

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #14** -

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, May 8, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Leslie Cleary
David Colburn
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles
David Fraser

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil

Tanni Parker
Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: David Colburn

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 474 – Felix De Los Santos, President

B. **Roll Call:** (2:00 p.m.)

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

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C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that May 17th is *International Day Against Homophobia*. This day belongs to no one individual, rather it's about people hoping for a prejudice-free world that can provide a place at the table for everyone regardless of their sexual orientation. 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 interested in how we develop citizenship among students and how we develop safe and caring attitudes and behaviours in our schools.

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E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #13 – April 10, 2012

Trustee MacKenzie referred to the motion on page eleven, report five of the minutes and noted that Trustee Hoffman was not recorded as voting.

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #13 held April 10, 2012 be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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)

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

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“1. That Report #9 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held May 1, 2012 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“2. That the following designation for the period September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015 be approved: Ron MacNeil – Assistant Superintendent” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “3. That the Board serve notice of its intent to withdraw from the Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta (PSBAA) for the upcoming fiscal year.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Johner, Ripley and Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “4. That the Board self-evaluation be conducted from June 1, 2012 to June 22, 2012 using the adopted self-evaluation instrument.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

3. Staff Group Presentation re 2012-2013 Budget
- CUPE Local 474 (Custodial Staff)

The Board Chair advised that CUPE Local 784 (maintenance staff) declined to make a presentation this year.

Mr. Felix De Los Santos, president, CUPE Local 474, verbally presented the Local’s brief.

The Board Chair thanked all staff group representatives for their input and advised that a report in response to the presentations will be prepared. A copy of the presentations as well as the report in response to the presentations will be disseminated to school principals and decision unit administrators for consideration in the development of their plans for the 2012-2013 school year.

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

- “That the verbal presentation be received for information.”**
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board took a short break at this point.

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4. Continuation of Edmonton Public Schools Foundation

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the District provide the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation with an allocation of \$220,000 in 2012-2013, \$400,000 in 2013-2014 and \$400,000 in 2014-2015 to support the friendraising and fundraising efforts of the Foundation.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Motion re Financial Literacy

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the Board advocate through the ASBA to the Minister of Education that financial literacy be integrated into the Alberta curriculum from K to 12 as soon as possible and that funding be provided to school boards to support professional development for teachers and other educators involved in financial literacy instruction.”

Trustee MacKenzie offered the following friendly amendment:

“That the motion be amended to read: That the Board advocate through the ASBA to the Minister of Education that financial literacy be *further* integrated into the Alberta curriculum from K to 12 as soon as possible and that funding be provided to school boards to support professional development for teachers and other educators involved in financial literacy instruction.”

The Amendment was accepted by General Consent.

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the motion be amended to read as follows: That the Board advocate through the ASBA to the Minister of Education that financial literacy be further integrated into the Alberta curriculum from K to 12 as soon as possible.”

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MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the amendment to the motion be amended to read as follows: That the Board advocate through the ASBA to the Minister of Education that financial literacy be further integrated into the Alberta curriculum from K to 12 as soon as possible *and provide funding supports as necessary.*”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment to the Amendment.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and MacKenzie

The Amendment to the Amendment was CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be 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.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Ripley

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

The Board took a short break at this point.

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6. Motion re Modified School Calendar for High Schools

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That schools serving high school students only have a one-week break for the week around Remembrance Day and start school up to one week earlier in late August for the 2013-2014 school year.”

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the main motion be amended to read as follows: That schools serving high school students ~~only~~ be allowed to choose to have a one-week break for the week around Remembrance Day and start school up to one week earlier in late August for the 2013-2014 school year.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Johner and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie, Ripley and Spencer

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Johner, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie and Ripley

The Motion was DEFEATED.

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

- None.

7. Borrowing Resolution

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the new Borrowing Resolution be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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8. Locally Developed Courses - Renewals

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

**“That the locally developed courses Contemporary Dance 25-35 and Jazz Dance 25-35 currently in use in the District, be renewed for the period extending from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

9. Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools 2010-2011

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the public statement delivered by the Board and Superintendent Evaluation Committee be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

10. Board Policy IA.BP – Inclusive Education

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the new Board Policy IA.BP Inclusive Education be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

11. Revised JA.BP – Parent and Community Involvement

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That revised policy JA.BP – Parent and Community Involvement be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That new policy JAC.BP – Funding and Endorsement Requests from External Organizations be considered for the third time and approved.”

Trustee Shipka asked how many of the thirty-four people who participated in the online survey supported the new policy and how many did not.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That revised Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions be considered for the first time.”**

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the policy be 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.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Referral Motion.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

14. Literacy (Reading and Writing) Annual Report

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

“That the report entitled ‘Literacy (Reading and Writing) Annual Report’ be received for information.”

Trustee Spencer left at this point in the meeting.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Trustee Spencer was absent for this vote.

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15. Special Education Annual Report

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Special Education Annual Report’ be received for information.”

Trustee Spencer returned at this point in the meeting.

Trustee Janz left at this point in the meeting.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Trustee Janz was absent for this vote.

16. Overview of Junior Achievement Program Delivery in District Schools
(Response to Trustee Request #170)
17. Allocations for Students with Moderate and Severe Educational 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)

Trustee Janz returned at this point in the meeting.

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the following reports be received for information:

- **Overview of Junior Achievement Program Delivery in District Schools
(Response to Trustee Request #170)**
- **Allocations for Students with Moderate and Severe Educational Needs
(Response to Trustee Request #176)**
- **Pesticide Use in the District
(Response to Trustee Request #178)**
- **Educational Opportunities
(Response to Trustee Request #191)”**

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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?

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, expressed tremendous thanks to all involved with the very successful *Ready to Shine Fashion Show* at Kingsway Garden Mall. There was great fashions and great work by all the students including several "Astounding Announcers" from Coronation School. Through the enthusiasm and support of Kingsway, the Foundation was presented with a cheque for \$22,000. She thanked all of the donors involved in making that huge donation possible.

Trustee Ripley noted the third annual *Ready for Life* breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2012. She thanked those Trustees who are attending, and those who are not only attending but inviting guests as well.

Trustee Colburn, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, advised that the next meeting will be held May 10 and 11, 2012. He advised that the Community Engagement Task Force he is co-chairing met this morning and is nearing completion of its work. The Committee will submit a report to the Board of Directors in September. The report will then be presented to the ASBA membership at the Fall Annual General Meeting.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, reported on the general meeting held on Friday, April 27, 2012. She noted most of the discussion was with respect to the proposed ASBA 2012-2013 budget. Professional development was provided by the Society for Safe and Caring Schools and Communities. She noted that Edmonton Catholic Schools Trustee Marilyn Bergstra was selected for the King's University College Teacher Education Advisory Committee. She noted the next general meeting will be held on Friday,

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May 25, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Executive Royal Inn West. The Edwin Parr Awards Banquet will also be held at the site later that evening.

Trustee MacKenzie, the Board's representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), reminded the Board that Edmonton Public Schools will remain a member of the Public School Boards' Association until January 2013. Trustees are welcome to continue to attend Association events such as the June 2-3, 2012 meeting in Red Deer (prior to the Alberta School Boards Association spring general meeting. She advised that Trustee Shipka will attend as the Board's representative as she is not able to attend. She noted there are also PSBC meetings in late August and October.

Trustee Spencer, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, advised that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2012. Trustee Hoffman will be attending this meeting as the Board's representative.

Trustee Ripley noted that Richard Secord School in, her ward, was vandalized early Sunday morning through a window-smashing spree and break in. She has heard from the Principal and Assistant Superintendent that the school was ready for teaching and learning for Monday morning thanks to the prompt response and the dedicated work ethic of the district's spare custodians, maintenance and security staff. She thanked all of those who were involved in responding so quickly.

Trustee Cleary reported that, on May 2, 2012 she attended the *We Day* breakfast sponsored by Craig Keilburger, co-founder of Free the Children. District staff and local leaders from such as organizations as KPMG, and RBC were also in attendance. *We Day* is a movement by youth for local and global change. Edmonton Public Schools is involved in upcoming plans for thirty schools to participate in *We Day* Alberta on October 24th in Calgary. *We Day* is the largest one-day cause, agnostic platform where a student can't buy a ticket – they must earn their way through service. She is looking forward to attending this event in the Fall.

Trustee Cleary advised that, on May 2, 2012, she also attended the Junior Achievement Alberta Business Hall of Fame Gala. She commended the Junior Achievement company program where over 200 local high school students participated in a tradeshow selling their company products. This was a very rewarding experience for all. The students' ability to innovate and create a sustainable business model and product is a tremendous and authentic learning experience.

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Trustee Hoffman reported that the Alberta School Councils' Association recognized King Edward Elementary School with a School Council Award of Merit which recognizes effective school council practices that have an identifiable impact on supporting student learning and school improvement at the school level, the district level or the provincial level.

Trustee Hoffman reported that the Alberta Association for Community Living awarded Julia Kiniski School with a National Inclusive Education Award for 2011 for the tremendous work that they have done to support the inclusion of one specific student at their school. The student is fully included in the school. When the Trustees participated in the Community Relations school tours, they observed him walking laps with the support of a walker and educational assistant while his classmates played cricket in the gym. This student was not walking a year and one-half ago.

Trustee Hoffman reported that she attended the National School Boards Association Conference April 20 to 23, 2012 in Boston. She believed some of the professional development available at the conference was outstanding. One such session was *Thinking Differently: Making Student Achievement your Board's Job*. Another involved Sal Khan who spoke about the Khan Academy and open access learning. She also attended a session on superintendent and board relationships. She is looking forward to finding ways for Trustees to incorporate the learning each of them experienced who attended into the Board's work in the coming year.

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 on a range of practices around the province on how boards gather feedback and dialogue with their staff.

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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 high schools 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. Adjournment (6:40 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

David Colburn, Board Chair

Brian Smith, Secretary-Treasurer