

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 Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Leslie Cleary
David Colburn
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Heather MacKenzie
Via Skype

Catherine Ripley
Ken Shipka
Christopher Spencer

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Bruce Coggles

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil
Jamie Pallett

Tanni Parker
Brian Smith
Tash Taylor

Board Chair: David Colburn

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Pam Crozier

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

A. **Roll Call:** (2:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present and that Trustee MacKenzie was participating via SKYPE.

B. **O Canada**  - Vimy Ridge Academy

MINUTE BOOK

C. Remembrance Ceremony

1. Vimy Ridge Academy Remembrance Ceremony

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

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

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that Dr. Maureen Stratton and 67 Bachelor of Education (After Degree) students from the Education 551 (Educational Administration) course at Concordia University College of Alberta were in the audience. The Education 551 course examines the complex systems within public education – the organizational, legal, and social structures that are evident in contemporary schools. The Education 551 students observe a public school board meeting to assist them in understanding the governance structures in public education in Alberta.

The Board Chair advised that Board Policy IEC.BP – Student Admission to the District, received first and second consideration at the October 11, 2011 board meeting, and based on questions asked and clarification requested at that meeting, the Administration will be taking the policy back to the Policy Review Committee for further review.

The Board Chair advised that, at the last board meeting, Trustee Shipka served notice of motion regarding the development of policy regarding student placement and retention. This motion will be brought to the December 13, 2011 board meeting.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

F. Minutes

2. Board Meeting #4 – October 25, 2011

MOVED BY Trustee Cleary:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #4 held October 11, 2011 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Dr. Fern Snart, Dean University of Alberta Faculty of Education, spoke in support of the proposed policy on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Ms Madeline Rainey provided follow-up comments to her remarks at the September 27, 2011 Board Meeting regarding children with brain disorders. She also suggested the

MINUTE BOOK

reallocation of a portion of transportation funding to better resource community schools to be more inclusive and welcoming of students with special needs.

H. Reports

3. Report #3 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting November 1, 2011)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That Report #3 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held November 1, 2011 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That the following motion be confirmed:**

Edmonton Public Schools remains committed to local bargaining of all terms and conditions of employment regarding teaching staff with the Alberta Teachers’ Association.

In light of the Government of Alberta’s recent initiation of tripartite discussions with the Alberta Teachers’ Association and the Alberta School Boards Association, the Board authorizes the Alberta School Boards Association to represent our board’s interests in these tripartite discussions with the aim of concluding a provincial framework agreement addressing term, school board funding, teacher salaries, and a dispute resolution mechanism. This representation will be in effect until January 31, 2012.”

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Johner, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustees Janz and Ripley

The Motion was CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “3. That the selection of Trustee Sarah Hoffman as the Board’s representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Tripartite Committee be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “4. That, effective immediately, the addition of Darrel Robertson and Kevin Stevenson as members of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.**

- 5. That, effective immediately, the deletion of John Edey as a member of the roster of persons available to preside at student expulsion and student reinstatement hearings on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “6. That the allocation of funds (the additional revenues received from Alberta Education re: \$107 million injection of funds and the allocation of revenue due to enrollment and other budget changes be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “7. That permission for the Administration to post a request for Audit Committee members on the following websites: Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta, CMA Alberta, Certified General Accountants of Alberta and the University of Alberta business department be confirmed.**

- 8. That the Audit Committee, with support of the Superintendent and Executive Director, Finance and Infrastructure, selects the two external members of the Audit Committee.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “9. That the Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee be approved.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

4. Selection of Board Representatives on the Audit Committee

The Board Chair called for nominations for two Trustees to serve as Board representatives on the Audit Committee.

Trustee Janz nominated Trustee Johner

Trustee Hoffman nominated Trustee Janz.

Trustee Ripley nominated Trustee Cleary.

The Board Chair called the vote for each of the nominees in turn advising that Trustees could vote for all three candidates or not and that the two candidates with a majority and the highest votes would be selected.

Trustee Johner received seven votes.

Trustee Cleary received three votes.

Trustee Janz received eight votes.

The Board Chair declared Trustees Janz and Johner as the two Trustees who will serve as Board representatives on the Audit Committee for the coming year. The Board Chair will serve as the third Trustee representative on the Audit Committee.

5. APPLE Schools and REAL Kids Update

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the report entitled ‘APPLE Schools and REAL Kids Update’ be received for information.”

Trustee Janz left the meeting at this point.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Trustee Janz was absent for this vote.

The Board took a short break at this point.

Trustee Janz returned to the meeting following the break.

MINUTE BOOK

10. Review of Board Policy IFA.BP – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The Board heard from the following speakers.

1. Mr. Carpay, delegation representing Citizens for Diversity in Education
2. Ed Butler, President, Edmonton Public Teachers
3. Ms Sue Huff
4. Mr. Larry Booi, Public Interest Alberta
5. Dr. Bruce Wilkinson, Professor Emeritus from University of Alberta representing the Edmonton Logos Society
6. Mr. Greg Kauffman
7. Dr. Karen Hofmann
8. MLA Rachel Notley
9. MLA Laurie Blakeman
10. Dr. Andre Grace, University of Alberta
11. Ms Donna Blundell, Executive Director Safe and Caring Schools and Communities
12. Mr. Geoff W. Pritchard
13. Ms Denise Davis Taylor
14. Mr. Jan Buterman
15. Mr. Peter Buisman, Executive Director, Edmonton Society for Christian Education
16. Ms Angela Reid
17. Mr. Hassan Elramly
18. Ms Laura Gyoba
19. Ms Carol Allan
20. Mr. Garnett Genuis
21. Mr. Michael Phair
22. Mr. Rob Wells, on behalf of the Affirm Committee of Southminster- Steinhauer United Church
23. Rev. Dr. Nancy Steeves, on behalf of Southminster-Steinhauer United Church
24. Ms Hannah Wiens
25. Ms Danielle Parker
26. Ms Helen Gabert
27. Rev. Bruce Miller, Garneau United Church
28. Mr. John Wright, on behalf of Edmonton Presbytery of the United Church of Canada
29. Ms Jean Forsythe
30. Ms Gillian Lemermeyer
31. Ms Sally Boyle, President of the AB & NW Conference of the United Church of Canada
32. Ms Josephine Cross
33. Ms Janelle Knutson
34. Mr. Creedon Stewart

MINUTE BOOK

35. Mr. Jay Smith

The Board took a short break at this point.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That proposed new Board Policy IFA.BP – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity be considered for the first time.”**

MOVED BY Trustee MacKenzie:

“That the policy be amended by adding the following sentence: *The Board also recognizes the need to develop and maintain mutually supportive relationships with a variety of LBGTTQ communities in order to ensure the ongoing improvement of the implementation of this policy.*”

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

“That the amendment to the policy be amended to read as follows: *The Board also recognizes the need to develop and maintain mutually supportive relationships with a variety of LBGTTQ communities and other stakeholders in order to ensure the ongoing improvement of the implementation of this policy.*”

The Board Chair called the vote on the Amendment to the Amendment:

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Johner, Ripley and Shipka

OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie and Spencer

The Amendment to the Amendment was DEFEATED

The Board Chair called the vote on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, Shipka, Spencer, Ripley, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, MacKenzie

OPPOSED: Trustee Cleary

The Motion was CARRIED.

Trustee Cleary left at this point for the duration of the meeting for another engagement.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

The Amended Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That proposed new Board Policy IFA.BP – Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity be considered for the second time.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Provincial Achievement Tests (Response to Trustee Request #129)

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

- “That the report entitled ‘Provincial Achievement Tests (Response to Trustee Request #129)’ be received for information.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. Motion re Provincial Achievement Tests

Mr. Ed Butler, President Edmonton Public Teachers, encouraged the Board to call on the provincial government to replace the current provincial achievement testing model.

MOVED BY Trustee Spencer:

- “That the Board support Premier Redford’s pledge to replace Grade 3 Provincial Achievement Tests with more appropriate assessment mechanisms that respect the principles of inclusion, equity and transformation. The Board Chair will communicate this decision to the Office of the Premier. The Board’s representatives to the Alberta School Boards’ Association and the Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta will work to persuade these groups to adopt similar positions.”**

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be amended by striking the first sentence and replacing it with the following sentence: *That the Board supports the removal of Grade 3 Provincial Achievement Tests.*”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Hoffman and Janz

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Johner, MacKenzie, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

OPPOSED: Trustee Ripley

The Motion was CARRIED.

8. Motion re Pre-registration for 5:00 p.m. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives at Board Meetings

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That, in order to accommodate board meetings ending before 5:00 p.m., people wishing to speak under the 5:00 p.m. *Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives* agenda item be required to pre-register.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

9. Request from Renew 1.1.2

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That a letter of support from the Board of Trustees be provided.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. Edmonton Public Schools’ Combined Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the report entitled ‘Edmonton Public Schools’ Combined Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report’ be deferred to the November 29, 2011 board meeting.”

Trustees were asked to provide their input with respect to the report by November 20, 2011. The report will come back to board as a recommendation with consideration of the input provided by Trustees.

The Board Chair called the question on the Deferral Motion.

The Deferral Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Ripley, the Board’s representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, reported on the District Foundation’s October 25, 2011 launch of the Full-Day Kindergarten at Lauderdale School and the upcoming launch of the Full Day Kindergarten at Mee-Yah-Noh School. The full-day kindergarten at Lauderdale is possible because of a five-year commitment made by the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation. The full-day kindergarten programs at Tipaskan and Mee-Yah-Noh are made possible through the generosity of many organizations and individuals. Other events the Foundation is hosting include the “*Create in 8 Art Showcase*” at Grant MacEwan Centre for Arts and Communication in November and the Adam Gregory Concert on December 19 at Jasper Place High School. Proceeds will support the Foundation.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Colburn, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reminded Trustees of the upcoming Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Fall General Meeting and advised that he will be representing the ASBA at a conference in Toronto. Delegates to the conference will be examining the gaps between business, education and health.

Trustee Hoffman, the Board's alternate representative on ASBA Zone 23, reported on the ASBA Zone 23 Annual General Meeting held on October 28, 2011. At that meeting School Resource Officers (SRO's) provided information to Trustees regarding the cancellation of funding for the SRO program. Member boards were asked to consider writing letters in support of the SRO program and reinstatement of the funding. She will circulate further information to Trustees via e-mail.

Trustee Shipka, the Board's alternate representative on the Public School Boards Council (PSBC), did not have a report at this time.

Trustee Spencer, the Board's representative on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee, advised he will provide a report at the November 29, 2011 board meeting on the Capital Region Services to Children Linkages Committee meeting that was held November 3, 2011.

Trustee Johner reported that she had attended the recent City of Edmonton's Capital Clean Up Partners Recognition Event. She was honoured to accept a piece of artwork on behalf of the Board presented in recognition of the District's support of the program.

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

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Shipka requested the following information:

- Provide comparisons of how district unused space compares with Edmonton and Calgary districts.
- What current and future implications, if any, could this have for student achievement in the district?

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Johner requested the following information:

- What is the process and steps taken to manage and improve teacher performance in a school when a teacher continues to underperform?
- How does the collective agreement impact the process?

Trustee Ripley requested the following information, as a follow-up to the Ad Hoc Committee on School Closures and Sustainability Review recommendations around tracking the achievement of children affected by school closures:

- Provide an update on the performance of the children in Fulton Place, Capilano, McCauley, Parkdale and Eastwood Schools in 2010 – 2011 in their new schools.

Trustee Ripley requested the following information, as a follow-up to the presentation by EPSB on “creativity” on October 11, 2011 to the Ottawa-Carleton School Board:

- Provide information on how EPSB defines creativity and how it is developing and supporting creativity and innovation in all of our students across the district. Include examples of current classroom/school practice, initiatives and programs.
- Also, comment on the context within this work takes place, the barriers and supports, and district plans to enhance the development of student creativity into the future.

Trustee Colburn requested the following information:

- Provide a report on how formal financial literacy training might be incorporated into the district’s curriculum and give examples of best practices in this regard in other districts across Canada.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

MINUTE BOOK

N. **Adjournment (8:10 p.m.)**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary