

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 25, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Delegation Re Caraway Program

ORIGINATOR: A. Sherwood, Board Secretary

INFORMATION

Mr. Jeremy Smith, Caraway President, has requested an opportunity for a representative of the group to appear before the board to appeal the superintendent's decision not to offer Caraway as an alternative program in the 2004 -2005 year (Appendix I).

A letter from Board Secretary Anne Sherwood dated May 20, 2004 advising that arrangements have been made for the group to be heard by the board on **Tuesday, May 25, 2004 at 7:45 p.m.** is attached (Appendix II).

We have been advised that Mr. Bruce Ziff, a Caraway parent, will be making the presentation.

AS:mmf

APPENDIX I - Correspondence from A. Sherwood, Board Secretary
APPENDIX II - Correspondence submitted by Mr. Jeremy Smith

May 20, 2004

Mr. Jeremy Smith
Caraway President

Dear Mr. Smith:

Your e-mail request of May 19, 2004 is acknowledged with respect to your request for an opportunity to appeal:

1. The superintendent's decision not to offer Caraway as an alternative program in the 2004 -2005 year; and
2. An anticipated recommendation report to the board of trustees that the Caraway program be discontinued.

Accordingly, arrangements have been made for your group's presentation on the first matter on Tuesday, May 25, 2004 at 7:45 p.m. As this is an appeal of the superintendent's decision, the requirement to meet with a member of the administration to discuss the matter has been waived.

With respect to your second request regarding the "report", Mr. McBeath's letter to you of May 10, 2004 advised that: *The administration has heard your view that the district does not have a breadth of offerings for families desiring what is now being called a "slow school" approach. The administration will do follow-up work on this during the next academic year.* For clarification, any recommendation to discontinue the Caraway program would come to board after the administration had examined what other possible alternatives for a "slow school" approach might be viable and the degree of parental demand for such a program. The Caraway Parents Society would be consulted in the administration's review. We do not expect that there would be a report to board until well into the next academic year, and in any case, should the board uphold your appeal regarding the offering of the program for 2004-2005, no report would be necessary.

To assist you in your appeal of the superintendent's decision not to offer Caraway as an alternative program in the 2004-2005 year, please be advised of the following board procedures:

- **You may be assisted by an advocate or representative to make your presentation. We ask that your presentation not exceed 10 minutes in length. You and/or your spokesperson must be prepared to clarify issues and answer questions for the trustees at the meeting.**

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Mr. Jeremy Smith

May 20, 2004

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- **Board meetings commence at 6:00 p.m. and are held in McCauley Chambers on the second floor of the Centre for Education at 102 Street and Kingsway. Underground parking is available. Two seats will be reserved for you and your assistant/spokesperson near the centre microphone in McCauley Chambers where you may be seated until called by the chairman. Please note that Ms Gloria Chalmers has agreed to greet you when you arrive and assist you with seating and getting any materials you may have to the trustees.**
- **A decision regarding your request will be dealt with at the next meeting of the board (Monday, June 14, 2004) unless otherwise agreed to by a majority vote of the trustees present.**
- **Normally, if a group has written information it wants provided to trustees with respect a request, it is provided the week prior to the board meeting and included in the report to board. I understand, however, from speaking with Ms Strange that your presentation will be prepared over the weekend and therefore you will not have materials for distribution to the trustees available until the meeting. Therefore, can you please bring 11 copies of any materials to be distributed with you to the meeting.**
- **A copy of the complete board report being sent to trustees with respect to your group's presentation will be provided to you on Friday, May 21, 2004.**

Ms Strange has advised that Mr. Bruce Ziff, a Caraway parent, will be making the presentation. Please advise if there is an additional or alternative speaker so that we may ensure that the Chairman knows who to call on when dealing with that item on the agenda.

If you have any questions, please call me at 429-8021.

Sincerely,
Anne Sherwood
Board Secretary

AS:mmf

cc: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools
B. Holt, Executive Director Instructional and Curricular Support Services
G. Chalmers, Supervisor Curriculum and Programs
B. Strange, Caraway Board Member

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeremy Smith

Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2004 7:43 PM

To: Svend Hansen

Subject: Caraway Program

Dear Mr. Hansen,

On May 13th, 2004, I received a letter via mail from superintendent Angus McBeath in which he confirmed that the administration will not offer the Caraway alternative program in the 2004-2005 school year. As well, he stated that the administration will be recommending in a report to the board of trustees that the program be discontinued.

This is to notify you that the membership of the Community of Caraway Parents Society is appealing these decisions of the administration and requests that our appeal be added to your meeting agenda.

We have requested in a separate letter that Mr. McBeath or his staff forward the administration's report to us at the same time as it is forwarded to the trustees in order to facilitate the preparation of our appeal.

I understand that further information regarding the presentation of appeals to the board will also be forwarded to us.

Thank you very much.

Jeremy Smith
Caraway President