

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 16, 2010

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee K. Shipka, 2009-2010 Chair, Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee S. Huff, 2009-2010 Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee C. Ripley, 2009-2010 Planning and Policy Committee

SUBJECT: Review of Board Policy JBD.BP – Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events

ORIGINATOR: B. Coggles, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE STAFF: Cheryl Oxford, Cory Sinclair, Jane Sterling

RECOMMENDATION

That revised Board Policy JBD.BP Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events (APPENDIX I) be considered for the third time and approved.

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The Planning and Policy Committee has reviewed Board Policy JBD.BP – Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events and is recommending the policy be revised. The policy received first and second consideration at the September 14, 2010 board meeting.

The policy is being revised to reduce the length of the preamble, while preserving the focus on why it is important to recognize Trustees at school and public events.

As part of the policy review, the Administration conducted an online web survey between May 11 and June 8, 2010. A total of 40 people participated in the survey: 14 parents, two community members, six principals/DU administrators and 18 staff members.

The majority of participants did not express concerns with the revision:

- Are there aspects of this policy that require clarification? (76.9 per cent said no)
- Are there additional elements that should be considered in this policy? (84.2 per cent said no)
- Are there elements of this policy about which you have concerns? (74.4 per cent said no)

Participants expressing concerns about the revision made several comments, including:

- A desire to leave the wording as is, particularly regarding the accountability of Trustees and the role of Trustees in the community.
- Questioning the need for recognition.

There was also a request for more details on the types of events, nature of recognition, order of introductions and speakers, etc.; these details are provided in the associated administrative regulation JBD.AR – Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events..

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APPENDIX I JBD.BP Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events
(Recommended revision)

APPENDIX II JBD.BP Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events
(Original version showing recommended changes)

Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: JBD.BP

EFFECTIVE DATE: 30-01-2001

TOPIC: Protocol for Trustee Recognition at
School or Public Events

ISSUE DATE: 01-02-2001

REVIEW DATE: 02-2006

Public education is a critical institution for preparing students to be responsible global citizens and contributors to the community. Public school Trustees, as locally elected stewards of public education, should be recognized at public events for the important public office they hold and the role they play in developing tomorrow's citizens. Recognition of public school Trustees at public events not only raises the profile of public education but also emphasizes its importance to the community at large.

Protocol for recognizing public officials varies from situation to situation, depending on the people involved and the specific event. As elected public officials, Trustees should be introduced at events when they are present. School board staff and organizers of community functions shall be made aware of the proper protocols.

References:

[JBD.AR](#) - Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events

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~~Alberta voters have entrusted school boards with a high degree of responsibility. Trustees are responsible for large budgets and staffs, ensure public education is of a high quality and meets local needs, and perhaps most importantly play a key role in developing tomorrow's citizens. As with other elected officials, school board trustees are accountable for their actions to the citizens and communities who reside within their jurisdiction. The public expects school board trustees to be active in their communities and to be in touch with the public's concerns and issues. Therefore, it is important trustees be consistently recognized at public events, in the same way that elected federal, provincial or municipal officials are recognized. Recognition of trustees not only raises the profile of public education but also emphasizes its importance to the community at large.~~

~~Protocol varies from situation to situation, depending on the people involved and the individual event. However, as elected public officials, the board expects trustees will be introduced at events when they are present (and where other politicians are to be recognized). School board staff and organizers of community functions shall be made aware of the board's protocol expectations.~~

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References:

[JBD.AR](#) - Protocol for Trustee Recognition at School or Public Events