

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #15

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, May 23, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper

Ken Gibson
Nathan Ip
Michael Janz

Ray Martin
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad

Grace Cooke
Leona Morrison
Lorne Parker

Nancy Petersen
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

CUPE Local 3550 – Gloria Lepine, Chief Steward and Linda Harris, Treasurer

The Board Chair called the meeting to order with recognition that we are on Treaty 6 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

The Board Chair advised that the fire alarm system at the Centre for Education is a Two Stage alarm system. Stage One is a single repeating alarm tone indicating a warning only and that evacuation is not required. Stage Two is a triple repeating alarm tone indicating that evacuation is required.

A. **O Canada** 

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Johner was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

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MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

**“That the agenda for the May 23, 2017, board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that on May 15, 2017, she, the Superintendent and representatives from Communications and met with the Editorial Board from the Edmonton Journal to discuss the District's infrastructure needs and strategy. As a result of that publication there were several subsequent media opportunities where she was able to reassure parents, students and the community that the District is working to address the future High School growth pressures.

The Board Chair explained that the District was aware that this need was coming and the need for elementary and junior high schools was acute, based on the population and that need has been filled to a manageable level; the pressure point now is high schools. She shared that the infrastructure work being done is complex and that the District is committed to providing 21st century learning spaces for students around the city, no matter where students live.

The Board Chair advised that the District is working to provide flexibility and options for high school students and that part of being creative also means continuing to have collaborative conversations with families and school communities to provide multiple pathways to high school completion. The best solution to the District's enrolment pressures is to build new high schools. The Board has asked for two high schools in the most recent Capital Plan to be built in the southwest and southeast corners of the City and has also asked for additional high school space in the second year of the Capital Plan. The Board Chair said that the Board will continue its advocacy work with the province.

She thanked the Communications staff for their continued support and timely responses to media inquiries, as well the Planning staff for their ongoing commitment to ensuring quality infrastructure for all.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools - None

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #14 – May 9, 2017

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #14 held May 9, 2017, be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

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There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Report #5 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held May 9, 2017)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the May 9, 2017, Caucus Committee meeting.

3. 2017-2018 Non-Resident Fees and 2018-2019 International Student Program Fees

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

**“1. That the proposed 2017-2018 Non-Alberta Residents and Special Needs Non-Residents fees, be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That the proposed 2018-2019 International Student Tuition fee of \$12,000 and the International Student Application fee of \$250 be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

The Board Chair requested that information be provided regarding whether there is any type of assistance for international students should they not be able to afford the international student fee.

4. Rundle School Outside in Summer Program Review

Information was provided regarding the Rundle School “outside in summer” program.

5. Allocation of Funding for Students Who Self-Identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit (Trustee Request for Information #207)

Information was provided regarding the allocation of funding for students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

Trustee Janz requested that Administration provide information on what the Federal government financial commitments are in supporting FMNI students.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams reported that she attended two significant culture events in Ward I:

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Trustee Adams, MLA; Rod Loyola and Councillor Mike Nickel brought greetings at the annual Vaisakhi Concert hosted by the Meyokumin School. She explained the concert is a harvest celebration in the Punjab community that marks the beginning of the new solar year, the new harvest season and the birth of the Sikh religion. Students from Grades 1-6, dressed in beautiful outfits of bright colors, performed 14 different Punjabi dances. The production was orchestrated by music teacher, Mrs. Ubhi. She shared that the Punjabi community are very strong supporters of the Cogito Program at Meyokumin.

Trustee Adams attended the Minchau School Culture Day which celebrated many different cultures with a parade showcasing a variety of ethnic cultures from all over the world. She shared that it's always amazing to see how many different cultures come together every day in so many of the District's schools. Trustee Adams stated that the Cultural Day event is just one of excellent ways that Principal Milk has incorporated to celebrate the vast ethnic diversity at Minchau School.

Trustee Adams also reported that she attended the Millwoods Christian School Graduation and had the distinct privilege of bringing greetings and addressing the senior students for the past four years. A number of students and events were celebrated.

Trustee Adams shared that students at Millwoods Christian School excelled in their Performing Arts program with 17 nominees, as well as for best play and lead actor from Cappies, which is an international program that recognizes High School Theater, journalism students and teenage playwrights.

Trustee Draper reported that M.E. LaZerte piloted a class this year called, "For Real Life: Business". She explained the goal is to equip young entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge to make their future business ventures a success. She attended the student hosted "Dragon's Den" style show on the evening of May 16, 2017, where the students presented their business plans. Trustee Draper said this event is another great example of the District's Career Pathways in action.

Trustee Janz reported on the following:

May 11, 2017, at the Old Scona School Council (OSA) meeting, Trustee Janz tabled a May 18th, 2017, letter from Vincent Wong, Chair of the OSA School Council, addressed to Superintendent Robertson, advocating for three major areas of improvements including:

1. Facilities and Maintenance.
2. Parent interest in an expansion including an additional campus.
3. Interest in a multi-use facility/gymnasium on the current OSA grounds. Trustee Janz conveyed to the parents that all feedback will be welcomed through the high school accommodation conversations.

May 15, 2017, Trustee Janz congratulated 500 students at the Strathcona Commencement Ceremony. He shared that one consideration of growing high school classes will have an impact

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on graduation ceremonies and that the District will need to look at larger venues to accommodate the adoring parents, grandparents and family members.

May 16, 2017, Trustee Janz said the McKernan School Council meeting was a fantastic welcome to incoming Principal MacGregor as well an opportunity to thank Principal Cleveland for her decades of service. Trustee Janz said he reinforced the District's High School Accommodation Plan to concerned parents.

May 18, 2017, Trustee Janz congratulated the Earl Buxton School on their 25th Anniversary. He thanked Principal Wilkie, staff and students of Earl Buxton School who did a phenomenal job celebrating the school community and shared that they were fortunate to have family members of Earl Buxton present.

Trustee Martin reported that on Friday, May 19, 2017, he attended the Miyokisikaw Day at Delton School. He explained that the day brings together the community to celebrate and learn about the First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures through art, dance, language and history teachings.

Trustee Stirling reported that she was pleased to see so many families and community members present at Escuela Mill Creek School on May 10, 2017, to share their vision for the replacement school. She shared that she is looking forward to continuing conversations as they design a 21st century school that reflects the unique culture of the Spanish bilingual program and the Ritchie-area community.

Trustee Stirling shared that on May 16, 2017, she was delighted to bring greetings on behalf of the Board at the W.P. Wagner commencement. She congratulated the students for achieving such a significant milestone in their life and wished them all the best as they move forward to life after high school.

Trustee Stirling thanked the organizing committee for inviting her to bring greetings on behalf of the Board at the Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan celebration. She explained that the Sikh community parade celebrates the founding of the Khalsa and the traditional spring harvest season. She shared that more than 40,000 people were in attendance and that it was wonderful to see so many families with children in Edmonton Public Schools celebrate their heritage and culture.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Stirling requested the following information:

1. What steps are being taken to ensure that space for before and after school care programming is available as a part the replacement school design for Escuela Mill Creek School?
2. What is required to make this space available?
3. What additional resources might be needed in order to provide daycare options on site?

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Trustee Janz served notice of motion that the Edmonton Public School Board initiates a blue-ribbon third party panel to study efficiencies in operational services of school jurisdictions across the province in all education spending to ensure that resources provided to the classroom are maximized and front line staff are protected. This could include sharing of services or pooling of resources in a number of operational areas and that the Edmonton Public School Board allocates \$10,000 from the Board initiative fund to assist with meeting expenses of the panel.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment (3:00 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations