

MINUTE BOOK

- Board Meeting #18 -

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, June 15, 2010 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
Sultan Ibrahim
Ron MacNeil

Tanni Parker
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Don Fleming

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

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

Mrs. Sherwood advised that all Trustees were present.

B. **Recognition of National Aboriginal Day**

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the presentations with respect to National Aboriginal Day be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that an item would be added to the agenda following report 8 regarding attendance boundaries for Florence Hallock School.

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Trustee Shipka noted that, at the March 23, 2010 board meeting, Ms Andrea Harrison, a teacher at Spruce Avenue School, was announced as the District's nominee for the Alberta School Boards' Association 2010 Edwin Parr Teacher Award which recognizes outstanding first-year teachers. He advised, it was announced at the ASBA Zone 23 Edwin Parr Awards Banquet held on May 28, 2010 that Andrea was selected to be one of the two nominees from Zone 23 as a finalist for the Awards. The winner of the Edwin Parr Teacher Award will be announced at the ASBA Fall General Meeting.

Andrea teaches Grade 7 language arts and Grades 7 to 9 social studies at Spruce Avenue School. By recognizing that students have diverse learning styles, Andrea ensures all her lessons combine visual, auditory and kinesthetic elements. Her practice of having students create cartoons depicting their perspectives of historical events is just one of the many engagement strategies she employs.

Her Grade 7 class consists of a cohort of 55 per cent of students who, in Grade 6, did not achieve the acceptable standard in their provincial achievement test in social studies. This year, the midterm exam that covered half the social studies curriculum revealed over 95 per cent of the students met the acceptable standard. These results are amazing.

In the words of her Principal Chris Morris, "Andrea is an excellent young teacher who has brought so many positive things to our school that it is difficult to give her impact true justice. She has the remarkable ability to connect with some of the most socio-economically disadvantaged students in our District, and to push, pull and drag them to success."

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent reported on the First Nations, Métis, Inuit (FNMI) 3rd Annual Graduation ceremony that took place at McNally School on June 11, 2010. The event was co-hosted by McNally and Braemar Schools. He added there will be 300 self-identified FNMI students graduating this year.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #17 – May 25, 2010

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

"That the minutes of Board Meeting #17 held May 25, 2010 be approved as printed." (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Dr. Raquel Feroe noted that she had spoken at the March 23, 2010 board meeting to express concern about the cancellation of the solar project at Riverdale School. She noted that after working with the Administration, the program will go forward.

The following individuals spoke urging the Board to reverse the administrative decision to move the Riverdale School kindergarten class to Forrest Heights School:

- Mr. Bill Moore-Kilgannon
- Mr. Jason Scott
- Ms Catherine Kloczkowski
- Ms Michal Kaye
- Mr. Wayne Simpson
- Mr. Kevin Minaker
- Ms Charity Ambs
- Kim and Blaise Spence
- Ms Heather Attia
- Mr. Gene Chan

The Board Chair noted that the Board met with the Superintendent this afternoon and the Superintendent will bring an information report to the June 22, 2010 Conference Committee meeting with respect to the rationale for the Superintendent's decision and what options, if any, might be available with respect to the kindergarten class.

Ms Marya McVicar spoke about Westglen School and the opportunity to use it to set the standard of excellence for small schools.

Mr. Paul Wyminga, a parent of students attending Westglen School, advised that Westglen School has been named the winner of a 2010 Emerald Award in the Education - School category by the Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence. The school was recognized at the 19th annual Emerald Awards Ceremony on June 10, 2010 in Calgary. M.E. LaZerte School was also named as a finalist in the Education - School category.

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G. Reports

8. Delegation re Victoria School Arts Annex

The Board heard from Ms Joan Wyatt and Ms Hayley MacDonald, students from Victoria School.

The Board Chair provided the following response based on the actions undertaken by the Board to date: This Board, and previous Boards have lobbied the Provincial Government over one full decade to acquire the funding to modernize Victoria School. This included a recognition that Victoria school requires additional spaces, at additional cost, that are not part of a regular school because of the fine and performing arts. The current Annex is not part of that additional space, and has not been funded for modernization from the province for that reason.

The Board has placed a request to the Province to determine if there will be any additional funding that could be applied to the Victoria Annex. The request has not been responded to. As all funding for modernization comes directly from the province, in the absence of any additional funding, the District will have no alternative but to proceed with the demolition. He noted that he and the Superintendent will be meeting with the Minister of Education and other Metro Board Chairs tomorrow and he will raise this issue again.

The recommendations from the delegation will continue to be taken under advisement; however, there is no other alternative but to proceed with the demolition.

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the report entitled ‘Delegation re Victoria School Arts Annex’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Inclusive Education

The Board heard from the following speakers regarding their experiences with respect to inclusive education:

- Ms Kim Edwards
- Ms Wendy McDonald
- Ms Lori Fankhanel
- Ms Kathryn Burke

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MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

**“That the report entitled ‘Inclusive Education’ be received for information.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That the meeting be extended past 9:00 p.m.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board took a short break at this point.

3. Report #14 of the Conference Committee (From the Meetings Held May 25 and June 1, 2010)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “1. That Report #14 of the Conference Committee from the meetings held May 25 and June 1, 2010 be received and considered.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “2. That the designation of Debra Gresko-Mielke as principal to the District, effective September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2012, be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “3. That the following designations for the period September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011 be confirmed:**

Sandy Forster – Director Curriculum

Kevin Stevenson – Director EPS Metro Continuing Education

- 4. That the following designations for the period September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2013 be confirmed:**

Bruce Coggles – Assistant Superintendent

Lorne Parker – Managing Director

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5. That the following designations for the period September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2013 be confirmed:

Mark Liguori – Assistant Superintendent
Jamie Pallett – Assistant Superintendent”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “6. That the appointment of David Fraser to the position of Executive Director effective September 1, 2010 be confirmed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “7. That \$1,671,700 from the District capital reserve, to complete facility upgrades at Delton, Gold Bar, Hardisty, Spruce Avenue and Parkview Schools be confirmed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

8. Motion re Promotion and Support of Regular Schools

The Board heard from Ms Laurie Simpson who spoke in favour of the motion.

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That Edmonton Public Schools ensure that schools offering regular programming (also known as local or community schools) receive an equitable level of district promotion and support as schools that offer alternative programs or programs of choice.”

Trustee Colburn offered the following friendly amendment.

“That Edmonton Public Schools work to ensure an equitable level of district promotion and support for schools offering regular programming (also known as local or community schools) compared to schools that offer alternative programs or programs of choice.”

Trustee Huff agreed to accept the friendly amendment.

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

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Gibeault, Gibson and Shipka

The Motion was CARRIED.

4. Policy Review: Board Policy HGE.BP - Continuing Education and Board Regulation HGE.BR – Continuing Education

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “1. That revised Board Policy HGE.BP - Continuing Education and the rescission of current Board Regulation HGE.BR – Continuing Education be considered for the second time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “2. That revised Board Policy HGE.BP - Continuing Education and the rescission of current Board Regulation HGE.BR – Continuing Education be considered for the third time and approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Board Policy Review - AA.BP Stakeholder Engagement

The Board heard from Ms Jodine Chase who expressed concern with the administrative decision to move the kindergarten class from Riverdale School and believes this decision undermines community confidence with respect to the sector review process. She also asked the Board to respond to the community’s request to reverse the Administration’s decision with respect to the kindergarten class at Riverdale School.

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “That new Board Policy AA.BP – Stakeholder Engagement be considered for the first time.”

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MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the policy be referred to the Policy and Planning Committee.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming and Huff

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

The Referral Motion was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question.

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

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger and Huff

The Motion was CARRIED.

6. Policy Review – HGDD.BP – Performance and Exhibit Opportunities in the Fine Arts

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “1. That revised and renamed board policy HGDD.BP - Performance and Exhibit Opportunities in the Fine Arts be considered for the first time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Shipka:

- “2. That revised and renamed board policy HGDD.BP - Performance and Exhibit Opportunities in the Fine Arts be considered for the second time.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

Response to the Petition re Attendance Boundaries for Florence Hallock School

Trustee Esslinger served notice of the following motion:

“That the school catchment area for Florence Hallock junior high be extended to include the Lago Lindo, Klarvatten and Schonsee communities and that notice of motion be waived.”

The Board Chair asked if there were any objections with respect to the waiver of notice.

Waiver of notice was not unanimous; therefore, the Board will consider this matter at its next meeting.

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9. Board Review of 2010-2011 Plans and Proposed Budget
 - Discussion of 2010-2011 Plans and the 2010-2011 Budget
 - Discussion of and questions arising from school budget reviews
 - Discussion of and questions arising from central services budget reviews

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the report entitled ‘Board Review of 2010-2011 Plans and Proposed Budget’ be received for information.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

10. Approval of the 2010-2011 Proposed Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the 2010-2011 proposed budget in the amount of \$823,000,000 be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

11. Three-Year Education Plan 2010-2011: Changes in Process and Draft Plan
12. Major Maintenance Plan 2010-2011
13. Leasing Summary for 2009-2010
14. Update on Plan to Promote Healthy Food and Beverage Choices
15. Response to Board Request for Information

These reports were deferred to the next board meeting.

16. Delegation of Authority – 2010 Summer Recess

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

- “1. That, in accordance with Sections 67(1), 65(2) and 65(3) of the *School Act*, any special board meetings during the 2010 summer recess be at the call of the Board Chair or, in his absence, the Board Vice-Chair.**
- 2. That, in accordance with Section 61(1) of the *School Act*, effective June 22, 2010, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2010 summer recess on behalf of the Board be approved.**
- 3. That a report of all such decisions be brought to the first board meeting in the fall of 2010.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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17. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Esslinger reported that she attended the graduation ceremony for Computer Literate ELL Parents on June 10, 2010 at Queen Elizabeth School. Queen Elizabeth School in collaboration with the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN) and Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA) started a community computer program. A five-session workshop on computer literacy targeted newcomer parents of students attending the ELL program. The 12 parents who completed the course were recognized and were given computers provided as a generous donation by 'Computers for Schools'.

Trustee Esslinger noted that she had decided not to seek re-election in the fall. It has been her privilege to serve as a Trustee for two-terms.

Trustee Rice reported that, on June 3, 2010, he addressed the Outreach Program graduating class. There were 42 students who graduated. He noted that the Outreach Program, which was the result of an initiative from Trustee Esslinger, is an excellent example of meeting the needs of students from varying backgrounds in completing their schooling.

Trustee Rice reported that, on June 6, 2010, he had the privilege of being the Honourary Inspecting Officer of the Basic Military Qualification Class. The 41 Brigade graduated in the Debney Armoury. The Brigade was also celebrating Edmonton Public Schools which has a co-op program at Centre High. The next Brigade going to Afghanistan of privates, sappers, gunners, troopers and signallers will include 2 students from Eastglen, 4 students from Centre High and one student each from Jasper Place, Strathcona, Victoria and W.P. Wagner schools. These young men and women are superb examples of young Canadians.

Trustee Huff reported that, on May 26, 2010, she brought greetings on behalf of the Board at the Ross Sheppard School graduation. The graduating class of just over 700 students, had 50 students with averages of over 90% and 170 with averages between 80-89.5%.

Trustee Huff reported that, on June 2, 2010 she and Trustee Gibeault presented the GAUSS Math Awards. District students did exceptionally well this year.

Trustee Huff reported that, on June 5, 2010, she along with Trustees Colburn and Shipka and Board Secretary Sherwood attended the retirement banquet for David King, the outgoing Executive Director of the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta. It was announced on June 5th that Mary Lynne Campbell, Superintendent Parkland Schools, will be the next Executive Director of the PSBAA.

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Trustee Huff reported that Indigo Book Award recipients this year include Inglewood School which is receiving \$40,000 and Brightview School which is receiving \$70,000 to buy supplies for their schools.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: (11:25 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary