

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #16

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, June 24, 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
Jim Davies
David Fraser

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil

Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

O Canada was performed by David Draper, Laura Kiriak and Dominique Hartmier, Grade 10 students from Victoria School. All three students have successfully completed Band 10 and have performed at several Victoria School concerts. They are the only District students participating in the Rotary year-long exchange, leaving in August 2014. David will be living in Japan, Laura in Denmark, and Dominique in the Czech Republic. There are nineteen students from Alberta participating in the exchange. The students' mothers were also present.

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 Johner:

“That the agenda for the June 24, 2014 board meeting be approved as printed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that a number of Trustees attended the District’s retirement banquet on June 19, 2014 to celebrate of the careers of 220 staff members. She thanked the staff for their dedication and years of service and the impact they have made on public education.

The Board Chair advised that Trustees have recently met with each of the Alberta political parties education critics in the legislature. A meeting is also scheduled tomorrow for Trustees to meet with the Capital Region Caucus. She also noted that the Metro Board Chairs have requested to meet with the NDP and Progressive Conservative leadership candidates.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent wished staff, students, parents and Trustees a safe and relaxing summer.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #15 – June 17, 2014

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #15 held June 17, 2014 be approved as printed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – None.

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H. Reports

2. Report #11 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held June 17, 2014)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That Report #11 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held June 17, 2014 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That Kent Pharis and Jeff Waselenchuk be confirmed as co-spokespersons to negotiate a collective agreement for custodial staff with CUPE Local 474.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “3. That authorization of the District’s negotiating committee to sign a new custodial collective agreement following Board of Trustees ratification be confirmed.
4. That the following objectives for the collective bargaining agreement between the District and CUPE Local 474 (Custodial) be confirmed:
 - To achieve a revised collective agreement in collective bargaining that:
 - enables the District to recruit and retain the quality and nature of employees needed to operate the District;
 - reflects financial circumstances, both existing and projected;
 - enables efficient and effective operations consistent with the legislated mandate, the mission and the financial circumstances of the District;
 - has a length of term consistent with the above.
 - To achieve the revision of the collective agreement with no work stoppage.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “5. That Jeff Waselenchuk and Kent Pharis be confirmed as co-spokespersons to negotiate a collective agreement for maintenance staff with CUPE Local 784.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “6. That authorization of the District’s negotiating committee to sign a new maintenance collective agreement following Board of Trustees ratification be confirmed.**
- 7. That the following objectives for the collective bargaining agreement between the District and CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance) be confirmed:**
- To achieve a revised collective agreement in collective bargaining that:**
 - enables the District to recruit and retain the quality and nature of employees needed to operate the District;**
 - reflects financial circumstances, both existing and projected;**
 - enables efficient and effective operations consistent with the legislated mandate, the mission and the financial circumstances of the District;**
 - has a length of term consistent with the above.**
 - To achieve the revision of the collective agreement with no work stoppage.**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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3. Replacement School Selection

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

- “1. That the Board approve a motion to consider closure of R.J. Scott School.**
- 2. That the Board approve a motion to consider closure of Rundle School.**
- 3. That the Board approve a motion to consider closure of Lawton School.**
- 4. That the Board approve a motion approving the site for a replacement school, subject to Board approval of the closure of R.J. Scott, Rundle and Lawton Schools.**
- 5. That the Board approve a motion for the Board Chair to send a letter to the Minister of Education requesting exemption from sections 4 through 7 of the *Closure of Schools Regulation in the School Act.*”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a break at this point in the meeting.

Trustee Chubb left at this point for the duration of the meeting.

4. Approval of the 2014-2015 Proposed Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “1. That the 2014-2015 proposed budget of \$1,009,142,600 be approved.**
- 2. That the budget report for the year ending August 31, 2015 be approved.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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5. Borrowing Resolution

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the borrowing resolution, with respect to the Edmonton School District No. 7 with the Bank of Nova Scotia be approved.”

Trustee Johner requested that information be provided regarding how much money the District has paid in interest in the past.

The Superintendent advised that information will be provided via TM for the past three years with respect to the borrowing resolution in terms of what the interest rates have been and what the District has actually borrowed and the interest that has been paid.

Trustee Gibson asked whether the District is receiving the best possible interest rate.

The Superintendent advised that the Administration will examine the current agreement and future agreements to ensure the District is getting the best possible interest rate from a lending institution with respect to the borrowing resolution.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Response to Staff Group Budget Presentations

The Board received information regarding the response to the presentations by staff groups regarding the 2014-2015 budget.

7. Optimal Enrolment Limit (OEL) (Response to Request for Information #019)

The Board received information in response to a Trustee request for information.

8. Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement (ASAP) and Public, Private Partnership (P3) Successes and Challenges (Response to Request for Information #023)

The Board received information in response to a Trustee request for information.

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9. Delegation of Authority – 2014 Summer Recess

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

- “1. That, in accordance with Sections 67(1), 65(2) and 65(3) of the *School Act*, any special board meetings during the 2014 summer recess be at the call of the Board Chair or, in her absence, the Board Vice-Chair.**
- 2. That, in accordance with Section 61(1) of the *School Act*, effective June 24, 2014, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2014 summer recess on behalf of the Board be approved.**
- 3. That a report of all such decisions be brought to the first public board meeting in the fall of 2014.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Ip noted that he and Catholic School Board Trustee Marilyn Bergstra, who is the Catholic School Board Trustee for that ward, are jointly hosting a Family Fun Day (a community barbecue) at Lillian Osborne School from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, 2014. He invited Trustees and the public to attend.

Trustee Johner, reported that, on June 15, 2014, she attended and participated in the Edmonton Fire Rescue Services’ live fire exercise that was held for students in the Centre High Emergency Response Career Pathways (ERCP) program. The students in the program have the opportunity to experience practical exercises in the career pathways of firefighting, police and security and emergency medical response. This is the second time she has participated in the live fire exercise at the Edmonton Fire Rescue Service training site in the west end. The temperatures during the live-fire exercise in the training burn tower reached upwards of 204 to 260 degrees Celsius. She also had the opportunity to use the Jaws of Life on a derelict car, toured the entire fire training building and shared a pizza lunch with the students. She urged her colleagues to take advantage of this unique opportunity the next time it is offered.

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Trustee Martin advised that, yesterday, he and the Superintendent as well as other dignitaries, students, staff, parents and the community attended the grand opening of the natural learning grounds at Norwood School. Students, staff, parents and the community are very excited about the potential for the outdoor classrooms to inspire curiosity, creativity and active living.

Trustee Janz, who serves as Vice-President of the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA), advised that the ASBA has contacted the Progressive Conservative leadership candidates about doing a teleconference for Trustees sometime over the summer to discuss the needs of school boards in relation to budget, infrastructure, transportation and other areas. Details for the teleconference will be provided to Trustees as soon as arrangements have been finalized.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Ip requested that information be provided examining examining the possibility of expanding the Chinese Bilingual Program to an additional site in the southwest quadrant of the city. The information should include such things as possible timelines and viable options for sites.

K. Notices of Motion – None.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Organizational Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment (4:55 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

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