

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #5**

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, December 13, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper
Ken Gibson

Nathan Ip
Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner

Ray Martin
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Kent Pharis

Madonna Proulx
Leona Morrison
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 all Trustees were present.

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C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

**“That the agenda for the December 13, 2016 board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that the relationship with the Calgary Board of Education continues to be strong and that he had a meeting with the Board Chair on December 8, 2016, to discuss many upcoming issues that both Boards are interested in, one of which is the continued advocacy pertaining to the *Municipal Government Act*. He advised that the Metro School Boards Association recently put forward an updated letter to the Minister with regards to the requests from *Modernized Municipal Government Act*. The Association is pleased that many of the issues that were raised regarding public education in cities has been taken in account.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent thanked the approximately sixty teachers who met in early December 2016 to discuss Student Learning Assessments, their purpose, how they are designed and how they contribute to the success of Grade Three students. The Superintendent shared the importance of receiving feedback early in the school year to ensure that there are appropriate supports and interventions put in place for the students. The Superintendent advised that there will be two more sessions with the teachers in 2017 and that more information will be shared at a future date.

The Superintendent wished the Trustees, District staff, students, parents, partners and volunteers a safe and happy holiday season.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #4 – November 29, 2016

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #4 held November 29, 2016 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Trustees received a presentation from the Edmonton THINKEQUAL Committee.

H. Reports

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2. Success for Every Student – Closing the Achievement Gap for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students

The Trustees received a presentation on the strategic plan regarding the success for every student related to closing the achievement gap for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students.

3. Locally Developed Course – Forensic Science Studies 35-5

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That the following LDC be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools until August 2020: Forensic Science Studies 35-5.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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

4. Trustee Ward Boundary Review

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

- “1. That the Board of Trustees consider a motion to amend the existing Trustee Electoral Ward Design Criteria, be approved.**
- 2. That *Alternative Three* presented in the report amending the Trustee Electoral Boundaries be recommended for bylaw preparation, be approved.**
- 3. That administration be directed to prepare a bylaw to amend the Trustee Electoral Boundaries for first and second readings at the Public Board Meeting on January 17, 2017, be approved.” (CARRIED)**

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

5. Consideration to Close Junior High Programming at Winterburn School

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

- “1. That the Board consider a motion to close Grades 7–9 at Winterburn School.**
- 2. That the Board consider 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*, be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

6. Board Chair Discretionary Expense Allowance Report 2015-2016

Information was provided regarding the Board Chair’s discretionary expense allowance for 2015-2016 school year.

7. Update on Annual Results Review

The Trustees received an update on the annual results review.

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I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Draper reported that last week, she and Trustee Martin had the privilege of attending the eleventh Confucius Institute Conference, along with 2000 other delegates representing 140 countries. The theme concentrated on sharing around innovation, cooperation, and inclusion. Trustee Draper shared that there were many interesting forums, speeches and opportunities to connect with other delegates. Trustee Draper said they were proud to witness Dr. Wei Li, Director of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton, receive the “Confucius Institute Individual Performance Excellence Award.” On behalf of the Board, Trustee Draper congratulated Dr. Li and thanked him for all he does to promote the Chinese Language instruction and culture exchange within Edmonton Public Schools.

Trustee Chubb advised that on December 10, 2016, he joined the volunteers and representatives from all other levels of government to celebrate Christmas with over 1000 children and their family members at Kids on Track’s Family Christmas Pizza night and Family Celebration.

Trustee Chubb thanked the folks at Kids on Track, their volunteers, supporting community groups and businesses that made this a great evening for families in Ward C.

Trustee Gibson advised that the Governance and Evaluation Committee met on December 12, 2016, at which time the Committee reviewed the Draft Terms of Reference and Committee Work Plan for 2016-2017. Reports from the Committee are scheduled for Trustee feedback in January 2017.

Trustee Johner shared that on December 5, 2016, Mee-Yah-Noh Kindergarten students got help building an "All about Me" ePortfolio from EPCOR employees. Through one-on-one pairings, students had conversations about their interests and were encouraged to reflect on their strengths and favorite subjects. All About Me is being piloted by Career Pathways in three catchments and uses the online portfolio tool myBlueprint to encourage self-discovery.

Trustee Johner advised that on December 7, 2016, the Londonderry Mall welcomed 10 members of Edmonton’s Police Service and students from Calder, Lauderdale and Mee-Yah-Noh Schools to participate in their first ever CopShop. She explained that the community initiative provided the students with a unique opportunity to take part in a Christmas shopping spree, and to meet and spend time with local police officers. Students enjoyed a pizza party, received a \$200 gift card to shop with their Police mentor and visited Santa.

Also on December 7, 2016, Trustee Johner attended the Public School Administrators Association (PSAA) meeting and brought greetings on behalf on the Board.

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Trustee Johner reported that she and Trustee Chubb attended the Infrastructure all-staff luncheon and professional development session and that over 250 staff members were present.

Trustee Stirling reported that on November 30, 2016, W. P. Wagner School hosted an Aboriginal Family Night. These evenings are organized by the Mill Woods Aboriginal Interagency Group and offer people from all backgrounds a chance to celebrate and learn about Indigenous cultures and build community through sharing in food, music, dance, crafts, and more.

Trustee Stirling advised that on December 4, 2016, she and Trustee Martin attended the annual Commemorative Brunch for National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women. This event increases awareness of the issue of violence against women in the community and raises funds for a local women's shelter. Trustee Stirling reported that the proceeds this year supported the Maskwacis Ermineskin Emergency Women's Shelter.

Trustee Stirling thanked Robert Steenwinkel and the staff at Hardisty School for their hard work in supporting the annual Greater Hardisty Community Christmas Dinner on December 10, 2016. The dinner brought together approximately 275 people, including 30 children, from all over the community and included those who experience Christmas as a time of loneliness as well as those who find the season financially difficult. Trustee Stirling also thanked the Salvation Army Brass Ensemble for the music, the students from NAIT'S Culinary Arts program who prepared a turkey dinner, to the 13 church groups who worked together to make the event such a success and to Hardisty School for donating the use of the space for the event. She extended special thanks to Hardisty School Council member Jenny Samm for all her efforts to make this evening happen.

- J. **Trustee and Board Requests for Information** - None
- K. **Notices of Motion** - None
- L. **Next Board Meeting Date**: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
- M. **Adjournment** (5:15 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

Karen Mills
Director, Board and Superintendent Relations