

**MINUTE BOOK**

**- Special Board Meeting -**

Minutes of the Special 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 26, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

**Present:**

**Trustees**

Leslie Cleary  
David Colburn  
Sarah Hoffman

Michael Janz  
Cheryl Johner  
Heather MacKenzie

Catherine Ripley  
Ken Shipka  
Christopher Spencer

**Officials**

Edgar Schmidt  
Bruce Coggles  
David Fraser

Mark Liguori  
Ron MacNeil  
Jamie Pallett

Tanni Parker  
Brian Smith  
Tash Taylor

**Board Chair:** David Colburn

**Recording Secretary:** Manon Fraser

**Staff Group Representatives**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President  
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President  
CUPE Local 474 – Felix De Los Santos, President  
CUPE Local 784 – James Niven, First Vice President

A. **Roll Call:** (1:00 p.m.)

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

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**B. Communications from the Board Chair** – None.

**C. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent advised that, as part of an Alberta-Education-sponsored investigation into alternate productivity tools, Edmonton Public Schools has produced a technical and practical implementation guide using Google Apps for education. Edmonton Public's *Guide to Going Google in Alberta* is based on the school authority's experience with the process and provides other school authorities with tips and advice on how to implement an authority-wide or district-wide Google solution. The on-line implementation guide is available at <http://googleguide.epsb.ca/> and is intended to provide both information and technology and district-level project management teams with the resources to successfully deploy Google Apps for education in their classrooms. Individuals are invited to add their own ideas and experiences on the site. He congratulated all of the staff involved.

**D. Reports**

3. Report #11 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held June 26, 2012)

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- "1. That Report #11 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held June 26, 2012 be received and considered."

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- "2. That the Memorandum of Agreement for a three-year collective agreement with CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance Staff) from September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2014 be approved."

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “3. That the Memorandum of Agreement for a three-year collective agreement with CUPE Local 474 (Custodial Staff) from September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2014 be approved.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

- “4. That the following cost of living adjustments be applied to the Exempt Management and Exempt Non-Management Salary Schedules:**
- a. 3.00% increase, effective September 1, 2011;**
  - b. 2.25% increase, effective September 1, 2012; and**
  - c. 2.25% increase, effective September 1, 2013.**
- 5. That the following changes be made to benefits for exempt management and non-management staff:**
- a. For the 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years, the Board pay Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan (ASEBP) rates established for single and family coverage for the Extended Health Care (Plan 1), Dental Care (Plan 3) and Vision Care (Plan 3) benefits; and**
  - b. For the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years, the Board pay 100% of any surcharge levied by the ASEBP for single and family coverage for the Extended Health Care (Plan 1), Dental Care (Plan 3) and Vision Care (Plan 3) benefits.**
- 6. That the Board establish an Exempt Professional Improvement Fund effective September 1, 2013, which provides for exempt staff to access funds for professional leave and/or tuition support to attend post-secondary institutions.**

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7. That all previous terms and conditions of employment remain the same except as follows:
  - a. The definition for family illness leave be amended to read, “Leave of absence with pay shall be granted to an employee to a maximum of three (3) working days per school year for the purpose of making arrangements for the care of a family member, or caring for a family member or other persons who reside in the home of the employee”; and
  - b. Language regarding leave entitlements will be updated to reflect current district policies and practices.
8. That the Administration undertakes a review of all leave entitlements to determine if current entitlements enable the Board to attract and retain qualified staff. Any recommended revisions to leave entitlements will be cost neutral to the Board.
9. That the Administration undertake a review of the hours of work for 10-month exempt staff to determine if the current requirements enable the Board to attract and retain qualified 10-month staff, as well as address the needs of students and school staff.
10. That the Administration undertake a comprehensive review of the Exempt Classification and Compensation System.
11. That effective September 1, 2012, the daily allowances for paid lunchroom aides be increased by 5.25% to a minimum of \$15.95 and a maximum of \$24.70, and effective September 1, 2013, increased by 2.25% to a minimum of \$16.30 and a maximum of \$25.25.”

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“12. That the use of up to \$1,303,469 of Capital Reserve funds to relocate six portable classrooms to each of Esther Starkman and Johnny Bright schools, be approved.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:**

***“That the motion be amended by adding the following: That the Board communicate to the Minister that the practice of addressing infrastructure needs with capital reserve funds is, over time, unsustainable. The Board urges the Government to provide adequate funding to support our complex infrastructure needs.”***

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.**

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

**OPPOSED: Trustees Cleary and Shipka**

**The Amendment was CARRIED.**

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

**IN FAVOUR: Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Hoffman, Janz, Johner, Ripley, Shipka and Spencer**

**OPPOSED: Trustee MacKenzie**

**The Motion was CARRIED.**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“13. That the Board expand the mandate of the District Priorities Committee, to include:**

- **Reviewing and updating the School Board Governance and Operations Section of the Policy Manual (Trustees’ Manual) at least once per term or as required,**
- **Reviewing the Trustee remuneration package every three years,**
- **Developing an orientation plan for the next Board,**
- **Reviewing the Trustee Protocols to ensure they are current and relevant,**
- **Reviewing and monitoring Board Work Plan progress, and**
- **Developing Board Retreat agendas**

**14. That the District Priorities Committee be renamed the District Priorities and Governance Committee.”**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

2. Motion re Review of Student Assessment Policies

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Mr. Doug Senuik, who also provided written information to the Trustees
- Ms Bettianne Hayward
- Mr. Lynden Dorval
- Mr. Dan Tachynski provided written information to the Board on behalf of Mr. Mike Tachynski

The Board took a short break at this point.

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“That the Board direct the Policy Review Committee to review policies related to student assessment to ensure clarity, consistency and to ensure that students are held to high standards.”**

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**MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:**

**“That the motion be amended to add: *The policy will also ensure that students must demonstrate proficiency and understanding in relation to Alberta Education’s required curriculum.*”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.**

**IN FAVOUR:** Trustees Hoffman, Johner, MacKenzie, Shipka and Spencer

**OPPOSED:** Trustees Cleary, Colburn, Janz and Ripley

**The Amendment was CARRIED.**

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

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**E. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

The Board heard from the following speakers regarding the “zero-grade” practice:

- Mr. Jacob Garber
- Mr. Tom Lincoln
- Mr. Greg Plouffe
- Mr. Doug Senuik
- Mr. Lawrence Seligman

**F. Adjournment (2:50 p.m.)**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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David Colburn, Board Chair

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Cheryl Hagen, Acting Secretary-Treasurer