



## Summary of Board Meeting #11 Tuesday, May 22, 2001

- A. **O Canada** – Students from Waverley School sang O Canada.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) - All trustees were present.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**
1. The chairman advised that Trustees will be attending the spring general meetings and conferences of the Public School Boards' Association and the Alberta School Boards' Association, in Red Deer – June 2nd through 5th. Trustees will have an opportunity to dialogue with other trustees from both urban and rural boards and attend a variety of sessions and workshops focussing on issues in public education.
  2. The chairman provided a reminder that the 7th Annual Pancake Breakfasts for Central Services Staff will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at the Centre for Education and on Thursday, June 14th at the Distribution Centre. Once again, trustees and senior administration are looking forward to flipping pancakes, pouring coffee and the opportunity to spend time with staff. We hope to see you there.
  3. The chairman took the opportunity as the end of the school year draws near and the constraints of time become even more of a reality to all to acknowledge on behalf of the board of trustees the tremendous work of district staff.

Trustees hope that staff will take a moment to savour their many and significant achievements during the past year. We know that as students are anxiously awaiting the summer break, it can be difficult to sustain our momentum and focus.

The Board of Trustees thanks all members of the district staff for their dedicated focus on achievement and their continued commitment to students.

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

Dr. Dodsall Advised that two district teachers Carolyn Lewis–Shillington of McNally High School and Vasile Bratu of Jasper Place – Stratford Campus, are recipients of the Prime Minister’s Awards for Teaching Excellence. The winning teachers’ schools receive \$1,000 to be spent under the recipients’ direction.

**E. Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #11 – May 8, 2001

Approved as printed. (AS)

**F. Focus on Student Achievement**

2. Waverley School: Fostering a Community of Learners

Received for information.

**G. Recognitions:**

3. Margaret T. Stevenson Talented Young Writer Award Recipient
4. Government of Spain Scholarship Winners

Received for information.

**H. Reports:**

5. Report #15 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held May 8 and 15, 2001)

a) Approved recommendation regarding leadership appointments.

b) Approved the following verbal report with respect to the evaluation of the superintendent of schools:

The Board of Trustees recently completed its annual review of the Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Dodsall continues to receive an excellent rating from trustees in all areas of performance. The board has expressed confidence in the leadership of the superintendent and has conveyed its appreciation for his outstanding leadership which continues to be focused on student achievement. It was noted that Dr. Dodsall is a strong advocate for a well funded and accountable public education system and believes that quality staff and quality leadership are critical to achieving success.

Dr. Dosdall's accomplishments are numerous and varied accompanied with our continued enrollment growth is the expansion of programs of choice offered within Edmonton Public Schools in response to the learning needs of children and adults.

The work of Edmonton Public Schools continues to be recognized world wide and the successes of our board and school district are chronicled in educational publications, newspaper features and requests for delegations to visit the district. Dr. Dosdall was featured on the cover of the May 2001 issue of *The School Administrator*, not only was this the first time a Canadian superintendent was featured in this magazine but this issue devoted over half of its content to the work of Edmonton Public Schools.

Dr. Dosdall continues to serve our community beyond his role as superintendent as a member of the Board of Directors for the United Way, Edmonton Space and Science Centre, the Alberta Centre for International Education, Scientist 2010. He is also the Education Chair for the 2001 World Championships in Athletics.

The reputation of Edmonton Public Schools as a model of education practice, enterprise, and accountability — both among other educational communities and within the City of Edmonton — can be attributed in large part to the excellent entrepreneurial and leadership skills of Dr. Dosdall and his relentless efforts at advancing the student achievement agenda of the board.

The evaluation process provides an opportunity for the board to express publicly its overwhelming satisfaction for the superintendent and his exemplary work. The board continues to expect the superintendent to:

- focus on teaching and learning for the betterment of all students and staff
- ensure student safety
- advocate for funding that will ensure quality programming, compensate staff fairly and keep school facilities in safe and good repair

Dr. Dosdall continues to provide high quality service to our community. He demonstrates an openness to collaborate with all staff groups and all levels of government to provide greater opportunities for student success.

6. The Learning Store at West Edmonton Mall

Approved recommendation.

7. Response to the Delegation from the Edmonton Regional Coalition for Inclusive Education
  - a) Approved recommendations including the following amendment to Recommendation #2: *That a committee be struck of parents with children with special needs including representation from the Edmonton Regional Coalition for Inclusive Education, community partners and district staff to review current board policy, obstacles to inclusion and best practices of inclusion.*
  - b) Trustee Melnychuk requested that information regarding how Alberta Learning has responded to the Special Needs Review.
8. Presentation by the Edmonton YMCA

Heard presentation.
9. Hebrew Language and Culture Three and Six Year Programs of Studies

Approved recommendation.
10. Arabic Language and Culture Three and Six Year Programs of Studies

Approved recommendation.
11. Curriculum Additions – Islamic Studies 7

Approved recommendation.
12. Locally Developed Courses: Advanced Techniques (Ceramics and Sculpture

Approved recommendation.
13. Edmonton Public Schools' *Three-Year Education Plan, 2001-2004*

Approved recommendation.
14. Amendments to 2001 Capital Plan and 2000/2001 Modernization Block Fund

Approved recommendation.
15. Policy and Regulation Updates: Terms and Conditions of Employment

Approved recommendation.

16. Policy and Regulation Updates: Employee Relations  
Approved recommendation.
17. Policy and Regulation Updates: Personnel Services Part 3  
Approved recommendation.
18. Policy and Regulation Updates: Deaths and Bereavements  
Approved recommendation.
19. Issues, Budget and Bylaw Amendment for the 2001 ASBA Spring General Meeting  
Received for information.
20. District Response to the Proposed New Social Studies Curriculum
  - a) Received for information.
  - b) Trustee Nicholson requested that a board position with respect to the proposed new Social Studies curriculum be prepared for the next board meeting.
  - c) Dr. Dosedall noted that the Minister of Education has indicated that prior to any changes to secondary curriculum, a committee comprised representatives from the four urban boards and two rural boards would be struck to examine the proposed changes. He indicated that the district would be pleased to take the lead role in organizing this committee so that the concerns that have been raised with respect to the proposed new Social Studies curriculum can be brought forward and that a status report will be provided to trustees.
21. Leasing Summary for 2000-2001
  - a) Received for information.
  - b) Trustee Nicholson asked for a summation of the number of square metres leased out in operational and non-operational district facilities.
22. Parent Input Regarding the Decision to Close Queen Mary Park School  
Received for information.

23. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Gibeault requested that information be provided on how many special needs district sites are operating with less than the guaranteed number of students within the allocation, how much do we subsidize those sites and where do the additional funds come from.
- c) Trustee Nicholson requested information on the dollar implication to rectify the “similar” situations identified in the response to trustee request #320.

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports – None.

- Community Relations Activities – None.

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

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Meeting Dates:

Date	Time	Meeting Type
Tuesday, June 19, 2001	6:00 p.m.	Board

N. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 9:25 p.m.