

## **MINUTE BOOK**

### **- Board Meeting #16 -**

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 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

#### **Present:**

##### **Trustees**

David Colburn  
Bev Esslinger  
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault  
Ken Gibson  
Sue Huff

George Rice  
Catherine Ripley  
Ken Shipka

##### **Officials**

Edgar Schmidt  
Donna Barrett  
Bruce Coggles

Jenise Bidulock  
Sultan Ibrahim  
Ron MacNeil

Tanni Parker  
Betty Tams

**Board Chair:** Don Fleming

**Board Secretary:** Anne Sherwood

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

#### **Staff Group Representatives**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present.

#### **C. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that, on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, he attended the U School Convocation at the University of Alberta. Students from Norwood, John A. McDougall and Parkdale schools were acknowledged by University of Alberta Chancellor Linda Hughes for completing U School.

The University of Alberta Senate – U School Project Pilot is designed for those elementary students who rarely travel outside their own neighborhoods in the inner city,

## **MINUTE BOOK**

to have an opportunity to spend a full week exploring the learning and discovery opportunities at the University of Alberta.

The guiding principles of the U School project are to:

- expose children, their families, teachers and communities to future possibilities.
- engage and encourage students' independent and critical thinking skills.
- create a new ambassadorial corps for the U of A, including student participants and their families, teachers, and community members.
- maximize the opportunities for the U of A to learn from student participants.
- adopt an experiential and hands-on approach to learning.
- Engage with classroom teachers.
- Present project activities that tie in directly with the curriculum and school goals.

The benefits for those students participating in the U School are:

- To learn to slow down and see the world with all its nuances
- Gain enhanced literacy and writing skills
- learn in deeper ways in many curriculum areas
- gain increased independence of thought and critical thinking skills
- experience growth in awareness of diversity
- take ownership of the university and forming connections that will last a lifetime

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

The Superintendent advised that, yesterday, he, the Board Chair and Dr. Donna Barrett attended a dinner meeting with a delegation of 16 officials from Shandong Province as part of the partnership with the Confucius Institute in Edmonton. He noted that the partnership has offered a number of opportunities to enrich programming.

### **E. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #15 – April 27, 2010

**MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #15 held April 27, 2010 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

## MINUTE BOOK

### **F. Recognition**

2. *An Act to Follow Staff Recognition Program*

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“That the report entitled ‘*An Act to Follow Staff Recognition Program*’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

Ms Holly Newman urged the Board to consider its process with respect to the school closures and sector review relative to other important matters it should be devoting its time to such as reviewing standardized testing in grade 3 and accessibility to alternative programs.

Ms Laurie Simpson urged the Board to consider making the board meetings more accessible to the public; e.g. posting verbatim minutes or on-line audio files. She also expressed concern about the Board’s process for dealing with Trustee requests for information.

Mr. Ed Butler, President Edmonton Public Teachers, thanked the Administration and Board for addressing the concern he expressed at the last board meeting regarding the District attitude survey. He also thanked the Board for being able to participate with respect to the Excellence in Teaching event.

Ms Kris Cannon-Reay expressed appreciation for the District’s early intervention programs but noted that more students need to be able to access these services. She also expressed appreciation for the middle years program at Westmount School.

### **H. Reports**

3. Report #12 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held April 27 and May 4, 2010)

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Rice:**

**“1. That Report #12 of the Conference Committee from the meetings held April 27 and May 4, 2010 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

## MINUTE BOOK

**MOVED BY Trustee Rice:**

- “2. That the appointment of Cheryl Oxford to the position of Managing Director Communications effective May 25, 2010 be confirmed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MOVED BY Trustee Rice:**

- “3. That the designation of the following individuals as principal to the District, effective September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2012, be confirmed:**

**Dave Kowalchuk  
Christine Pichlyk  
Karen Keats Whelan  
Joanne Wynn  
Nick Diederichs”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

### **4     Election of Board Vice-Chair**

The Board Chair called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Trustee Gibeault nominated Trustee Ripley for the position of Board Vice-Chair.

Trustee Esslinger nominated Trustee Rice for the position of Board Vice-Chair.

Trustee Gibson requested that the vote be done by secret ballot.

The Board Chair, seeing no further nominations, declared the nominations closed.

Ballots were distributed and collected by the Board Secretary.

The Superintendent of Schools and the Board Secretary left the room to count the ballots.

Mrs. Sherwood announced that the majority of the Board had elected Trustee Ripley as Board Vice- Chair for the rest of the year.

Trustee Ripley thanked the Board for its support.

## MINUTE BOOK

### 5. Motion re Schedule of Annual Reports

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

**“That the Administration prepare a series of annual reports on important work in the district, the subject matter of these reports will be determined by the Board, and the scheduling of these reports will be indicated on the district website no later than the end of September.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“That the recommendation be amended to read: *The scheduling of annual reports on district work will be indicated on the district website.*”**

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

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Rice, Ripley and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Gibson and Huff**

**The Amendment was CARRIED.**

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

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

### 9. Delegation – Alberta Somali Community Centre (ASCC)

Mr. Mahamad Accord, President Alberta Somali Community Centre (ASCC) addressed the Board with regard to the *School Act* review process to seek Board support for a proposal to raise the mandatory school attendance age in Alberta from 16 to 18. Specifically he requested:

- A formal letter of endorsement for the Alberta Somali Community Center for this initiative.
- Support of the Alberta School Boards Association of Alberta on the community's behalf.

## MINUTE BOOK

The Board Chair advised that, in accordance, with Board procedures, the decision regarding his request will be dealt with at the next Board meeting on May 25, 2010.

**MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Delegation – Alberta Somali Community Centre (ASCC)’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

6. Motion re Debate on Motions

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“That the second bullet for the current policy on debate on motions be amended to read as follows: *The mover of a motion may speak first to that motion. Thereafter, each Trustee will have an opportunity to ask questions for clarification. When the Chair calls for formal debate, Trustees will have two opportunities to speak, for a maximum of three minutes each time. Permission to extend the limits of debate may be granted by the Chair if the majority of Trustees concur. The mover of the motion will be given an opportunity to close debate.*”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR:** Trustees Esslinger, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice and Shipka

**OPPOSED:** Trustees Colburn, Fleming, Huff and Ripley

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

7. Motion re Policy for Setting Attendance Areas

**MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:**

**“That the Board develop a policy articulating the values and principles for setting attendance areas including to be closest to where students live.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR:** Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

**OPPOSED:** Trustee Colburn

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

The Board took a short break at this point.

## MINUTE BOOK

### 8. Motion re Special School Tax Levy

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“That the Board exercise its right to ask public school electors for a special tax levy on the October 2010 municipal ballot. Further, that the Board request \$20 million per year for the next three years for the purpose of supporting the renewal and upgrading of school buildings.”**

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“That the recommendation be amended to read: *That the Board exercise its right to ask public school electors for a special tax levy on the October 2010 municipal ballot. Further, that the Board request \$20 million per year for the next three years for the purposes of:***

- 1. *Eliminating the fees paid by parents for transportation fees.***
- 2. *Supporting the renewal and upgrading of school buildings.”***

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

**IN FAVOUR: Trustee Gibeault**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibson, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka**

**The Amendment was DEFEATED.**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Ripley and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff and Rice**

**The Motion was DEFEATED.**

## MINUTE BOOK

10. Policy Review ACB.BP – Multiculturalism and National Identity
11. Policy Review Board Policy JH.BP – Public Gifts

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“That revised and renamed board policy ACB.BP – National Anthem and Flag be considered for the third time and approved and that revised Board Policy JH.BP – Public Gifts be considered for the third time and approved.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

12. Policy Review - FO.BP - Environment

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“1. That revised and renamed board policy FO.BP – Environment be considered for the first time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:**

**“2 That revised and renamed board policy FO.BP – Environment be considered for the second time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

13. 2010-2011 Non-Resident Fees

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

**“1. That the following amounts which form the basis for establishing the resources to be recovered as part of agreements entered into with other Alberta school jurisdictions to provide educational programs for their special needs resident students be approved:**

Level	Category of Student	Amount
Level 5	Communication, ELL Foreign Born Refugee, Gifted & Talented Extensions, Learning Disability, Literacy, Mild Cognitive Disability, Moderate Emotional/Behavioral, Hearing, Multiple, Visual Disability, Non-verbal Learning Disability, Strategies	12,329
Level 6	Moderate Cognitive, Physical, or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder	13,766



**MINUTE BOOK**

<b>Level 7</b>	<b>Blindness, Deafness, Severe Cognitive, Emotional/Behavioural, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder</b>	<b>23,967</b>
<b>Level 8</b>	<b>Blindness, Deafness, Severe Cognitive, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder</b>	<b>33,571</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Cost</b>

2. That the following amounts which form the basis for establishing the resources to be recovered as part of agreements entered into to provide programming for students who are Canadian citizens who are not residents of Alberta be approved:

<b><u>Allocation Level</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
<b>Level 1 Kindergarten</b>	<b>3,817</b>
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>7,084</b>
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>7,270</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<b>8,697</b>
<b>Level 4</b>	<b>8,745</b>
<b>Level 5</b>	<b>12,879</b>
<b>Level 6</b>	<b>14,316</b>
<b>Level 7</b>	<b>24,517</b>
<b>Level 8</b>	<b>34,121</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Cost”</b>

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**MINUTE BOOK**

**MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:**

**“3. That an International Student Tuition Fee of \$11,000 be approved for the 2010-2011 school year.**

**4. That the International Student Application Fee of \$250 be approved.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**14. District Three-Year Capital Plan 2011-2014**

**MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:**

**“That the District Three-Year Capital Plan 2011-2014 be approved for submission to Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Huff:**

**“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.”**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Huff, Rice and Ripley**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Gibeault, Gibson and Shipka**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Gibson**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

## **MINUTE BOOK**

### 16. Student Transportation Fees

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:**

**“That the schedule of bus pass fees for the 2010-2011 school year be approved to be effective August 2010.”**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn and Huff**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

### 15. Transportation Action Plan

**MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:**

**“That the report entitled ‘Transportation Action Plan’ be received for information.”**

Trustee Gibson requested that the PowerPoint and Administration’s comments for the Transportation Action Plan report be provided to Trustees and linked to the Board report on the District website.

The Administration undertook to post the information.

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

### 17. Responses to Board Requests for Information

The report was deferred to the next board meeting.

### 18. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

**I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.**

## **MINUTE BOOK**

### **J. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Colburn served notice of the following motion:

*That the Administration gather information to respond to questions identified in the Edmonton Public 2007 report entitled 'School Size and Student Achievement: Key Ideas from Research and Literature'.*

*These questions are:*

- 1) How can the benefits of small schools continue to be experienced as schools become larger through amalgamation because of economic necessity?*
- 2) Is there a perception amongst students and parents that the quality of education received has deteriorated as a result of amalgamation?*
- 3) Have the displaced students marks declined as measured by HLATs and provincial achievement results?*
- 4) Has satisfaction with the District declined because of displacement?*

**K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

**L. Adjournment: (10:10 p.m.)**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Board Chair

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Board Secretary