

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #4**

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, November 29, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper
Ken Gibson

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Ray Martin

Bridget Stirling

Officials

Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke
Lorne Parker

Kent Pharis
Madonna Proulx
Ron MacNeil
Karen Mills

Kathy Muhlethaler
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

Board Chair: Michael Janz

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President

The Board Chair called the meeting to order with recognition that we are on Treaty 6 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

The Board Chair advised that the firm alarm system at the Centre for Education is a Two Stage alarm system. Stage One is a single repeating alarm tone indicating a warning only and that evacuation is not required. Stage Two is a triple repeating alarm tone indicating that evacuation is required.

A. O Canada 

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Ip was absent. All other Trustees were present.

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C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

**“That the agenda for the November 29, 2016 board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair welcomed teachers Ms Nancy Adamson, Krystal Kulka and Stacey Taylor and 80 Grade Six students from the Victoria School of the Arts school who are studying local and provincial democratic rights as part of their Social Studies curriculum.

The Board Chair reported that the White Ribbon Campaign began November 25th and will run through to December 6th. He shared that the White Ribbon Campaign is intended to make the public aware that violence against women is unacceptable. The Board endorsed this campaign in 1996 and urges schools and staff to recognize this campaign.

The Board Chair announced that on November 28, 2016, MLA, David Shepherd introduced his private member’s bill “Active Transportation Week.” The bill is intended to encourage students to promote walking and biking to school.

He stated that an Active Transportation Week would align with District’s objectives and activities related to alternative methods to travel to school, outside of vehicle transportation. Several of District’s schools already have School Travel Plans that serve as a communication tool to encourage students and parents to walk to school, improve the safety of walking to school, increase travel awareness and encourage sustainable modes of transportation.

Active transportation supports student achievement and ensures the District’s students are healthy and ready to learn, while reducing traffic and pollution. This is a win-win for children, communities and the planet.

He shared that to show the District’s support for the bill, Vice-Chair Draper attended a media release, along with other key stakeholders, following the reading of the bill which will have to go through several more readings before it becomes legislation.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent welcomed principals and central staff that were present to answer questions regarding the Alberta Education Results Review report.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #3 – November 1, 2016

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

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“That the minutes of Board Meeting #3 held November 1, 2016 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. Strategic Plan Update – Success for All Students - Numeracy

The Trustees received a presentation on the strategic plan regarding the success for all students related to numeracy.

There was a short break in the meeting at this point.

3. Edmonton Public Schools’ combined Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Review Report (2015-2016)

Trustee Gibson requested the following information:

- Provide the percentage of District students enrolled in schools that have been constructed or modernized within the last 5 years.
- Provide Grade Six provincial achievement test acceptable and standard of excellence results for each year for 2012-2016 for the group of students that are not English Language Learners, First Nation Métis Inuit or special needs.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That, the Edmonton Public Schools’ Combined Three-Year Education Plan (2016-2019) and Annual Education Results Report (2015-2016) be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a short break in the meeting at this point.

4. Audited Financial Statements 2015-2016

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That, the 2015-2016 audited financial statements, notes to the financial statements and unaudited schedules be approved.”

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The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

5. Proposed Distribution of 2015-2016 District Surplus

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That the proposed distribution of the 2015-2016 surplus be approved as follows:

1. That the 2016-2017 planned use of surplus funds – Phase I totalling \$60.8 million released in conjunction with the 2016-2017 fall revised budget be approved.
2. That the 2016-2017 planned use of surplus funds – Phase II (Attachment I, page 2) totalling \$6.8 million and the 2017-2018 planned use of surplus funds totalling \$16.5 million be approved.
3. That, the use of capital reserves in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 for \$11.1 million and \$5 million be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. Fall Update to the Revised 2016-2017 Budget

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That, the fall 2016 Update to the 2016-2017 Budget be approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Draper reported that on November 17th, 2016 she attended the Child Friendly Edmonton Community Workshop at City Hall to learn about practices relating to child friendly cities, play, engagement of children, child development and discussed planning, building and designing spaces and programs for children.

Trustee Draper congratulated all the District Recognition Award Winners who were celebrated on the November 24, 2016 event.

Trustee Draper thanked all the schools and central for a great and informative results review.

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Trustee Stirling thanked Holyrood and Hazeldean School Councils for welcoming her to their recent meetings and shared that it is a great opportunity to connect with parents who are such dedicated partners in education.

Trustee Stirling reported that she had the pleasure of attending the Inclusion Alberta breakfast along with King Edward School principal Eileen Rygus on November 8, 2016. It offered a great opportunity to learn about the value that inclusive education brings for students with disabilities.

Trustee Stirling shared that on November 14, 2016 she was accompanied by Trustee Ray Martin at City Hall for a flag raising ceremony and celebration which recognized the important role of Metis people in Edmonton's history, culture and community of modern-day Metis people in the City.

Trustee Stirling reported that on November 17, 2016, she attended the Daughters for Life Foundation - Alberta Chapter to join them for their inaugural gathering. She explained that Daughters for Life promotes peace through education for girls and women from the Middle East, regardless of their religion or ethnic background.

Trustee Stirling reported that on November 18, 2016, the Alberta Gay Straight Alliance(GSA) conference was hosted at Eastglen School which brought together students from across Alberta to learn more about building and sustaining GSA's in their schools and supporting sexual and gender minority students.

Trustee Stirling shared that November 19, 2016 she attended the Christmas banquet and retirement dinner for CUPE 784 members. It was a pleasure to celebrate the season and the service of the District's maintenance and construction staff.

Trustee Stirling represented the Board at the Alberta School Boards Association Fall General (ASBA) meeting on November 21, 2016, to put forward a motion asking for an amendment to the Alberta School Employees Benefit Plan (ASEBP) that would allow boards to participate in their plan independently of their membership in ASBA. She explained that this motion represented the values of Board autonomy and reflected the principles underlying the ASBA Act, making membership in ASBA optional for Boards. Trustee Stirling reported that the motion was defeated, although it received the support of Boards representing nearly half of the province's students.

Trustee Stirling expressed that the decision to cease participation in ASBA was reinforced for her by the behaviour of some trustees from other Boards at that meeting, who chose to boo and heckle not only me but also trustees from other Boards who spoke in support of the motion. She reported that she was aggressively approached in the hallway by a trustee from another Board who chastised her for putting forward the unanimous position of the Edmonton Public School Board. This affirmed that further participation in ASBA at this time is not productive for the Edmonton Public School Board.

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Trustee Stirling thanked the representatives from other Boards that contacted her to offer their apologies for the behaviour of their colleagues. She also thanked the Edmonton Public Schools Board Chair and fellow trustees for their support and confidence in her as their representative that morning.

- J. **Trustee and Board Requests for Information** - None
- K. **Notices of Motion** - None
- L. **Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.**
- M. **Adjournment (5:00 p.m.)**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations