

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #17

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 23, 2015 at 1:05 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb

Nathan Ip
Michael Janz

Cheryl Johner
Ray Martin

Student Trustee

Johannah Ko

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Diana Bolan
Jim Davies

Jonah Lempogo
Ron MacNeil
Mary Michailides
Kathy Muhlethaler

Lorne Parker
Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Michael Janz

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President
CUPE Local 3550 (Support Staff) – Gloria Lepine, Chief Steward

B. Recognition

1. Michael A. Strembitsky Award Recipients

The Board Chair announced that the following students were recipients of the Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence:

- Gold Medal – Daniel Welsh, Strathcona School
- Silver Medal – David Campbell, Jasper Place School
- Bronze Medal – Anika Wong, M.E. LaZerte School

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C. Roll Call:

The Superintendent advised that Trustees Draper and Gibson were absent. All other Trustees as well as Student Trustee Ko were present.

D. Approval of the Agenda

The Board Chair advised that he was bringing forward a motion regarding a letter with respect to campaign finance reform measures and asked that it be added to the agenda following Report #11 -- Locally Developed Courses. He added that Report #16 would be moved on the agenda to follow the approval of the agenda in order to allow Student Trustee Ko to leave before the conclusion of the Board meeting in order for her to prepare for her diploma mathematics examination tomorrow.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the agenda for the June 23, 2015 board meeting be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

16. Student Trustee Update

The report was provided by Student Trustee Ko.

The Board Chair presented a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Board to Student Trustee Ko for her exemplary efforts as Student Trustee.

Board members and members of the Administration also commended Student Trustee Ko.

E. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that he and the Superintendent would be meeting with the Minister of Education on June 29, 2015.

The Board Chair congratulated all of the District's graduating students on behalf of the Board and wished them success in their future endeavours.

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F. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent referred to Report #8 - Greater Highlands Area Consolidation Plan and advised the report was not posted on the District website prior to the meeting explaining that the Administration wanted to ensure it could thoroughly examine aspects of the *School Act* that would allow the Board to move forward with the information that was gathered through the consultation in the Greater Highlands area into future years – to that end, the report that will be discussed by the Board later in the meeting contains a recommendation for the Board to seek permission for this from the Minister of Education.

G. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #16 – June 9, 2015

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #16 held June 9, 2015 be approved as printed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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

I. Reports

3. Report #2 of the Audit Committee (From the Meeting Held June 9, 2015)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“1. That Report #2 of the Audit Committee from the meeting held June 9, 2015 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“2. That the Audit Committee recommendation that the Board appoint Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP (PwC) as the External Auditors for the August 31, 2015 year end be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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4. Report #14 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meetings Held June 9 and 16, 2015)

Information was provided regarding the actions taken at the June 9 and 16, 2015 Caucus Committee meetings.

The Board Chair recognized Mr. Michael Phair and Ms Nellie Carlson and Ms Ruth Carlson who were present in the audience with respect to the recommendation that had been approved regarding the naming of new schools. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Phair and Ms Carlson noting it was an honour to have them present. He advised that Dr. Margaret Ann Armour would be joining the meeting shortly.

5. Approval of the Proposed 2015-2016 Spring Budget

The Superintendent introduced Mr. Jonah Lempogo, the District's Treasurer and Managing Director, Financial Services.

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

- “1. That the 2015-2016 budget of \$1,079,266,440 be approved.
2. That the budget report for the year ending August 31, 2016 be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair noted that Dr. Margaret Ann Armour had joined the meeting.

Dr. Ann Armour thanked the Board for naming a school after her and for those who nominated her. She is greatly honoured.

6. Borrowing Resolution

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

- “That the borrowing resolution, with respect to the Edmonton School District No. 7 with the Bank of Nova Scotia be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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7. 2015-2016 Non-Resident Fees and 2016-2017 International Student Program Fees

MOVED BY Trustee Adams:

- “1. That the proposed 2015-2016 Non-Alberta Residents and Special Needs Non-Residents fees be approved.
2. That the proposed 2016-2017 International Student Tuition fee of \$11,500 and the International Student Application fee of \$250 be approved.”

Trustee Martin requested that information be provided on whether the fees for non-resident students cover the full costs of the students attending District schools. He also asked that information be provided regarding how many students there are in each of the special needs non-resident levels.

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

8. Greater Highlands Area Consolidation Plan

A recommendation report was distributed.

Mr. Dave Zylstra, a parent from Mount Royal School, spoke to the item.

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

- “That the Board of Trustees (the Board) approve a motion for the Board Chair to send a letter to the Minister of Education outlining the following:
- The consultation process and findings related to the consolidation of Montrose and Mount Royal schools into a modernized Highlands School, approved Concept 2 being the preferred design approach.
 - The Board’s intention, once funding is provided, to request an exemption from sections 4 through 7 of *Alberta Regulation 238/97* based on the consultation process and findings.
 - The assurance that consolidation of Montrose, Mount Royal and Highlands schools will not occur in advance of the opening of a fully modernized K-9 Highlands School.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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There was a short break at this point.

9. Student Trustee

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

- “1. That the Board approve the continuation of the District Legacy Course to support students in building awareness of, and first-hand experience with democratic governance and leadership.**
- 2. That the Board approve that the District Legacy Course students serve as a student advisory council to the Board and that a meeting of the District Legacy Course students and Trustees be established at a minimum of twice during the school year, to facilitate dialogue on topics related to policy, planning and education.**
- 3. That, as a means to promote active engagement and enhance student voice in the democratic process, the District Legacy Course students be empowered to use the findings from this year’s pilot to explore and propose an alternative governance model that builds upon the concept of an elected Student Trustee and establishes system wide student engagement process to support students *across* Edmonton Public Schools to have a meaningful voice in public education. A recommendation report that includes timelines to support a Student Trustee election process would be brought forward to the Board of Trustees in January for consideration.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Student Trustee Ko left at this point for the duration of the meeting.

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10. Draft Board Policy AA.BP – Stakeholder Relations

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

- “1. That draft Board Policy AA.BP – Stakeholder Relations be considered for the second time.**

- 2. That draft Board Policy AA.BP – Stakeholder Relations be considered for the third time and approved.**

- 3. That, Board Policy AA.BP – Stakeholder Relations having been approved, the following board policies be rescinded:**
 - a. AA.BP – Stakeholder Engagement**
 - b. IAA.BP – Education Partnerships and Sponsorships**
 - c. IBC.BP – Communications Framework**
 - d. IA.BP – Parent and Community Involvement**
 - e. IJ.BP – Assisting Community Organizations”**

The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #1.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #2.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on Recommendation #3.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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11. Locally Developed Courses

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the following Locally Developed Courses be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools (EPSB) until August 2019:

Locally Developed Courses Acquired From Other School Authorities:

- **Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 35-3 (replacing Advanced Acting 35-5)**
- **Class V Driver Training 35-3**
- **Journalism 15, 25, 35**
- **Performing Arts 15-25-35 (5)**
- **Physics (AP) 35**

Locally Developed Courses Developed by EPSB:

- **Dance Composition 35**
- **Discovery Option 7-8-9**
- **Islamic Studies 7-8-9**
- **World History 7-8-9 (replacing World History 7 and World History 8)”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a brief break at this point.

Walk-In Report – Letter re Campaign Finance Reform Measures

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “1. That the Board grant waiver of notice of motion to consider Recommendation #2 at the June 23, 2015 Board meeting.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That the Edmonton Public School Board write a letter supporting campaign finance reform measures that would ban corporate and union donations in municipal elections.”**

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MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

“That the motion be amended to read: That the Edmonton Public School Board write a letter supporting campaign finance reform measures that would ~~ban~~ **limit corporate and union donations in municipal elections.”**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams and Chubb

OPPOSED: Trustees Ip, Janz, Johner and Martin

The Amendment was DEFEATED.

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the motion be amended to add the following: *That the Board include in the letter, support for implementing a system of tax credits for political donations given at the municipal and school board levels in line with current Provincial and Federal thresholds of exemption.*”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Chubb and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustees Adams, Ip, Janz and Johner

The Amendment was CARRIED.

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

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

OPPOSED: Trustee Chubb

The Motion was CARRIED.

12. Aboriginal Elders Advisory Council
(Response to Request for Information #109)

The report was provided in response to a request for information.

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13. Summer Programming Opportunities for Socially Vulnerable Students

The report was provided in response to a request for information.

14. Bereavement

The Board Chair reported on the passing of Mr. Donald Andrew Gadsby.

15. Delegation of Authority – 2015 Summer Recess

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

- “1. That, in accordance with Sections 67(1), 65(2) and 65(3) of the *School Act*, any special board meetings during the 2015 summer recess be at the call of the Board Chair or, in his absence, the Board Vice-Chair.**
- 2. That, in accordance with Section 61(1) of the *School Act*, effective June 23, 2015, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2015 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 2015.”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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

Trustee Martin advised that, yesterday morning, he participated in the Highlands School Truth and Reconciliation Commission education activity. There was a student and teacher facilitated discussion and education process regarding residential schools. The questions the students were asked to consider were:

- What message do you want to express about Indian Residential Schools and the experiences of former students?

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- What message do you want to express about the impacts that the Indian Residential Schools experiences is having on intergenerational survivors and our community as a whole?
- What can I do differently at home to effect positive change, truth and reconciliation in our community?
- What can I do differently as a leader in my school to interact in a better way with Aboriginal people living in or visiting Edmonton and build respectful relationships in our community?

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

- The South Edmonton Business Association (SEBA) hosted their annual fundraising golf tournament on June 17, 2015 at Eagle Rock
- Queen Elizabeth School will be hosting the Foundation breakfast next year
- The North Central Catchment has committed to be of help to the Foundation – one of the main ways to do so will be mentoring children

Trustee Ip advised that over 600 members of the community attended the 2nd Annual Southwest Family Fun Day on June 14, 2015. He noted that representatives of the Southwest Police Division were present and attendees were encouraged to wear a blue ribbon in support of the Edmonton Police Service. He thanked the Administration for their help with the event.

L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

M. Notices of Motion

Trustee Chubb served notice of the following motion:

- 1. That the Board affirm its desire to maintain coverage for its employees under the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan.*
- 2. That the Board give notice of its intention to, in the fall of 2015; consider a motion to end its membership in the Alberta School Boards Association.*
- 3. That the Board give notice of its intention to ask the Alberta Teachers' Association, the Alberta School Boards Association, and the Board of the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan to amend the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan Deed of Trust to delete the requirement for membership in the Alberta School Boards Association to be eligible to be a participating employer in the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan.*

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4. *That the Board give notice of its intention to ask the Alberta Teachers' Association, Alberta School Boards Association and the Board of the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan to exercise their discretion to allow the District to continue to be a participating employer in the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan irrespective of its membership status in the Alberta School Boards Association.*

N. **Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**

O. **Adjournment (5:00 p.m.)**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

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