

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #11

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, March 17, 2015 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

Student Trustee

Johannah Ko

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Diana Bolan

Todd Burnstad
Jim Davies
Ron MacNeil

Mary Michailides
Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Michael Janz

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. **O Canada** 

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees as well as Student Trustee Ko were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED BY Vice-Chair Draper:

“That the agenda for the March 17, 2015 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that March 21st is the Annual United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Racial and ethnic discrimination occur on a daily basis, hindering progress for millions of people around the world. Racism and intolerance can take various forms – from denying individuals the basic principles of equality to fuelling ethnic hatred that may lead to genocide – all of which can destroy lives and fracture communities. The first article of the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that “all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights”. The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination reminds us of our collective responsibility for promoting and protecting this ideal.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that, on Monday, March 9, 2015, he and Trustees Adams, Draper, Ip and Johner attended the Canadian Culinary Federation’s High School Culinary Challenge Awards dinner at the Shaw Conference Centre. Minister of Education Dirks also attended the event. He noted that M.E. LaZerte School won a silver medal and Jasper Place School won a gold medal. This is a fine example of Career Pathways programming in the District.

The Superintendent noted that, this year, the District created an Equity Fund which targets additional dollars towards action research in school catchment areas to improve the achievement and success of students. All principals across the District have been involved in creating proposals and targeting areas to impact results. There will be an opportunity, beginning tomorrow, to hear from catchments regarding some of their initial findings from their work with the Equity Fund. This evidence-based work will continue to drive the work in the catchment areas to impact the results and success of students. He noted that Trustees are invited to attend the sessions. The Equity Fund presentations are scheduled as follows:

- March 18, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in McCauley Chambers - M.E. LaZerte, J. Percy Page and Harry Ainlay schools
- April 8, 2015 - City Centre, North Central, and Strathcona
- May 6, 2015 - Jasper Place, McNally and Outreach
- June 3, 2015 - Eastglen, Ross Sheppard and W.P. Wagner schools

MINUTE BOOK

F. Minutes

1. DRAFT – Board Meeting – March 3, 2015

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #10 held March 3, 2015 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Recognition

2. Edwin Parr Teacher Award

The Superintendent announced that Ms Karly Hildebrandt, a teacher at Michael Strembitsky School, was the District’s nominee for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award.

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

I. Reports

3. Report #8 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held March 3, 2015)

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“1. That Report #8 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held March 3, 2015 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“2. That the use of up to \$1,800,000 of Capital Reserve funds be used to facilitate the necessary building modifications at Avonmore School to accommodate the relocation of Metro Continuing Education, be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MINUTE BOOK

4. Motion re Traffic Safety Initiatives Around Schools and School Zones

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the Edmonton Public School Board write a letter to the Mayor and City Council advocating for a portion of the revenue collected from Photo Radar be directed to traffic safety initiatives around schools and school zones.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be amended as follows: That the Edmonton Public School Board write a letter to the Mayor and City Council advocating for ~~a portion of the revenue collected from Photo Radar be directed to~~ traffic safety initiatives around schools and school zones **and for increased education and enforcement.”**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Chubb, Hoffman, Ip, Janz, Johner and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustees Draper and Gibson

The Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a short break.

5. Process and Timeline for the 2015-2016 Budget and for the Fall Review of the 2014-2015 Results and the Plans for 2015-2016

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

- “1. That the process and timeline for the 2015-2016 budget and the 2015-2016 fall revised budget be approved.**
- 2. That the process and timeline for review of the 2014-2015 results and the 2015-2016 plans be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MINUTE BOOK

6. Optimal Enrolment Measure

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the following motion approved at the May 7, 2013 board meeting be rescinded: *That a measure of optimal enrolment for all elementary and junior high schools be developed. It should be based on the Alberta Commission on Learning (ACOL) calculation of building capacity using recommended class sizes. Those classrooms leased to wraparound partners providing services to children and families shall be considered as fully occupied. The measure shall use provincially adjusted student enrolment to support equity for students with special needs.*” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Bylaws

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the Edmonton Public School Board approve the submission of the following proposed amendments to Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) bylaws:

- 1. That a bylaw be added that would require a public reporting process to take effect September 1, 2015 for the ASBA President, Vice-President, Board of Directors, Executive Director, Contractors and applicable ASBA staff that aligns with the Government of Alberta’s Directive on Public Disclosure of Travel and Expenses (this would include business travel and conferences including transportation/mileage, accommodation, registration, meals and related incidentals, and hospitality and working sessions).**
- 2. That a bylaw be added that would require all substantive votes at the Board of Directors meetings to be recorded indicating who voted in favour and who voted in opposition to motions.**
- 3. That the discussion of bylaws and policy be permitted at both the SGM and FGM.**
- 4. That Bylaw 10.4 be amended to read: At least twenty-one **business** days Written Notice of any General Meeting shall be provided to each Full Member and Associate Member.”**

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That Recommendation #4 be amended to read as follows: *At least twenty-one **business** days Written Notice of any General Meeting shall be provided to each Full Member and Associate Member **and the definition of business day be defined.***”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Chubb, Draper, Gibson, Hoffman, Janz, Johner and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustee Ip

The Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the Edmonton Public School Board approve the submission of the following motion for debate at the Alberta School Boards Association Spring General Meeting: *That the Alberta School Boards Association give notice to leave the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).*”

The Board Chair requested a waiver of notice with respect to the motion.

The Board unanimously concurred with waiving notice of motion.

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the motion be amended to read as follows: **That the Edmonton Public School Board request that, at the appropriate 2015 General Membership Meeting, the full membership of the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) debate the membership of the ASBA in the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).**”

MINUTE BOOK

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the amendment to the motion be amended to read as follows: That the Edmonton Public School Board request that, at the appropriate 2015 General Membership Meeting, the ~~full~~ membership of the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) debate the membership of the ASBA in the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment to the Amendment.

The Amendment to the Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Chubb, Draper, Gibson, Hoffman, Ip, Janz, Johner and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustee Adams

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

8. Update on Numeracy and Mathematics

Information was provided regarding an update on District work supporting mathematics and numeracy.

The Board Chair noted that it was Ms Jane Sterling’s last board meeting before her retirement and thanked her on behalf of the Board for her excellent service over the years.

9. District Partnership Activities with the Edmonton Public Library (Information – Response to Request for Information #058)

Information was provided in response to a request for information.

MINUTE BOOK

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

There were no registered speakers for this item.

K. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

10. Student Trustee Ko

Student Trustee Ko reported that, on Friday, March 6, 2015, she visited Calder School with Trustee Johner. They met with a Grade 6 class that had prepared questions for them regarding the role of the Board of Trustees. The students were enthusiastic and curious to learn about her role as Student Trustee.

Student Trustee Ko reported that, on March 16, 2015, she visited Braemar School and met with a group of twelve female students including Student Trustee candidate Autumn Neitz. There was discussion around the students' educational experience at Braemar. The students highlighted some of the challenges they have faced as young parent students. They also pointed out some difficulties that young parents seeking to continue their education might face. She found the opportunity to obtain the student perspective to be eye opening and informative.

Trustee Ip, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported on the following from the meeting of the ASBA Board of Directors Meeting he attended with Board Chair Janz on March 12 and 13, 2015:

- The budget assumptions for the proposed 2015-2016 budget that will be brought forward to the membership at the ASBA Spring General Meeting on June 1, 2015 were discussed. He noted that, further to the Board's motion of February 17, 2015, ASBA membership in the National School Boards Association (NSBA) is not included in the budget assumptions for this year. He added that, because the deadline for withdrawing from the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) had passed, the ASBA is committed to a membership in the CSBA for the next six months. The Board of Directors will seek feedback from member boards on whether the ASBA should withdraw membership from the CSBA. The proposed budget includes a two percent reduction in membership fees and an overall nine percent reduction in administrative costs.
- ASBA Zone 23 representatives will have an opportunity at the general meeting on March 20, 2015 to have a discussion on the letter he sent as the Board's alternate representative on ASBA Zone 23 to all Zone 23 board chairs and representatives regarding Edmonton Public Schools' position on membership in the NSBA and CSBA.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Adams, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, noted that the W.P. Wagner School student Wag-a-thon will take place from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24, 2015. Their goal is to raise \$30,000. She noted volunteers are required for the event.

Trustee Martin reported that he attended Open Houses at both Highlands and Eastglen Schools – attendance was excellent for both.

Trustee Chubb reported that he attended a Groovin' Through Time Showcase of Dance as part of Westglen School's 75th Anniversary Celebration. The event which involved both students and staff and the danceED Movement Project featured different dance styles from the 1940's, when Westglen School first opened, to modern day. He commended Principal MacTaggart, staff and students for an excellent event.

Trustee Johner, the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 23, thanked Trustee Ip for attending the Zone 23 general meeting last month in her place. She noted the next ASBA Zone 23 general meeting will take place on Friday, March 20, 2015.

Trustee Ip advised that, on March 6, 2015, he attended the Anti-Bullying Day event at Harry Ainlay School. City Councillor Michael Walters was also in attendance. He noted that over the course of five days, over one thousand students (two hundred per day) attended a very inspirational full-day program where students learn about resilience and positive self-image. The students are identified by their teachers as well as their peers to attend the program. He commended the organizers of the event.

Trustee Janz reported he attended the Camp fYrefly Gala on March 7, 2015 on behalf of the Board. He noted it was an excellent event.

Trustee Janz also reported that he and a number of Trustees attended the District's Night of Music on March 4, 2015. He congratulated the organizers and students for an amazing evening of entertainment.

L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Martin requested that the following information be provided regarding Sylvan Learning:

- What is Sylvan Learning?
- What are the costs of the programs offered?
- What are the qualifications of instructors?
- How successful is the program?

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Hoffman requested that the following information be provided:

- What is the criteria for determining viability of a K-6 Language program?
- How can parents formally communicate interest/demand to Edmonton Public Schools?
- If there is demand in Central Edmonton, what possible schools could a K-6 program be accommodated?

M. **Notices of Motion** – None.

N. **Next Board Meeting Date:** **Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**

O. **Adjournment** (5:55 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

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