



Summary of Board Meeting #16 Tuesday, September 16, 2003

- A. **O Canada** – District Video.
- B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.) - All trustees were present.
- C. **Communications from the Board Chairman**

The chairman welcomed all staff back from the summer recess. He noted that this year has started off on an extremely positive note with the National Post article regarding William Ouchi's book *Making Schools Work* in which Edmonton Public Schools was cited as the top school district in North America in terms of the 7 keys to success – entrepreneurial principals, school-controlled budgets, accountability, decentralization, a strong focus on student achievement, school choice and a community approach. This is great national exposure of the tremendous work going on in the district.

He also noted that efforts to improve student achievement and the high school completion rate are beginning to show positive results. He concluded by saying that, although this year will present challenges for the district, we know that everyone will continue to do their very best to ensure that all students receive an outstanding education.

- D. **Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The superintendent introduced the following members of superintendent's council present at the meeting: Mary Butlin, Morrie Smith, Joan Gibson, Maureen MacDonald, Scott Millar, Lorne Parker and Ros Smith.

- E. **Minutes:**

- 1. **Board Meeting #15 – June 17, 2003**

Approved as amended (page five - Trustee Martin voted in favour of the recommendation with respect to the referral motion).

- F. **Focus on Student Achievement**

- 2. **Focus on Supporting Teaching and Learning: Curriculum Programs**

Received for information.

G. Reports:

3. Report #14 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held June 17, 2003 and September 2, 2003)

Approved recommendations re:

- Principal designation
- Nomination for ASBA Friends of Education Award
- Teacher resignations

4. Delegation of Authority – Superintendent of Schools – 2003 Summer Recess

Received for information.

5. Funds for 2004-2005 Professional Improvement Program

- a) Approved recommendation.
- b) Trustees suggested that, for the next report, a better explanation of how the figures are calculated be provided for the board's information.

6. Process for Results Review and Three-Year Planning

- a) Approved recommendation.
- b) Trustee Nicholson asked that the administration re-examine amalgamating the results review and budget review process.
- c) Trustee Nicholson referred to page 3 of the report regarding the planning timeline on January 27, 2004 and strongly suggested that the wording be changed to: *Changes to the basis of allocation are recommended to or determined by board.*
- d) Trustee Odynski requested that the administration examine the feasibility of reporting results review information by program within each school; "disaggregated" results.

7. Programming for Intellectually Gifted Students

Received for information.

8. Update on French Language Renewal Project

- a) Received for information.
- b) Trustee Woodrow strongly urged the administration to rethink how the district provides consulting services to schools.

9. Music Performance Standards

Received for information.

10. Third Quarterly Report: March 1, 2003 to May 31, 2003

Received for information.

11. Bereavements

Received with regret.

H. Committee and Board Representative Reports

• **Community Relations Activities**

Trustee Martin reported that he had attended, on behalf of the board, Take the Poetry Route Media Conference sponsored by the City Transportation Department. There were 450 entries. Winning entries will be displayed on transit buses. The following district students will have their work displayed: Kristen Boulton, McNally; Ray McLellan, Virginia Park; Kevin Czarnecki, Virginia Park; and Shiloh Warkentin also of Virginia Park School.

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

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Odynski requested that information be provided on the OECD tests announced today in the Edmonton Journal – what are they testing and what reasonable conclusions can be made?

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Bonko served notice of the following motion:

That the administration begin the required process to initiate closure of the elementary program at Allendale School.

Trustee Martin served notice of the following motion:

That the administration prepare a report for the board which addresses the very serious health problem of obesity in school-age youngsters.

The report should address:

- *actions taken by Edmonton Public Schools to promote and support the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle*
- *suggestions regarding what the district can do to deal directly with the rise in obesity among children, and*
- *how our district would deal with the proposal for the Minister of Learning to provide all students with daily physical education*

L. **Next Meeting Date:** September 30, 2003 – 6:00 p.m. - Board

M. **Duration of Meeting:** 6:00 p.m. to 9:10 p.m.