

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #8

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, February 14, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper

Ken Gibson
Nathan Ip
Cheryl Johner

Ray Martin
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Lisa Austin
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil
Karen Mills

Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen
Kent Pharis

Madonna Proulx
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

Acting Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President and Janis Zielke, First Vice President

The Acting 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 Acting 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 Janz was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

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MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

**“That the agenda for the February 14, 2017 board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Acting Board Chair

The Acting Board Chair advised that February 22, 2017, is Pink Shirt Day and that it was started following an anti-bullying stand of two grade 12 Nova Scotia students in 2007. The students took action after witnessing a grade 9 student being bullied for wearing pink to school and encouraged their schoolmates to wear pink to send a message against bullying. Since then, the Pink Shirt Day Campaign has sent a powerful message that Bullying Stops Here. Through awareness and education, Canadians can continue to take a stand against bullying.

On behalf of the Board, the Acting Board Chair encouraged everyone to wear a pink shirt on February 22 to symbolize that as a society we will not tolerate bullying anywhere.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that a Teacher Collaboration Committee meeting was held on February 7, 2017. He explained that 60 randomly selected teachers from a variety of schools in Divisions 1 to 4 throughout the District came together to discuss student assessments. The Committee will be reviewing the information and sharing a report with all leaders across the District in order for them to continue to have conversations with parents and staff.

The Superintendent advised that the Hockey Helps Kids fundraiser was coming to a close with only two days left and encouraged everyone to go online to vote.

The Superintendent shared that open house season is once again happening. He said that the Communications department has designed a fabulous campaign which will be advertised on the District website, announced on radio stations, social media and signs throughout the City. It is a great opportunity for families to tour the District's schools, meet staff and to get know the programs and cultures in the schools because we are a district of choice. The Superintendent shared that the Find a School tool is on the District website which provides information and dates of schools that will be hosting open house sessions.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #7 – January 31, 2017

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #7 held January 31, 2017 be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. High School Accommodation Framework 2016-2019
(Response to Request for Information #198)

The Trustees received a presentation in response to a request for information.

Trustee Gibson requested that Administration ~~meet with the City of Edmonton to discuss~~ explore potential leasing options, ~~including the South Grant MacEwan campus,~~ should there be a shortfall of student spaces in attendance area high schools in the future and that this information be provided to the Trustees.

Trustee Gibson requested that Administration discuss transportation routes stemming from the expansion of the LRT and special school bus routes with the City of Edmonton and that this information be provided to the Trustees.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams shared that she attended a dinner meeting where members from the student senate were present and that she had an opportunity to have very meaningful conversations with two of the students. The students expressed that being involved in the Student Senate has given them a purpose and opportunities for meaningful engagement. Trustee Adams expressed that the students' testimony was powerful and she thanked the Administration for supporting the Student Senate initiative.

Trustee Chubb reported that on February 4, 2017, he and Trustee Martin attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon where Minister Mason spoke about the provincial government's priorities for 2017 and the impact and opportunities of Alberta's \$24.8 billion capital plan.

Trustee Draper advised that she attended the North East Edmonton Lunar New Year Event held at Londonderry Mall on February 4, 2017, along with many other dignitaries including Mayor Iverson and the Minister of Education.

Trustee Draper reported that on February 6, 2017, she brought greetings from the Board at Edmonton Public Schools Career Pathways Professional Learning Day held at W.P. Wagner School. Prior to Minister Eggen's keynote speech as part of the "Education on Planet Earth" conference that afternoon, she and Trustee Stirling met with stakeholders, including the Alberta Council for Environmental Education, to further explore linkages to career pathways and environmental, outdoor and energy education.

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Trustee Ip shared that on January 18, 2017, he had the opportunity to speak to a grade six class at Greenfield School during their City Hall School program. He spoke to the class about the role of a Trustee in the governance of the Edmonton Public School Board.

Trustee Ip reported that on January 20, 2017, he brought greetings on behalf of the Board at the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association Lunar New Year celebration at the Bonnie Doon mall. He shared that the festival was filled with performances and activities by Edmonton Public School staff and students.

Trustee Martin reported that on February 1, 2017, he attended the Eating Disorders Awareness Ceremony at the Alberta Legislature.

Trustee Martin advised that on February 10, 2017, he attended the second Annual Black History Celebration held at Edmonton City Hall.

Trustee Stirling reported that she attended the Career Pathways Professional Development Day at WP Wagner School on February 6, 2017, with Trustee Draper and that was wonderful to see teachers out from across the District present.

Trustee Stirling reported that on February 9, 2017, she attended the launch of the next phase of End Poverty Edmonton, which is transitioning from a strategy to a community organization dedicated to ending poverty in the City.

Trustee Stirling advised that on February 9, 2017, brought the opportunity to welcome the Minister for the Status of Women Stephanie McLean to Braemar School, where she met with staff, students, and Terra partners to learn more about how this program is helping to open up future possibilities for young mothers and their children by ensuring these students can complete their high school education and prepare for a successful life after graduation.

Trustee Stirling shared that she had the pleasure of bringing greetings on behalf of the Board at the Chinese New Year Gala at the Myer Horowitz Theatre. She explained the event was hosted by the Confucius Institute of Edmonton and featured performances by students from China's Lanzhou University. Trustee Stirling reported that representatives from the provincial government as well as from the Chinese Consulate of Calgary joined the celebration.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Martin requested that the Administration research new funding recently announced by the Provincial Government to help Indigenous newcomers succeed in Edmonton and advise if there is any opportunity for Edmonton Public Schools to access this funding as it is well documented that many of the District's Indigenous students are coming to the District's schools from northern Alberta and as far away as Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

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Trustee Draper serviced notice of motion on behalf of Trustee Janz that the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the provincial government to eliminate the choice of designation of education property taxes.

The Acting Board Chair advised that the notice of motion served will be brought forward to the next public Board meeting.

L. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment (3:05 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director, Board and
Superintendent Relations