTE BOOK

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Shipka requested that information be provided on the merits and drawbacks of promoting Stevia as a natural sweetener for student health.

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided summarizing the number of staff who have been granted sick leave (short and long term). The information should include a monthly breakdown over the past 5 years identifying peak periods of illness by staff group in the district.

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided regarding any evidence that a modified calendar reduces the number of sick time taken by staff in the district?

Trustee Spencer requested that information be provided summarizing the advantages and disadvantages of shortening the summer break and adding a fall break.

Trustee Colburn requested that information be provided on the feasibility of appointing external members to the Audit Committee including an identification of boards across the province that follow this practice and what this practice looks like in format.

J. Notices of Motion

Trustee Shipka served notice of the following motion:

That public board meeting times be amended to run from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month commencing the first board meeting in September 2011.

Trustee Ripley served notice of the following motion:

That the Board add the following item to its Public Board agenda on a regular basis: Tracking Progress and Excellence in the 2011-2014 Priorities.

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTE BOOK

L. **Adjournment: 10:05 p.m.**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary