

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #5 -

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 Wednesday, November 12, 2008 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
Jenise Bidulock

Bruce Coggles
Ron MacNeil
Tanni Parker

Dean Power
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Bev Esslinger

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Pam Crozier

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers: Mark Ramsankar, President

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

Mrs. Sherwood reported that all trustees were present.

B. **O Canada** –  *L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy*

C. **Remembrance Ceremony:**

1. L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy Remembrance Ceremony

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“That the report entitled ‘L’Académie Vimy Ridge Academy Remembrance Ceremony’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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D. Communications from the Board Chair – None

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that, on November 24 and 25, 2008, district staff will be taking part in sessions provided by the International Association for Public Participation. These sessions will take place in the Centre for Education and Trustees who are interested in attending are asked to advise the Superintendent by Wednesday, November 13, 2008.

F. Minutes:

2. Board Meeting #4 – October 28, 2008

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #4 held October 28, 2008 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Reports from the Superintendent of Schools:

3. Draft Annual Education Results Report 2007-08

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘Draft Annual Education Results Report 2007-2008’ be received for information.”

Trustee Ripley asked whether information regarding revised Board Policy ACA.BP - Respectful Learning and Working Environments has been provided to parents.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Partnership Between L’Académie de Rouen and Edmonton Public Schools

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the report entitled ‘Partnership Between L’Académie de Rouen and Edmonton Public Schools’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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5. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Ripley:

“That the report entitled ‘Responses to Trustee Requests for Information’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

H. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

6. Report #3 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held November 4, 2008)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“1. That Report #3 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held November 4, 2008 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“2. That the 2008-2011 District Priorities be reaffirmed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Motion re Parent Engagement

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the administration engage in discussions with the Edmonton Public Local of the Alberta Teachers’ Association on ways to improve parent engagement, including a review of all current tools and resources currently supporting parent engagement and that the administration report back to public board on the outcome of these discussions before the end of the school year.”

The Board Chair advised that Mr. Mark Ramsankar, President Edmonton Public Teachers, had requested to speak to the motion prior to the board making its decision and sought the concurrence of the Board on hearing from Mr. Ramsankar.

The Board Chair, seeing no objections, called on Mr. Ramsankar to speak.

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Mr. Mark Ramsankar, President Edmonton Public Teachers, spoke to the motion and described the current opportunities that exist for dialogue between the Local and the District; for example, ATA Liaison, Special Council Meetings and meetings of various Joint Committees. He hoped that the good working relationship between District and Local would continue with the current model.

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the motion be amended by deleting the words ‘engage in discussions with the Edmonton Public Local of the Alberta Teachers’ Association’ and the words ‘on the outcome of these discussions’ so that the motion would read: That the administration provide a report to the board on ways to improve parent engagement, including a review of all current tools and resources currently supporting parent engagement and that the administration report back to public board before the end of the school year.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Fleming, Huff and Gibeault

OPPOSED: Trustees Esslinger, Gibson, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question on the main motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn

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

The Motion was DEFEATED.

8. Proposed Terms of Reference and Suggested Process for Trustee Multi-cultural Task Force

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the terms of reference for the Trustee Multi-cultural Task Force be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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9. Policies Bulletin for the 2008 ASBA Fall General Meeting

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the board’s position with respect to each of the ASBA policy and directives for action proposed for the 2008 ASBA Fall General Meeting be approved.”

Trustee Colburn requested that each recommendation be considered separately.

The Board Chair called the question on 1DA/FGM08, Eligibility to Run for Public School Board Trustee - Recommendation to Oppose.

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Colburn

The Motion was CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on 2DA/FGM08, Proposed Amendment to 7.P.12, Superintendent Appointments - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on 3DA/FGM08, Accommodations for Assistive Technology - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on 4DA/FGM08, *School Act* Amendment to Provide for Board Meeting Attendance via Videoconference - Recommendation to Amend and Support in Principle.

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the word ‘*exceptional*’ be removed from the recommended amendment.”

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The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault, Gibson, Huff, Rice and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming and Shipka

The Amendment was CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on the motion as amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on 5DA/FGM08, Safe Communities and Safe Schools - Recommendation to Oppose.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn and Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on “6P/FGM08, Funding for Full-Day, Full-Time Kindergarten - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question 7DA/FGM08, Province-Wide Use of the Early Developmental Instrument and Community Mapping - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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The Board Chair called the question on 8DA/FGM08, Proposal Funding - Recommendation to Oppose.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED

The Board Chair called the question on 9DA/FGM08, School Support Therapists - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on 10DA/FGM08, Universal Assessment, by Age 30 Months, to Identify At-Risk Children - Recommendation to Amend and Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on 11DA/FGM08, Increasing Class Size Initiative Funding for Increased Enrolment - Recommendation to Oppose.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Esslinger and Gibson

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Fleming, Gibeault, Huff, Rice, Ripley and Shipka

The Motion was DEFEATED.

The Recommendation will be changed to 'Support'.

The Board Chair called the question on 12DA/FGM08, Information Sharing Protocols During Formal Risk and Threat Assessment Processes - Recommendation to Support.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the board support in principle the intent of Parkland School Division emergent resolution regarding the safety of students and staff in schools within proximity to a sour gas well.”

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Gibson

The Motion was CARRIED

I. Other Trustee Reports

Trustee Huff reported that on November 5, 2008, she and Trustee Esslinger attended sessions presented by the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta – Screening & Early Intervention Programming for Students at Risk for Reading Problems.

Trustee Ripley reported that on November 8, 2008, she had attended the CUPE Local 474 Retirement Banquet on behalf of the Board

Trustee Colburn reported that he recently attended Alberta Coalition for Healthy Schools and Communities meetings in Red Deer and Wetaskiwin.

Trustee Esslinger reported that she and other Trustees had attended:

- Robert Bateman Get to Know Contest – Unveiling of Contest Winning Artwork event on October 29, 2008 with Trustee Huff
- Mental Health Gala on November 5, 2008 with Trustee Ripley
- Writings on the Wall Conference on November 1, 2008 with Trustees Colburn, Huff, and Shipka
- Meeting with Post Secondary and Business Leaders on November 12, 2008 with Trustees Gibson, Huff, Rice and Ripley

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mark Ramsankar, President, Edmonton Public Teachers, advised that on November 17, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Barnett House, the Local will be welcoming eighty new teachers to the profession. He extended an invitation to the Board of Trustees and senior administration to attend.

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K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Huff requested information regarding the implications of instituting a program that would assist with the early intervention and early identification of children with learning disabilities. There were no Trustee objections to this request.

L. Notices of Motion – None

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 25, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: 9:00 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary