



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Summary of Board Meeting #17 Held Tuesday, May 26, 2009

A. O Canada:  (6:00 p.m.) – *District O Canada Video*

B. Roll Call: All Trustees were present.

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair acknowledged the following individuals who were in attendance at the board meeting with respect to the naming of schools:

- Linda Alloway, daughter of Elizabeth Finch, and her husband Brian Alloway
- Bud and Betty Squair, great-niece and great-nephew of Florence Hallock
- Dr. Don Massey and his wife Barbara Massey
- Esther Starkman and her husband Howard Starkman
- Kandis Bright, daughter of Johnny Bright
- Mrs. Lorna McPherson and her son John McPherson, wife and son of Blair McPherson
- Laurie Barnstable, principal Elizabeth Finch School
- Dean Michailides, principal Florence Hallock School
- Jennifer Allen, principal Dr. Donald Massey School
- Greg Kushnir, principal Esther Starkman School
- Scott Millar, principal Johnny Bright School
- Kathy Goudreau, principal A. Blair McPherson School

The Board Chair also acknowledged the partnership between Edmonton Public Schools and the Provincial Government and thanked the Planning and Communications Departments for co-ordinating last week's dedication ceremonies.

1. Report #13 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held February 3, March 3 and March 17, 2009)

Approved recommendation.

C. Communications from the Board Chair (Continued)

The Board Chair advised that, in April of this year, the 2009 Excellence in Teaching Awards Program recognized 134 creative and innovative teachers as award semi-finalists for their exceptional work in Alberta's Kindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms. The semi-finalists were selected from 365 eligible nominees from across the province. These awards recognize outstanding teaching ability and classroom leadership in schools across Alberta and twenty-six outstanding district teachers and principals nominated by parents, the public and their peers were selected as semi-finalists.

She advised that the 2009 Award recipients have been announced and that the following four award recipients are teachers from Edmonton Public Schools:

- Diane Fischer, Harry Ainlay
- Anu Kurup, Avonmore
- Jenny Li-Mitra, Ross Sheppard
- Marcie Syme, George P. Nicholson School

The Board Chair advised that, on June 9, 2009, the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association will be recognized by the City of Edmonton at the 58th Annual Salute to Excellence Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and will be presented with the Award of Distinction. This award recognizes the tremendous support the ECBEA provides to district students and schools.

The Association is a valued partner in the commitment to excellence and to providing students with outstanding educational experiences. This partnership has garnered support for the district and, more broadly, for public education. The ECBEA is an exemplary organization and is a worthy inductee into the City's Salute to Excellence Hall of Fame.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent noted that Battle River School Division Board Chair Cheryl Smith and Dr. Larry Payne, Superintendent Battle River School Division were in attendance at the board meeting.

The Superintendent congratulated the President-Elect of Edmonton Public Teachers Ed Butler who was attending the meeting. He also expressed appreciation to current President Mark Ramsankar for his work and the partnership between the District and its teachers.

E. Minutes:

2. Board Meeting #16 – May 12, 2009

Approved as printed.

F. Improving Student Achievement:

3. Improving Student Achievement Through a Partnership with Edmonton Police Services – School Resource Officer Program

Received for information.

G. Recognition

4. Margaret T. Stevenson Talented Young Writer Award Recipient: Skye Hyndman

Received for information.

H. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools

11. Framework for Involvement in Site-Based Decision Making

Received for information.

9. Plan for Special Education 2009-2010

a) The Board heard from Ms Kathryn Burke, Executive Director Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta and Ms Wendy Suave.

b) Received for information.

5. Locally Developed Courses

Approved recommendation.

6. 2009-2010 Non-Resident Fees

Approved recommendation.

7. Inclusion of Students with Special Education Needs

Received for information.

8. Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) Information Update

Received for information.

10. Leasing Summary for 2008-2009
Received for information.
12. Financial Reporting Profile
Received for information.
13. 2008-2009 Interim Financial Statement
Received for information.
14. Introduction of the 2009-2010 Proposed Budget
Received for information.
15. Responses to Board Requests for Information
Deferred to June 9, 2009 board meeting

I. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

16. Report #14 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held May 19, 2009)
Approved recommendation.
17. Motion re Geothermal Heating
Deferred to June 9, 2009 board meeting.
18. Issues, Budget and Bylaws Bulletin for the 2009 ASBA Spring General Meeting
Approved recommendation.

J. Other Trustee Reports

1. Trustee Huff provided a report from the May 22, 2009 ASBA Zone 23 General Meeting. She provided information from the meeting to the Board Secretary for Trustees.

Trustee Huff noted that Trustees would soon be receiving an invitation for an *Inspiring Education* meeting on June 23, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be only for Trustees.

2. Trustee Huff provided the following to the Board Secretary should Trustees wish to access them:
 - DVD of the MLA Luncheon a number of Trustees attended
 - *We Can Do Better Toward an Alberta Poverty Reduction Strategy for Children and Families* from the Edmonton Social Planning Council
 - Information from the Roots of Empathy Program

3. Trustee Huff reported that, on May 14, 2009, she attended a meeting of the Sexual Exploitation Working Group that she joined as an educational representative. The group has pamphlets that will be available for schools that might be interested.

She noted she had a number of questions arising from that group that she will be forwarding to the Administration.

4. Trustee Huff reported that, on May 14, 2009, she attended the Meadowlark Film Festival with Dr. Donna Barrett. The documentaries made by Grade 5 and 6 students.
5. Trustee Huff reported that, on May 19, 2009, she attended the Ross Sheppard School graduation ceremony.
6. Trustee Huff reported that, on May 20, 2009, she attended the Bus Driver Appreciation Day with Trustees Colburn and Shipka.
7. Trustee Huff reported that, on May 21, 2009, she attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Youngstown School. The Minister of Education, MLA Heather Klimchuk and Councillor Karen Leibovici were also in attendance.
8. Trustee Huff reported that, today, she attended the Roots of Empathy Celebration with Assistant Superintendent Bruce Coggles.
9. Trustee Colburn reported that he had visited Westglen School on behalf of Trustee Huff to celebrate Westglen's leadership by creating a Power Hour in the District between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Earth Day. The initiative came about from 12 Grade 6 students who participate in the Earth Patrol and resulted in a reduction of over 1500 kilowatt hours in the District (140 kilograms of carbon dioxide). It would have required the planting of 194 trees to achieve this outcome. The students wanted the Board to know that their objective for next year is for more schools will participate in Power Hour but not just on Earth Day; more students and teachers will be aware and show they care; more people will record their results properly and less energy will be used in Edmonton Public Schools.

10. Trustee Ripley reported that she brought greetings on behalf of the Board to a National Second Languages Conference that took place in Edmonton last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The event was organized by the District's Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education in partnership with the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers. One of the speakers was Senator Claudette Tardif. The Senator expressed appreciation for the Board's support for second language education.
11. Trustee Esslinger reported that, on May 13, 2009, she and the Superintendent attended the Skills Canada luncheon.
12. Trustee Esslinger reported that, on May 23, 2009, she and the Superintendent attended the signing ceremony with the Spanish Government, the University of Alberta and Edmonton Public Schools.
13. Trustee Esslinger reported that, on May 24, 2009, she and Trustee Rice attended the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association First Annual Awards event. They awarded over \$18,000 in scholarships. The Honourable Norman Kwong, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta was also in attendance.

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

L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

M. Notices of Motion

Trustee Colburn served notice of the following motion:

That the Board establish a task force to review and make recommendations on special needs education in order to enhance the education and outcomes for all special needs students. The terms of reference would be developed by the task force and approved by the Board.

Trustee Huff served notice of the following motion:

That the Board create an additional monthly meeting to allow Trustees an opportunity for in-depth discussion on any topics of interest to the Board. The terms of reference for the meeting would be determined by the Planning and Policy Committee and brought to Board for approval.

Trustee Esslinger served notice of the following motion:

That the Board host a symposium for high school representatives to have a facilitated discussion on student voice in the District and that the symposium would not exceed a cost of \$3,000. The symposium would take place in the fall of 2009.

N. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

O. Duration of Meeting: 6:00 p.m. to 9:35 p.m.