

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #10**

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, April 24, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Sherry Adams
Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks
Ken Gibson
Michael Janz

Cheryl Johner
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Kent Pharis

Darrel Robertson
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Heather Quinn, 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.

The Board Chair advised those attending the meeting in person that the floor area is restricted to the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, Director of Board and Superintendent Relations and Recording staff, with an area reserved for media. She advised that she would signify to any other staff or registered speakers to come down to the floor at the designated time on the agenda. The Board Chair thanked everyone for their cooperation.

MINUTE BOOK

A. O Canada 

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

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

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Estabrooks:

**“That the agenda for the April 24, 2018, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that on April 19, 2018, the Board of Trustees, Superintendent and the Director of Board and Superintendent Relations had their first meeting with the Board of Trustees and Superintendent of the Northland School Division. She advised that they discussed ways to support transitions of Indigenous students and shared the goal of student success. The Board Chair commented that it was a meaningful first meeting of relationship building and that it has opened the door for more collaboration between the school districts.

The Board Chair reported that April 22, 2018, was International Earth Day which is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. She advised that several years ago, the Board of Trustees identified Earth Day and Week as an initiative to promote within the District. The Board Chair said that the District celebrates Earth Day in many different ways such as reading books about helping the environment in schools, communities and the entire planet and by doing things such as cleaning up District schools and communities, recycling various materials and reducing energy demands.

The Board Chair advised that Support Staff Appreciation week is from April 23 to 27, 2018, with April 25, 2018, designated as Support Staff Appreciation Day in the District. She explained that on this day, schools and central service decision units will have the opportunity to recognize the important contributions provided by support staff and for the excellent work that they do in supporting the success of all students and staff.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent congratulated Principal Karen Patterson and Grade 5 teacher Tara Chestnut from Meyonohk School for receiving National Inclusive Education awards on April 13, 2018. He explained the awards are provided jointly by the Canadian Association for Community Living and its Provincial and Territorial member associations.

The Superintendent recognized and thanked the more than 3,000 support staff that serve District students and school communities both inside and outside the classroom.

MINUTE BOOK

The Superintendent welcomed 27 new principals to the meeting. He advised that District staff who are appointed to the role of principal participate in a two-year evaluation process.

The Superintendent explained that new principals are confirmed based on the results of a two-year evaluation period, a recommendation by the Assistant Superintendents and a decision by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent introduced the following principals who have been confirmed, effective September 1, 2018:

- Kim Boisvert, Overlanders
- Nicole Burrows, Holyrood
- Cathie Bush, Calder
- Andrea Cooper, Homesteader
- Sid de Haan, Kensington
- Martin Fechner, Sifton
- Cori Fraser, Grovenor
- Stacy Fysh, Glenora
- Rick Gingras, Parkallen
- George Hoyt, Ellerslie Campus
- Christina Jones, Balwin
- Constantine Kastrinos, Killarney
- Cynthia Kelly, Riverdale
- Anton Lakusta, LaPerle
- Scott McLean, Menisa
- Kyrill Mueller, Rideau Park
- Brenda Mulder, Sakaw
- Tammy Murray, Belmont
- Wes Myck, York
- Lorna Nyitrai, Brightview
- Eileen Rygus, King Edward
- Cheryl Storie, Tipaskan
- Rhonda Tollefson, Norwood
- Susan Tywoniuk, Thorncliffe
- Corrie Yusypchuk, Donnan
- Corene Zmurchik, John A. MacDougall
- Greg Zukiwsky, Princeton

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #09 – April 10, 2018

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #09 held April 10, 2018, be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. 2018-2019 Distribution of Funds

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

**“That the Distribution of Funds for the 2018-2019 budget be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

The Board Chair advised that the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF) has been approved by the provincial government for the 2018-19 school year and that clarification will be provided to the District on how the funds are to be utilized.

3. Motion re: Increased Access to Mental Health Services in Schools

MOVED BY Trustee Dunn:

**“That the Edmonton Public School Board of Trustees advocate to the provincial government for improved access to mental health services available to students in schools, through additional dedicated funding and increased collaboration between the Ministries of Education, Health and Infrastructure.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

4. Bereavements

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Mr. Christophe Delahaye and Ms Catherine Ward.

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 acknowledged Principal Karen Patterson and Grade 5 teacher Tara Chestnut of Meyonokh School who were recently presented with the National Inclusive Education Award. She explained that a parent of a student with autism said the support her son received was exceptional and it propelled the great progress and success he achieved over this past year. Trustee Adams

MINUTE BOOK

shared that this is a great example of the leadership that takes place within District schools. She thanked Principal Karen Patterson and Grade 5 teacher Tara Chestnut for their tireless commitment and outstanding work.

Trustee Adams reported that at the last MWECC (Millwoods Early Childhood Coalition) meeting, they celebrated the recent funding announcement of the continued support for the vital work of the coalitions. She explained that MWECC is one of seven Early Childhood Coalitions around the city, who work collaboratively with Education, Health, and Community and Social Services Supports to provide the best environments for young children. She advised that the MWECC will be focusing on the data from the Early Development Instrument research that measures the number of children who are developing appropriately, who are at risk or vulnerable upon entering Kindergarten. Trustee Adams explained the information will be instrumental in helping MWECC to identify what resources are needed and where the services will best be provided. She remarked that Edmonton Public Schools is a significant partner in this coalition.

Trustee Adams thanked the Ekota Parent Council for initiating and hosting a meeting for Millwoods schools that was led by her and Trustee Stirling on April 18, 2018. She advised that there was good representation from some of the schools in the area and the evening provided an opportunity for questions and good discussion around the work being done in the District primarily regarding interventions and the prospects for future high schools.

Trustee Adams reported that she had the honour of bringing greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees to new Canadian citizens at the Canadian Citizen Ceremony hosted at Dan Knott School on April 19, 2018. Trustee Adams congratulated the Dan Knott School for the initiation and innovation to host this special event and for the wonderful student involvement including three amazing musical numbers by the Dan Knott Orchestra.

Trustee Adams shared that the meeting with the Northland School Division Board of Trustees was very inspiring and is looking forward to further discussions about how both districts can support one another.

Trustee Adams advised that after hosting two schools requiring temporary accommodation, the Jan Reimer School finally has the opportunity to set up school for themselves. She commented that Principal Jan Sawyer is doing a wonderful job of creating a warm and caring culture and is confident that staff is engaging with the students. Trustee Adams reported that she had the privilege of seeing the students in action as they made a creative and passionate presentation about Earth Day. She shared that through art work, drama and a special song, the students shared a variety of ways to preserve the earth which included the vision of an indoor garden of flowers and vegetables.

Trustee Adams reported that during a recent visit with Principal Ron Thompson at Svend Hansen School, they discussed the strong culture of collaboration and rigorous academics. She advised that Principal Thompson told her enrolment numbers are increasing quickly and that he is in

MINUTE BOOK

conversation with the Edmonton Public Schools Planning department regarding a strategy to accommodate future growth. Trustee Adams commented that Principals Sawyer and Thompson shared that the K-9 concept is very effective regarding student continuity, mentoring and greater collaboration.

Trustee Adams appreciated the opportunity to attend the Parent Council meeting at T.D. Baker School on April 23, 2018. She said that they have an active parent group that has a good working relationship with the staff and parents and that they are looking at creative ways to involve more parents. Trustee Adams advised that there was a discussion regarding class sizes, as well as space for students in high school in the southeast.

Trustee Draper reported that on March 19, 2018, she attended the Arabic Language Culture event at Glengarry School, along with Trustee Johner and the Superintendent. She advised that the Minister of Education, David Eggen, also attended the event as well as many community partners, staff and students.

Trustee Draper advised that on April 10, 2018, she attended the Parent Information Night at John Barnett School. She said that the school ran a Community Resource Fair to present the school community some of the various programs and services which are available to them in this area of the city.

Trustee Draper reported that she attended the Friends of Fraser meeting on April 10, 2018.

Trustee Draper reported that on April 16, 2018, she attended the first of a series of Space for Students in Mature Communities meetings in the Britannia area. She commented that although, the spring snowstorm may have kept some people away, there was still good discussion about the concepts being considered for Brightview, Britannia, Mayfield and Youngstown Schools. She advised that Councilor Andrew Knack was in attendance. Trustee Draper advised that three more public meetings will be held starting on April 24, 2018, at Youngstown School, April 25, 2018, at Mayfield School and on May 3, 2018, at Britannia School. Trustee Draper suggested that if people can't attend the meetings, they can view the options and provide input using the online survey at spaceforstudents.epsb.ca.

Trustee Dunn shared that she enjoyed attending a celebration of the La Perle School Indigenous cultural week with MLA Jon Carson, and thanked Principal Anton Lakusta and the elders and cultural liaisons that made the evening so successful. She said that it was also a pleasure to attend the Indigenous History Quiz at Prince Charles School, and that she was impressed by the study skills and cultural knowledge of the student contestants. Trustee Dunn thanked Principal Judy Toews for the invitation.

Trustee Dunn reported that she enjoyed attending a School Council meeting at Westmount School, where parents discussed the need for mental health services and their passion for the school and community schools. Trustee Dunn said that it was a pleasure to attend a School

MINUTE BOOK

Council meeting at Brightview School where she heard from parents about the impact of the principal and teachers at this school. She commented that parents shared stories about how “everything is different” for their children attending this school, and discussed previous experiences of falling through the cracks.

Trustee Dunn thanked the parents who attended the Space for Students meeting at Brightview School who shared their input with the District during the consolidation discussions. Trustee Dunn encouraged parents in the Britannia, Coronation, High Park, Mayfield, and Youngstown neighbourhoods to attend these ongoing meetings.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the amiskwacy Academy, Elders, students and Principal Fred Hines for the warm welcome to their spring feast event.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the parents and Principal Nicole Schmidt for inviting her to the Forest Heights Elementary School Council meeting. Trustee Estabrooks reported that she had the pleasure of attending the spring concert last week.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the Delton Parent Council and Principal Errol Johnson for the inviting her to the April 23, 2018, meeting.

Trustee Estabrooks reported that she had a tour of one of the District’s newest school libraries at Ivor Dent School and thanked Principal Lynn Schlacht.

Trustee Estabrooks advised that she will be attending the Highlands K-9 School concept design reveal with parents and the community on April 19, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the school.

Trustee Janz reported that on April 14, 2018, members of the City for Life panel met with Jeanette Sadik Kahn, from Paths for People, to discuss safe and active transportation for staff and students with the Mayor, City Councillors and individuals from Public Health.

Trustee Janz reported that on April 12 and 13, 2018, the Public School Board Association of Alberta (PSBAA) heard from several public school board trustees regarding fair and equitable treatment for public schools and their eagerness to cultivate collaboration with Catholic school boards in rural communities. He shared that the PSBAA Visioning and Sharing session was guided by the following statements:

- We believe that by advocating for public school education, we are helping the children in communities gain access to opportunity and options with their public school system.
- We believe public schools are the first choice in communities, where children can go to learn and live the values of democracy together, reflecting hope, and shaping the future of communities.
- We champion inclusive public school education with locally elected school boards who are dedicated to student success.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Janz reported that he attended the United Way Labour Appreciation Night and Jim Shewchuk Award dinner held on April 21, 2018.

Trustee Janz advised that he will be hosting a webinar about the Edmonton Public Schools Capital Plan on April 26, 2018, at 8:00 p.m.

Trustee Janz advised that the South Edmonton Arts and Theatre Society (SEATS) have been championing a new project at Lillian Osborne School officially called the Maclab Theatre Lillian Osborne. He advised that the community theatre grand opening will be held on April 30, 2018. Trustee Janz thanked everyone for their involvement in this project and said the theatre is a very important asset for the school and community.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Donnan School Council for welcoming her to their meeting on April 10, 2018, to talk about the new curriculum, student assessment, and space for students in high school, and Career Pathways.

Trustee Stirling reported that on April 13, 2018, students at W.P. Wagner School held their annual *Wagathon*. She advised that the bike-a-thon fundraiser and student teams raised more than \$133,000 in support of this year's partner, the Zebra Child Protection Centre. Trustee Stirling commented that she is amazed by what's possible when District students get together to support children and youth in the city, and that she is proud of the hard work of the leadership students, school staff, and every participant for making this the best fundraising year yet.

Trustee Stirling reported that she and Trustee Adams attended the April 13, 2018, meeting of the Mill Woods Early Childhood Coalition and that they had an opportunity to learn about the ongoing work to support early childhood in Mill Woods. She said they shared information about the work of the Board of Trustees in supporting the Districts' youngest community members.

Trustee Stirling shared that on April 18, 2018, the Mill Woods Trustee Night co-hosted by her and Trustee Adams at Ekota School was well attended by parents from Wards G and I. She remarked that they had a great discussion about how the District supports students and what the plans are moving forward into this term as a Board of Trustees.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Trustees of Northland School Board for meeting with the Edmonton Public Schools Board of Trustees on April 19, 2018, to discuss how both Boards can work together and share knowledge about supporting students. She commented that although the districts seem very different on the surface, they share the same desire to support each and every child.

Trustee Stirling reported that the United Way Labour Appreciation Night and Jim Shewchuk Award dinner held on April 21, 2018, was a great opportunity to celebrate the efforts of District staff groups to support the important work that the United Way does in the city, including many

MINUTE BOOK

programs that work with District schools and families. She remarked that it was a pleasure to see former Trustee Ray Martin in attendance that evening in his new role as the Board Chair at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT).

- K. **Trustee and Board Requests for Information** - None
- L. **Notices of Motion** - None
- M. **Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 2:00 p.m.**
- N. **Adjournment: 3:50 p.m.**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations