

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #14

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 9, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper

Ken Gibson
Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner

Ray Martin
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke

Ron MacNeil
Karen Mills
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker

Kent Pharis
Leona Morrison
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

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 Ip was absent. All other Trustees were present.

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C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

**“That the agenda for the May 9, 2017, board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that Annual Canadian Mental Health Week takes place the first week in May to encourage people from all walks of life to learn, talk, reflect and engage others on all issues relating to mental health. She said that during the week of May 1 to 7, Canadians will be writing their Members of Parliament, speaking out on social media, and donating their time and money, all in the name of “getting loud” for mental health.

The Board Chair reported that May 17th is International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. She said that this day belongs to no one individual; rather it’s about people hoping for a prejudice-free world that can provide a place at the table for everyone regardless of their sexual orientation. Inspired by all world theme days, May 17th is set aside to fight homophobia and transphobia and needs to be appropriated by all of those actively involved in civil society: gay and lesbian community organizations, those organizations focusing on other types of sexual diversity, unions, employers, private businesses, governments, public administration, professional associations, and all individuals seeking equality.

The Board Chair expressed her thanks on behalf of the entire Board to the City of Edmonton Fire Department, emergency officials and District staff who responded to the fire at Kim Hung School. She stated that the District is hopeful the school will still open in January 2018 and that updates will be shared on social media, SchoolZone and the District website. The Board Chair assured parents and the public that Kim Hung students will start school in a welcoming, safe learning environment.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent thanked emergency crews and staff who responded to the Kim Hung School fire and stated that most of the fire damage was contained to the roof, exterior walls and mechanical room on the second floor. The Superintendent advised that students and staff will start the school year at Michael Phair School due to existing construction delays and is hopeful they will move to their permanent building in January 2018.

The Superintendent advised that Bill 1 was passed in the Legislature in April 2017, and that the District is awaiting the regulations with the understanding that they will be provided by the Province in early June 2017. The Superintendent said the District is preparing messaging for schools regarding what fees can and cannot be charged to parents in the coming school year. He explained that a Guide to School Fees has been provided to the principals to assist them setting

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their own fees for next year as outlined in the District's regulations and as per Bill 1. The Superintendent said that providing clarity for parents is the primary goal.

The Superintendent advised that Alberta Education has tentatively planned a curriculum survey for later in the month. Alberta Education is seeking input on Kindergarten to Grade 12 scope and sequences of the provincial curriculum. He shared that the District has implemented teacher focus groups in order to provide a District-wide response in terms of the new proposed curriculum scope and sequences. The Superintendent advised that messaging is being provided encouraging all stakeholders to provide their input on provincial curriculum as it is important for Albertans to have this opportunity. He advised that once the survey dates have been confirmed by Alberta Education, letters will be sent to parents and the information will also be made available on SchoolZone.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #13 – April 25, 2017

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

"That the minutes of Board Meeting #13 held April 25, 2017, be approved as amended." (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Strategic Plan Update – A Focus on Well-Being and Student Citizenship

The Trustees received a presentation on a focus of well-being and student citizenship.

3. Motion re: Repealing the Alberta School Boards Association Act

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

**"That the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the Provincial government to repeal the *Alberta School Boards Association Act*."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

4. Motion re: Financial Literacy and Consumer Rights Education

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

"That that the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the province of Alberta to:

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1. infuse financial literacy into new curriculum development, in an age-appropriate way at all grade levels;
2. ensure that consumer rights education is incorporated; and
3. implement pilot projects or support locally developed courses on these topics.”

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb that the motion be amended:

“That that the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the province of Alberta to:

1. infuse **both business and personal** financial literacy into new curriculum development, in an age-appropriate way at all grade levels,
2. ensure that consumer rights education is incorporated; and
3. implement pilot projects or support locally developed courses on these topics.”

The Board Chair called the vote on the amendment.
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board Chair called the vote on the motion as amended.
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

There was a short break in the meeting.

5. Teaching Practices Relative to Assessment and Evaluation of Student Learning and Growth
(Response to Request for Information #206)

Information was provided regarding teaching practices relative to assessment and evaluation of student learning and growth.

6. Traffic Pressures on Terwillegar Drive
(Response to Request for Information #211)

Information was provided regarding traffic pressures on Terwillegar Drive.

7. Bereavement – Mr. Tai Duong

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Mr. Tai Duong.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams reported that she had the honour of attending two community building events in Ward I. She shared that the Ekota School Fun Day event was well attended by families of the students and that in talking with parents, there was a positive sense about their children's experience at Ekota School.

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Trustee Adams shared that Taste of Satoo was a very successful event, with an increased participation from parents bringing their native cuisine representing a large variety of the student population. She said this event represents the creative work being done in District schools to embrace and celebrate diversity.

Trustee Adams commented on the "buddy" work taking place between elementary and junior high schools such as Dan Knott Junior High School which offers an opportunity to students during their flex day to "buddy" with the neighboring elementary school, Satoo, to read with the Kindergarten students.

Trustee Adams reported that she and Trustee Ip attended the Edmonton Prayer breakfast in honour of the Mayor, Civic Officials and First Responders, which is a non-political, ecumenical event to honour, support and pray for civic leaders.

Trustee Adams advised that on May 12, 2017, J. Percy Page High School will be holding a career day field trip where over 1250 students will have an opportunity to go across the city to visit their choice of 31 different local companies, institutions and organizations and explore future career opportunities. She stated that this is a wonderful example of the District's Career Pathways initiative.

Trustee Draper shared that it was an honour to attend Delwood School's 50th anniversary. She said it was a wonderful celebration with many past students and staff and a special visit by the very first principal, Mike Strembitsky.

Trustee Draper stated that she was a judge at the J.D. Bracco Grade 9 Pre-Advanced Placement Event and that there were excellent displays and presentations made by the students.

Trustee Draper reported that on April 28, 2017, she brought greetings to the Mental Health Literacy Student Leadership Day at Harry Ainlay High School. Trustees Janz, Ip and Stirling were also present.

Trustee Draper reported that along with several of her colleagues, she attended two fundraising breakfasts: Terra Centre for Pregnant and Parenting Teens and Ready for Life in support of the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation.

Trustee Draper attended the M.E. LaZerte Interact Club hosted by the Rotary Club of Edmonton Northeast and shared that it was a wonderful coming together of community leaders.

Trustee Draper reported that on May 7, 2017, she attended a community BBQ at McKay Avenue School, Edmonton Public Schools Archives and Museum, to raise awareness of the Dick Mather Park and raise funds for a playground.

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Trustee Martin reported that on April 28, 2017, he attended the Lost Prizes conference at amiskwacyi School.

Trustee Stirling reported on the following events:

April 28, 2017, the Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT) markings with eight small McNally catchment elementary schools was an excellent opportunity to get a look at how catchment-level collaboration supports teachers by allowing them to learn and share their expertise on assessment and evaluation while also fostering conversations about interventions to support student success.

April 28, 2017, along with her colleagues, she was pleased to attend part of the Mental Health Literacy Student Leadership Conference and see the great work that the Student Senate members are doing to support student mental health in the District.

May 3, 2017, she and the Board Chair Michelle Draper co-hosted a table for the Terra Centre Promising Futures breakfast. Trustee Stirling thanked Trustees Cheryl Johner and Nathan Ip for joining them along with MLA Heather Sweet and guests from the community.

May 4, 2017, along with Trustee Nathan Ip, she attended the Archives and Museum fundraiser hosted by Gateway Rotary club and shared that funds were raised for McKay Avenue building preservation and the Mozambique School project. Trustee Stirling thanked the Gateway Rotary club for their support of the historic archives building which is an important piece of history for the District and province of Alberta.

May 5, 2017, Trustee Stirling was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Board at the 29th Annual Bids for Kids silent auction and evening fundraiser which was hosted by the Public School Administrators Association. She reported that the event raised \$11,341 to support summer camps and other programs through the Boys and Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Trustee Johner reported that she attended the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) annual conference. She explained that this provincial organization is the parents voice in public education in the province and that more than 300 parents attended the conference. She stated that 12 advocacy statements were presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and that all received majority support from ASCA voting delegate parent council members. She explained that the advocacy statements are directives for action or belief statements that inform the provincial advocacy work of the ASCA Board and its membership that represent the collective parent voice.

Trustee Johner reported that she and Trustee Ip attended the Rule the Runway student fashion show which raised \$21,050 for the Edmonton Public School Foundation. Along with Trustees Draper, Ip and Janz, she attended the foundation Ready for Life breakfast which raised \$58,000

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for the Edmonton Public School Foundation. Trustee Johner thanked staff, students and performers for hosting the successful events.

Trustee Johner reported that on May 2, 2017, the Elizabeth Finch School hosted The Poetry Café annual event. She explained the event is a grade six celebration of poetry where students read poems in a very fun atmosphere. Also in attendance were Lieutenant Governor Lois E. Mitchell and poet, Alice Major.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Gibson requested that Administration provide information on the possibility for any efficiencies and savings from taking a shared approach to curriculum implementation. Specifically, he requested the following:

- how we are building District readiness and capacity to support new provincial curriculum implementation,
- recommendations for efficient and effective use of District and provincial funds to support the implementation of new curriculum, and
- possible efficiencies and effectiveness that could be gained from collaborating with other school districts.

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Johner served notice of motion that Edmonton Public School Board join the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment (5:30 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations