

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #7

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, February 18, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper

Ken Gibson
Sarah Hoffman
Nathan Ip

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Ray Martin

Officials

Diana Bolan
David Fraser

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil
Kathy Muhlethaler

Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

The Board Chair advised that Dominic Endelman, a Grade 12 student from Victoria School, would sing O Canada. She also noted he was featured in the role of the Beast in Victoria School's production of Disney's Beauty and the Beast in December and has already been accepted into two prestigious schools -- Berklee College in Boston and Los Angeles College of Music.

A. **O Canada** 

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the agenda for the February 18, 2014 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair noted the announcement on February 10, 2014 of a new K-9 school to be built in Windermere (in Ambleside), a new junior high school to be built in Lewis Farms; and a new six hundred student space expansion to Lillian Osborne High School in southwest Edmonton. The schools will be open in the Fall of 2016.

The Board Chair noted that the District's third Student Advisory Council meeting was held on Monday, February 10, 2014 involving thirty-three students from Grades 10-12 representing twenty-two schools. The students gave feedback on the draft vision, mission and priorities and were asked for their thoughts and input on the following questions:

- What makes a great school for all?
- Looking back over your years in school, what do you believe is the one most important thing schools should focus on to ensure student success?
- What skills do you believe you require when you leave high school in order to be successful?
- If your school could do one more thing to support your transition after high school to the next phase of your life, what would that be?

The Board Chair noted that a synopsis of the meeting notes will be provided when available. She thanked the students, circle keepers, recorders and facilitators who participated.

The Board Chair noted that Wednesday, February 26, 2014 is *Pink Shirt Day*. *Pink Shirt Day* was started following an anti-bullying stand of two Grade 12 Nova Scotia students in 2007. The students took action after witnessing a Grade 9 student being bullied for wearing pink to school and encouraged their schoolmates to wear pink to send a message against bullying. Since then, the *Pink Shirt Day* Campaign has sent a powerful message that *Bullying Stops Here*. Through awareness and education Canadians can continue to take a stand against bullying.

The Board Chair provided the following updates with respect to items that have come to public board:

- There was an item on the November 5, 2013 Organizational Board meeting agenda regarding a call for interest for the Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) Task Force on Strengthening the Provincial Voice of School Boards. Vice Chair Janz, who is also the ASBA Vice-President, will serve on the Task Force.

MINUTE BOOK

- The following motion was approved at the February 12, 2013 board meeting: *That Edmonton Public Schools carry out a feasibility study in conjunction with Edmonton Catholic Schools on a joint transportation plan that would improve efficiency, reduce ride times and reduce costs for both districts. This study should be completed by January 31, 2014.* The study is complete and the report is scheduled to come to the Board at the March 18, 2014 board meeting.

The Board Chair noted the Board is excited about working collaboratively with Edmonton Catholic Schools and the ability to achieve the motion's direction of improved efficiency, reduced ride times and reduced costs.

- Sherbrooke and Capilano Schools were declared surplus to the District's needs at the June 18, 2013 board meeting and Ritchie was declared surplus at the February 8, 2011 board meeting. At the request of the Minister of Education titles to the three closed schools on non-reserve lands are being transferred to the Greater North Central Francophone Education Region for Ritchie School, the Suzuki Charter School Society for Capilano School and to the Aurora Charter School Society for Sherbrook School.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised, that immediately following the board meeting, he would be driving to Calgary to attend the *Inspiring Education Symposium* taking place tomorrow. The Symposium will bring Alberta Education staff and education stakeholders from across the province together to talk about the work being done to transform the education system in Alberta. During the *Inspiring Education Symposium*, he will have a chance to learn more about the initiatives currently underway in the province that are designed to help us move forward with transforming the District through bringing the vision of *Inspiring Education* to life. He will have the opportunity to hear presentations by speakers who will add their own perspectives to the discussion, including:

- The Honourable John Manley, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives
- Andreas Schleicher, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Deputy Director for Education and Skills and Special Advisor on Education Policy
- John Kershaw, President of C21 Canada and 21st Century Learning Associates, who was recently appointed to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's National Selection Committee on Aboriginal Education Funding
- Head of Programmes on Indicators and Analysis including the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

MINUTE BOOK

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #6 – February 4, 2014

MOVED BY Trustee Adams:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held February 4, 2014 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board heard from the following speakers:

- Ms Blanca Sanchez regarding traffic lights and students
- Mr. Ben Habing regarding mid-year registration for out-of-district students

The Board Chair requested the speakers provide the questions they raised to the recording secretary for follow up by the Administration.

H. Reports

2. Report #4 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meetings Held February 4 and 11, 2014)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“1. That Report #4 of the Caucus Committee from the meetings held February 4 and 11, 2014 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That a new Superintendent evaluation instrument be developed to align with the Strategic Plan. The evaluation process will occur once a year and will include a 360- degree process.**
- 3. That Conroy Ross assist the Board and Superintendent Evaluation Committee in the development of a new Superintendent evaluation instrument that could link to the Ideal Candidate Profile and include in a 360-degree feedback process.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “4. That the use of up to \$5,140,182 of Capital Reserve funds be used to purchase and install six freestanding (portable) modular classrooms at each of Bessie Nichols and Elizabeth Finch schools, be approved.**

- 5. That the use of up to \$760,366 of Capital Reserve funds be used to install ten modular classrooms provided by the Province, be approved. The ten modulators are comprised of two modulators attached to each of Bessie Nichols and Elizabeth Finch schools and two freestanding (portable) modular classrooms at each of Brander Gardens, Bisset, and Ellerslie schools.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a short break at this point.

3. Managing Student Growth in New and Developing Neighbourhoods

The Superintendent provided a presentation for the report.

There was a short break at this point.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

There were no registered speakers.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Draper advised that she attended REACH Edmonton’s report back to the community on the Schools as Community Hubs (SACH) initiative event on February 5, 2014 with Trustees Chubb and Gibson. SACH is a REACH Edmonton initiative that was delivered over a three-year period. It is a crime prevention program working to build a safe community for children, youth and their families in Edmonton. The goal is to build a coordinated partnership and strategy that positions schools as key access points for high needs families, children and youth and results in changing systems delivery and processes. It is an opportunity to connect with families, youth and children in targeted neighbourhoods to offer a multifaceted hub of programs. She was pleased to hear about the positive impact that the initiative has had in participating district schools (McCauley, Balwin, Edith Rogers,

MINUTE BOOK

John D. Bracco, and J. Percy Page) as well in Edmonton Catholic schools. The evaluation of the project reinforced the positive impacts. The findings demonstrated a social return on investment of \$4.60 for every \$1 invested. She noted that positive outcomes like these do not come without the hard work and commitment of staff and community partners involved. She commended those involved noting that, because of their efforts, students and families have access to supports, programs and services through their community schools that make their daily lives easier, build their capacity and enable them to more successfully experience school. She advised that REACH Edmonton's Annual General Meeting will take place Thursday, June 5, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, reported on the January 24, 2014 ASBA Zone 23 meeting she attended with the Board Chair and Trustee Janz. She noted that Mr. Randy Billey, a former Edmonton Public Schools principal, has assumed the role of Director Greater Edmonton Services with Alberta Education and will now be bringing reports from Alberta Education to the Zone meetings. She noted the deadline for Edwin Parr Award submissions has been changed to March 21, 2014. The next ASBA Zone 23 general meeting will take place Friday, February 28, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Centre.

Trustee Adams, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, commended the organizers of the second annual *Ready to Dine* fundraiser at W.P. Wagner School on February 13, 2014. Students from the school did an exceptional job preparing a five-course dinner. The next fundraising event will be the *Ready to Frame* art show to be held April 17, 2014 at the Nova Hotel. She also commended Foundation Director Sandra Woitas for her "friend-raising" efforts. The work of the Foundation is important to provide early learning and full-day kindergarten opportunities for socially vulnerable students.

Trustee Hoffman advised that she and a number of other Trustees attended the Chamber of Commerce Anniversary Ball on January 31, 2014. The event provided an excellent way to connect with other stakeholders including members of other orders of government and district business partners.

Trustee Hoffman advised that she and a number of Trustees attended the District's Long-Service Reception on February 13, 2014. She noted that two long-service recipients acknowledged at the reception were present at today's board meeting, Assistant Superintendent Diana Bolan who was recognized for twenty-five years of service and Recording Secretary Manon Fraser who was recognized for thirty years of service. The Long Service event is held annually to recognize staff with years of service spanning from

MINUTE BOOK

twenty-five to forty-five years. This year's group being recognized represented over 6,000 years of service.

Trustee Johner advised that she, as well as Trustees Draper and Martin, attended a Family Fun Event at the Edmonton Islamic Academy in Ward A on Sunday, February 16, 2014 in celebration of Family Day. She expressed appreciation to Sahar Deeb, the event organizer, for the invitation to the event.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Ip requested that information be provided outlining various potential creative solutions for funding new schools and the feasibility of such options; e.g. working with provincial and municipal partners to build in the cost of a new school into the sale of a new home. He also requested that the information include any potential legislative changes that would be required to allow these various options to be possible.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment (5:20 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

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