

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #3

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, October 21, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb

Michelle Draper
Nathan Ip

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Ray Martin

Officials

Diana Bolan
Jim Davies
David Fraser

Ron MacNeil
Mary Michailides

Kathy Muhlethaler
Darrel Robertson

Acting Board Chair: Michael Janz

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustees Hoffman and Gibson were absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the agenda for the October 21, 2014 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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D. Communications from the Acting Board Chair

The Acting Board Chair advised that the theme of Read-In Week 2014, which ran from October 6th to 10th, was *Escape to New Worlds*. This annual week-long celebration, which is now in its 25th year, has expanded partner involvement, and has renewed interest and focus on the joy of reading within the entire Edmonton community. Read-In was once again a remarkable success story made possible by the support of the District's many partners, community and generous sponsors.

The Acting Board Chair advised that October 2nd was Custodial Workers Recognition Day. The District appreciates and values the members of CUPE Local 474 who ensure the District buildings are comfortable, clean and safe for students and staff and recognizes the contributions custodial staff make in supporting teaching and learning in the classroom. He also noted October 5th was World Teachers' Day, a day set aside by the world community to celebrate teachers. The District also appreciates and values its teachers and recognizes the central role they play in nurturing and guiding infants, children, youth and adults through the life-long learning process. In recognition of these days the Board of Trustees and the Administration placed ads in local and provincial newspapers.

The Acting Board Chair noted the municipal election was held a year ago today. He thanked the Administration and district staff for their assistance this past year and noted it is a great honour to serve the community.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent noted that October 3, 2014 was the first district-wide professional development day held as part of the modified school calendar pilot (a total of five district-wide professional development days are scheduled for 2014-2015). He had the opportunity to visit a few catchment area professional development sessions that day. The district-wide professional day provides staff with the opportunity for deep, collaborative conversations. He expressed appreciation to district staff for their hard work and collaboration to ensure the success of students.

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F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #2 – September 16, 2014

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #2 held September 16, 2014 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. Report #3 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held October 7, 2014)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“1. That Report #3 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held October 7, 2014 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“2. That the appointment of Trustee Michelle Draper to serve as the Board’s representative on the Mayor’s Task Force to Eliminate Poverty in Edmonton Education Working Group be confirmed.”

Trustee Draper advised she attended the Education Working Group meeting yesterday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The mandate of the Working Group was reviewed -- which is for life-long learning which fits well with the District’s work on Career Pathways. The intent of the Working Group is to develop draft recommendations by December and finalize them by January or February for submission to the Task Force. She will be seeking input from Trustees and the Administration to help inform where the most impact can be made. The next Working Group meeting will be held November 3, 2014.

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“3. That the approval of the following Infrastructure Committee key activities be confirmed:

- a) **Infrastructure Committee members will be participants at a key stakeholder forum exploring alternate school funding and construction opportunities. The forum is being planned and hosted by the District’s Planning Department and will be held in early winter. Participants in the forum will include Administration and elected officials representing provincial and municipal governments and Edmonton Public Schools, as well as interested community developers and builders. As more details around the forum are finalized, the Committee will keep Trustees informed, including an invitation to participate for those who wish to attend.**

- b) **Infrastructure Committee members will work, in collaboration with Planning Department staff, on the development of a Board of Trustees’ advocacy plan to support the District’s Infrastructure Strategy. The key themes of the advocacy plan will be focused around:**
 - **new school construction**
 - **aging infrastructure**
 - **challenges in mature neighborhoods**
 - **sustainable, predictable capital funding for school Districts**

The intention is to ensure Edmonton Public’s infrastructure needs and strategic direction are clearly communicated in a manner that results in the District receiving equitable support when initiatives are funded by the Province.

- c) **Infrastructure Committee members will review the City of Edmonton’s Infill Road Map document and discuss potential implications for mature neighbourhoods. The Committee’s findings from this review will be reported back to the Board.**

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- d) **Infrastructure Committee members will actively engage in conversations that explore new ways of funding and constructing schools. Any potential opportunities that arise from these exploratory conversations will be brought forward to the Board for discussion and support.**
- e) **An Infrastructure Committee member will explore the concept of a neighbourhood association fee with key developer stakeholders. The results of this exploration will be brought back to the Infrastructure Committee for review and further consideration.”**

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

- 3. Funds for 2015-2016 Professional Improvement Program

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That an allocation of \$1,000,000 from the 2015-2016 operating budget for the purpose of granting professional improvement leaves and/or tuition support for the 2015-2016 school year be approved.”

The Acting Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

- 4. Update on the Process to Support the Election of a Student Trustee

The Board received information on the process to support the election of a Student Trustee.

- 5. Student Transportation Average Ride Times
(Response to Request for Information #052)

The Board received information regarding average student transportation ride times.

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

There were no registered speakers for this item.

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J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Johner advised that, yesterday, she and Trustees Ip and Martin attended the first annual Environmental and Social Justice Forum at Queen Elizabeth School. The event showcased the hands-on learning and experiences of the students that occurred through such activities as video conferences which allow students to talk to people in other countries to discuss human rights, climate changes and the fight against poverty. Equally diverse environmental initiatives, such as creating food forests on school properties and sustainable gardens in the classroom and composting were also highlighted. The videos shown at the forum will be available on the District's YouTube channel. She thanked Former Trustee MacKenzie for bringing forward this initiative. She also thanked the students and staff involved.

Trustee Adams, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, reported on the following events:

- Tuesday, October 14, 2014 – The Dine and Diss event for Dr. Sandra Woitas, in recognition of her service in promoting of full-kindergarten, was held and raised \$27,000 for the Foundation.
- Thursday, November 13, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. – The 3rd Annual *FUNdraising with Style* fundraiser at Princess Florence Handbags will take place with ten percent of the proceeds going to the Foundation. Princess Florence Handbags will also provide ten percent of their sale proceeds between November 14 and 30, 2014 to the Foundation.
- Thursday, November 27, 2014 from 5:30 p.m. at 8:00 p.m. - The South Edmonton Business Association (SEBA) will hold a fundraiser at the Century Grill with one hundred percent of the profits going to the Foundation. Tickets (\$20 each) are available [online](#).
- November 14, 2014 from 11:50 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. – A Foundation information session will be held at Mee-Yah-Noh School.

Trustee Draper noted that Confucius Day was September 27, 2014. She and Trustees Hoffman and Ip attended the Confucius Gala. She commended the presenters and the entertainers.

Trustee Draper noted the District Student Awards event was held October 16, 2014 and that she and a number of Trustees were in attendance. She added that she also attended the John D. Bracco School award celebration held on October 9, 2014. She commended the students for their excellence.

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Trustee Johner noted that she and other Trustees had the opportunity to read at various schools during Read-In Week last week. She thanked the schools who had invited her to read.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Martin requested that information be provided on the advantages and disadvantages of year-round schooling, especially for at-risk students.

Trustee Janz requested that a brief summary of EPSB partnership activities with the Edmonton Public Library be provided.

Trustee Janz requested that information be provided regarding the projections on the anticipated impact the openings of future new schools in the south west will have on Brander Gardens Enrollment. What steps will be taken to ensure a sustainable school population in future?

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Janz served notice of the following motion on behalf of Trustee Hoffman:

That information on the current minimum, maximum and average ride times for the following yellow bus service be reported annually:

- *regular*
- *alternative programs*
- *special needs*
- *early education*
- *conditional riders*

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

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N. **Adjournment (3:15 p.m.)**

The Acting Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Acting Board Chair

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