

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #2 -

Minutes of a 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, November 13, 2001 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Bill Bonko
Bob Dean
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Svend Hansen
Ray Martin

George Nicholson
Lynn Odynski
Jean Woodrow

Officials

Angus McBeath
Donna Barrett
Ken Dropko
Marion de Man

Joane Fouts
Paulette Kernaghan
Larry Payne

Shelly Pepler
Helen Thomson
Hans Van Ginhoven

Board Chairman: D. Fleming

Board Secretary: A. Sherwood

Recording Secretary: M. Fraser

Employee Representatives:

Edmonton Public Teachers: K. Beaton

A. O Canada - L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all trustees were present.

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F. **Remembrance Day Ceremony:**

4. L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy Remembrance Ceremony

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

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

C. **Communications from the Board Chairman** – None.

D. **Communications from the Superintendent of Schools** – None.

E. **Minutes:**

1. Board Meeting #14 – September 11, 2001

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #14 held September 11, 2001 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

2. Board Meeting – September 14, 2001

MOVED BY Trustee Dean:

“That the minutes of the board meeting held September 14, 2001 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

3. Organizational Board Meeting – October 23, 2001

MOVED BY Trustee Woodrow:

“That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held October 23, 2001 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

F. **Focus on Student Achievement:**

5. Montrose School’s Instructional Focus

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the report entitled ‘Montrose School’s Instructional Focus’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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G. Reports:

6. Board Representative for Negotiations with Teaching Staff

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the resignation of Trustee Nicholson as a board representative on negotiations with teaching staff be accepted.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The chairman called for nominations for a trustee representative to be assigned to the negotiations with teaching staff.

Trustee Nicholson nominated Trustee Odynski.

The chairman declared Trustees Odynski and Woodrow as the board's representatives assigned to the negotiations with teaching staff.

Trustee Nicholson left the meeting for the following item.

7. Report #1 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held October 30 and November 6, 2001)

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“1. That report #1 of the Conference Committee from the meetings held October 30 and November 6, 2001 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Trustee Nicholson was absent for this vote.

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen.

“2. That the school to be built in the Twin Brooks neighbourhood be named George P. Nicholson School.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Trustee Nicholson was absent for this vote.

Trustee Nicholson returned to the meeting at this point.

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MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

- “3. That beginning in January 2002 to October 2004, a change in the regularly scheduled time for MST and Conference Committee meetings from 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Tuesday evenings to 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., respectively, Tuesday mornings be approved.
4. That, in order to accommodate guests at conference committee for such purposes as appeals, expulsion and termination hearings, the third Tuesday evening of the month continue to be held in reserve.”

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That Recommendations 3 and 4 be referred to the conference committee.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

8. Expansion of District Recognition Awards

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That expansion of the District Recognition Awards to include an additional service, team and merit award for non-teaching staff, be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

9. Tenders – Terrace Heights School Modernization Phase II 2000

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That subject to the approval of the Minister of Infrastructure and the ability of the contractor to furnish the required performance and labour and material payment bonds, the award of the contract for the Terrace Heights School Modernization Phase II 2000 to Aman Building Corporation in the amount of \$1,237,000, excluding GST, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

10. Victoria School Re-development

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the report entitled ‘Victoria School Re-development’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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11. Policy Positions for the 2001 ASBA Fall General Meeting

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the report be referred to the conference committee meeting immediately following board.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Bonko, Dean, Hansen, Martin, Nicholson, Odynski and Woodrow

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming and Gibeault

The Referral Motion was CARRIED.

12. Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2000-2001 School and Central Department Results

MOVED BY Trustee Woodrow:

“That the report entitled ‘Trustee Subcommittee Review of 2000-2001 School and Central Department Results’ be received for information.”

Trustee Bonko expressed the following concerns:

- some schools are not receiving support through the ESHIP initiative.
- lack of commonality of programming across the district that exacerbates the problem of transiency in some communities
- some schools are fundraising for essential items

Trustee Woodrow stressed the importance of all schools having early dismissal time. She suggested that the administration look at the requirement that 85% of parents agree to early dismissal time.

Trustee Nicholson expressed concern with some schools’ reliance on casinos to maintain sufficient funding.

Trustee Hansen noted a concern raised by schools that were unable to access AISI funding and the inequity this caused. There are pockets of severely disadvantaged students in all areas of the city and we need to be aware of this. There was also concern about what will happen when the AISI funding ends.

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Trustee Hansen noted with respect to the results review documentation that in most cases the school profile page was the 1998 version -- we need to look at having the profiles updated.

