

**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, September 20, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:****Trustees**

Orville Chubb  
Michelle Draper  
Ken Gibson

Nathan Ip  
Michael Janz  
Cheryl Johner

Ray Martin  
Bridget Stirling

**Officials**

Todd Burnstad  
Grace Cooke  
Ron MacNeil  
Kathy Muhlethaler

Lorne Parker  
Kent Pharis  
Leona Morrison  
Darrel Robertson

Sandra Stoddard  
Mike Suderman

**Board Chair:** Michael Janz

**Recording Secretary:** Shirley Juneau

**Staff Group Representatives**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President  
CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff) - Carol Chapman, President 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.

A. **O Canada** 

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

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### **C. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:**

**“That the agenda for the September 20, 2016 board meeting be approved as printed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **D. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair had the honour of being a guest speaker at the Revision Housing Panel hosted by the Capital Region Board. He stated that it was exciting to share the good news and the story about the project of Ivor Dent School and the Board’s commitment to mature neighbourhoods and community revitalization.

The Board Chair shared that he both was surprised and disappointed to learn via the Edmonton Journal that on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the City of Edmonton voted to sell two surplus school sites to private school providers. Because of the District’s commitment for high quality public education throughout the city, we are analysing the impact of these decisions on the surrounding schools, the implications on our Space for Students Community Revitalization efforts, and downstream impacts on future surplus school site usage.

The Board Chair advised that a meeting has been requested with the City of Edmonton and Ministry of Education to better understand how all parties can work together, as partners, to continue to strengthen public education, supported by the current discussions related to the Joint Use Agreement and potential amendments to the Municipal Government Act and Big City Charter.

### **E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent advised that September 30, 2016 is Orange Shirt Day. Orange shirt day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event. It grew out of a former student’s account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission in Williams Lake, British Columbia.

He shared that the orange shirt is meant to recognize the harm done to residential school students and show a commitment that every child matters. A date in September was chosen because it is the time of year when children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools, and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come. The Superintendent will be attending the event at City Hall on September 30, 2016.

The Superintendent shared that he is incredibly proud of the work of the District’s staff in opening up schools to start this year and in welcoming over 95,000 students.

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The Superintendent provided information regarding the number of teacher contracts awarded for 2016-2017 school year.

The Superintendent provided an enrolment update and shared that as of September 15, 2016 there were 95,455 which is an increase of 3,151 students as compared to September 15, 2015. Kindergarten enrolment of September 15, 2016 is 7,483 which is increase of 95 children as compared to last year. The Superintendent advised the final enrolment numbers will be available as of September 30, 2016 and will be sent to the Province and provided to the Trustees.

The Superintendent advised that there are 27 first year principals in schools this year and thanked the Assistant Superintendents and Principals for the support and mentorship they provide to first year principals.

The Superintendent shared that the Learners Support Plan Initiative has been launched and that training has been provided to several hundred staff in preparation for the school year. He explained that Power School is a new module that is included as part of the teacher's grade book program. He explained that the module is helping to address some of the complexities that teachers face and that it is also saving time and improving efficiencies. The Superintendent acknowledged the work of all staff who were involved in initiating this very important work.

The Superintendent advised that in the 2015-2106 school year there were three Teacher Collaboration Committee meetings. Survey results indicated that the teachers wanted to focus on three areas which included classroom complexity, English language learning and student mental health. The Superintendent shared that he will be meeting with the Superintendents of Community of Practice and Education group on September 22, 2016, to analyze the details of the report to determine ongoing ways in which to support teachers with the ongoing complexities of their work. The Superintendent indicated that Teacher Collaboration Committee meetings will also be held in the 2016-2017 school year. The Superintendent has put forward an agenda item for the next Teacher Collaboration Committee meeting to review the Second Learning Assessments (SLA's) pilot project with Grade Three teachers and to discuss the efficacy of the SLAs' and the assessment tool in order to provide thorough feedback to the Ministry of Education.

#### **F. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #17 – September 6, 2016

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Draper:**

**“That, the minutes of Board Meeting #17 held September 6, 2016 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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### **G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

There were no registered speakers for this item.

### **H. Reports**

2. Strategic Plan Update: Priority 1 Goal One – An Excellent Start to Learning

The Trustees received a presentation as an update of the District's Strategic Plan for Priority 1 Goal - An Excellent Start to Learning.

3. Motion re Community Flex Spaces Attached to New and Replacement School Builds

#### **MOVED BY Ip:**

**"That, the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Infrastructure to include community flex spaces attached to new schools and replacement school builds, over and above required learning space, that could support wrap-around services such as childcare."**

**The Board Chair called the question.**

**The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

4. 2015-2016 Board Self-Evaluation

Information was provided regarding the results of the 2015-2016 Board self-evaluation.

### **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 Johner advised that Trustees Ip, Stirling and herself attended the Exploring the Links between Energy Efficient at the Queen Elizabeth School. She shared that presentations and discussions between students, teachers, and other education stakeholders and the Government of Alberta's Energy Efficiency Advisory Panel took place and that panelists shared their perspectives and expertise on how energy efficiency in schools should be linked to student learning and teacher professional development. Students from Queen Elizabeth School shared their recommendations of how Alberta schools can demonstrate leadership in this area to the Ministers of Education, Environment and Parks and other educational leaders in June 2016.

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Trustee Johner thanked President Arlene Hrynyk, Executive Director MaryLynn Campbell and Strategic Consultant Maurice Fritz of the Public School Board Association of Alberta (PSBAA) for their presentation to Trustees. Trustee Johner shared that PSBAA not only provides outstanding professional development to Trustees but also do a remarkable job being of being responsive to provincial advocacy efforts.

Trustee Johner provided an update on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation and advised that the Edmonton Multicultural Talent Show hosted semi-finals on September 10 and on September 17, 2016 with the first place winner being a substitute teacher from Edmonton Public Schools.

Trustee Johner challenged her colleagues to participate in the edMUDton Urban Adventure Mud Run being held at Chappelle Gardens on September 24, 2016.

Trustee Martin shared that a letter from Save the Children's organization was sent to Principal Hines of amiskwacy Academy regarding a report on the Districts' response and support that was extended to the students and families of Fort McMurray affected by the fires. Save the Children's organization expressed that it was a privilege to spend time at such a wonderful school and with such a special team of people.

Trustee Stirling recognized Sarah Hendricks, a graduate from Braemar School, who shared her story at the kickoff lunch at the United Way campaign. Sarah's hard work and determination, along with the great support of Braemar, the Terra Centre, and other helping hands have enabled her to build a bright future for herself and her son.

Trustee Stirling shared that she was present when crossed the stage and spoke as her class valedictorian this spring. Trustee Stirling wished Sarah the very best in her university studies to become a social worker where she will eventually pass along caring support to others.

- K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None**
- L. Notices of Motion - None**
- M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.**
- N. Adjournment (4:15 p.m.)**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Michael Janz, Board Chair

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Dr. Sandra Stoddard, Executive Director  
Governance and Strategic Support  
Services/Corporate Secretary