Trustee Hansen noted the issue of special needs funding for parents who refuse to send their child to a designated site but want them to attend their neighbourhood school instead as being a concern—no funding is provided to the local school for opportunity learning needs.

Trustee Dean expressed concern with the number of parents who attended the results review meetings – he would like to see the numbers increase.

Trustee Dean also expressed concern about schools not practising their emergency plans.

Trustee Martin stressed the need to ensure that programs like the City Centre Project or AISI funding work in order to lobby the government.

Trustee Odynski noted that the schools have urged the board to advocate for the resources that staff need to meet the actual needs of students and take an active role in making the public aware of the critical work that teachers do.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

13. Alberta Learning Diploma Examination Results and Participation Rates 2000-2001

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the report entitled ‘Alberta Learning Diploma Examination Results and Participation Rates 2000-2001’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

14. Alberta Learning Achievement Test Results: June 2001

MOVED BY Trustee Bonko:

“That the report entitled ‘Alberta Learning Achievement Test Results: June 2001’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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15. Alexander Rutherford Scholarships

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘Alexander Rutherford Scholarships’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

16. Fourth Quarterly Report: June 1, 2001 to August 31, 2001

MOVED BY Trustee Woodrow:

“That the report entitled ‘Fourth Quarterly Report: June 1, 2001 to August 31, 2001’ be received for information.”

Trustee Gibeault suggested examining the types of information that are being reported on and whether some information can be reported on bi-annually, annually or not at all (e.g., information on purchase orders, number of requisitions processed by the distribution centre, and Teachers’ Book Depository sales).

Trustee Woodrow asked that the departments providing the information mentioned be consulted to determine whether it is in fact their wish to share this information with trustees.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

17. Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Nicholson:

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

Trustee Fleming suggested that a presentation regarding the basis of allocation be provided for the benefit of the new trustees.

The chairman called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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18. Bereavements

The vice-chairman reported on the passing of Mrs. Liz Skitch and Ms Pat Petrky, both teachers.

MOVED BY Trustee Hansen:

“That the report be received with regret and the actions of the administration in this regard be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

I. Committee and Board Representative Reports **•Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Hansen noted that he had represented the board at Hazeldean School’s 50th Anniversary celebration on November 8, 2001. The event was extremely well attended. He presented a plaque on behalf of the board of trustees.

Trustee Woodrow noted that she had attended the opening of the Safer Schools Brighter Future Conference which ran from November 8 to 10, 2001 and was arranged by the Teachers’ Book Depository.

Trustee Fleming noted that he had attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Butterdome on Sunday, November 11, 2001. He and the chairman of Edmonton Catholic Schools, Judy Buddle, placed a wreath as did Karen Beaton, president Edmonton Public Teachers, and the president of Edmonton Catholic Teachers.

Trustee Fleming noted that he attended a meeting today of the Edmonton Journal editorial board along with the superintendent, Mr. Van Ginhovan and Mr. Victor Tanti – the purpose of the meeting was to profile the district.

J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mr. Steve Brodie congratulated Trustee Nicholson on behalf of the parents of the district for having a school named after him. He wished to stress that district parents are overwhelmingly in support of teachers. He also wished to commend Karen Bardy for her efforts with the Blueprints initiative and Elaine Decker for her efforts with the Key Communicators program – he felt those efforts need to be recognized.

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K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Bonko requested information with respect to the district’s vision of shared space and what guidelines we are proposing for partnerships with business as well as community groups. Are there working examples that could be examined?

Trustee Martin noted that both he and Trustee Bonko had received a copy of the Alberta Government’s Future Summit to Explore a Debt-Free Alberta workbook from the MLA from Edmonton Calder. Has Edmonton Public Schools provided input? If not, should input be provided? He noted that there was a December 1st deadline.

Trustee Woodrow referred to the conference recently arranged by the Book Depository and asked for information regarding the number of district and out-of-district registrants. She asked whether the Book Depository substantially increased their sales as a result of this conference.

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Gibeault served notice of the following motion:

That the Policy and Planning Committee prepare for the board’s consideration a financial disclosure policy that would apply to candidates seeking election to the board of trustees in the 2004 election.

Trustee Gibeault asked that when this is prepared for the next board meeting that tonight’s report be included for trustee consideration.

M. Meeting Dates:

DATE	MEETING	COMMENCEMENT TIME
Tuesday, November 27, 2001	Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: (8:55 p.m.)

The chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

Board Secretary