

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #9**

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 28, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper
Ken Gibson

Nathan Ip
Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner

Ray Martin
Bridget Stirling

Student Trustees

Jacob Dunn

Molly French

Andrew Li

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen

Kent Pharis
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

Board Chair: Michael Janz

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President

CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President and Janis Zielke, Vice President

CUPE Local 474 – John Vradenburgh, President

Board Chair Janz 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.

A. O Canada 

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

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

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

**“That the agenda for the February 28, 2017, board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

Board Chair Janz advised that effective February 28, 2017, he is resigning from the position of Board Chair. He clarified that he is not resigning from the Board and will continue to serve as Trustee for Ward F.

Election of Board Chair

Board Chair Janz called for nominations for the position of Board Chair.

Trustee Ip nominated Trustee Draper.

Board Chair Janz, seeing that there were no further nominations, advised that Trustee Draper was elected by acclamation as Board Chair for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year until the Organizational Board meeting in October 2017.

Election of Board Vice-Chair

Board Chair Draper called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair.

Trustee Stirling nominated Trustee Martin.

Board Chair Draper, seeing that there were no further nominations, advised that Trustee Martin was elected by acclamation as Board Chair for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year until the Organizational Board meeting in October 2017.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent acknowledged Trustee Michael Janz, who stepped down as Board Chair to focus on being a Dad. The Superintendent thanked him for his service as Board Chair and assured him that his new role will be the most fulfilling and worthwhile one he'll ever have.

The Superintendent congratulated Trustees Michelle Draper and Ray Martin, who were elected by their colleagues to serve as Board Chair and Vice Chair respectively for the remainder of the term.

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The Superintendent stated that the Board has done exceptional work during their term and that it is a privilege to serve them.

The Superintendent welcomed Garret Doll, Senior Manager Field Services from Alberta Education to the Board meeting.

The Superintendent commented on an article featured in the Edmonton Journal regarding assessment at the high school level. He shared that he is proud of and confident in the work of the District's teachers that is being done in all divisions to assess student work and understanding of the curriculum. The Superintendent stated that the District has an excellent *Standard for Evaluation Administrative Regulation* in place outlining the expectations of the District around assessment and a *Guide for Communicating Student Achievement and Growth*. The Superintendent shared that staff work collectively to refine the assessment practice from those foundations and said that effective assessment is at the heart of great teaching.

The Superintendent also stated that the District is always striving to improve its practices based on data, research and experience and that Edmonton Public Schools' teachers demonstrate sound professional judgment every day and use that judgment to move students across the finish line. The Superintendent expressed that for that reason and a thousand others, the teachers have his support and gratitude.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #8 – February 14, 2017

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #8 held February 14, 2017 be approved as amended.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Report #2 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held February 14, 2017)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the February 14, 2017 Caucus Committee meeting.

3. Student Senate 2016-2017 Work Plan

Information was provided regarding the Student Senate 2016-2017 work plan.

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Board Chair Draper thanked the Student Senate for their commitment to their work and to the Administration for their ongoing support of this initiative.

4. Second, and Third and Final Reading of Board Policy IJA.BP Electioneering and Politically Motivated Communications

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That Board Policy IJA.BP Electioneering and Politically Motivated Communications be read for the second time”. (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That Board Policy IJA.BP Electioneering and Politically Motivated Communications be read for the third and final time”. (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Motion re Designation of Education Property Taxes

Trustee Gibson asked whether School Boards use the designation of Education property taxes to determine eligibility for student residency for attendance at either a public or separate school. The Superintendent advised that the enrolment process does include the declaration as part of the enrolment data collected and that other jurisdictions more than likely include it as well. The Superintendent stated that the District welcomes students regardless of the declaration. The Superintendent indicated that information will be provided to the Trustees showing them the form used by the District at the time of enrolment.

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

**“That the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the provincial government to eliminate the choice of designation of Education property taxes.”
(CARRIED)**

- I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

- J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Draper reported that on February 17, 2017, Trustee Johner and she attended the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by Superintendent Robertson, Edmonton Public Schools and Pilar Martinez, Chief Executive Officer, Edmonton Public Library at the Florence Hallock School. Trustee Draper advised that the Edmonton Public Library has provided over 13,000 Edmonton Public School students with free library cards through the School Library Card program and that since this initiative began at the start of the 2016/2017 school year, 1,065 Kindergarten students have signed up for their very own library card which represents 59

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per cent of the Edmonton Public School Kindergarten students. The goal is to have 70 per cent of the Kindergarten students signed up by the end of the summer in 2017.

Trustee Draper advised that she is looking forward to attending the Edmonton Public Schools Night of Music with many of her colleagues on March 1, 2017.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Clara Tyner and Rutherford school councils for welcoming her at their meetings. She shared that it is wonderful to connect with parents and community members and engage in meaningful conversations about what's important in schools.

Trustee Stirling reported that on February 21, 2017, she was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Board at the Teaching Sexual Health professional development day. The event was co-hosted with the University of Alberta and the Sexual Health Educators Collective of Edmonton. Trustee Stirling explained that the event brought together current and pre-service teachers along with community partners to learn more about comprehensive sexual health education and how it is an important part of creating welcoming, inclusive, safe and healthy working and learning environments in the District's schools.

Trustee Stirling shared letter from a grade six student at Holyrood School who was one of the first group of students to attend the new ICE school, one of several Inquiring Minds site-based school programs that offer week-long learning opportunities for students in Edmonton.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Chubb requested that an update on the professional development, collaboration, resources and teaching practices relative to assessment, evaluation and communication of student learning and growth be provided.

Trustee Janz requested that the Administration advise the Trustees whether or not the Minister of Education or the *School Act* would permit a public school system to create a Catholic faith alternative program or operate a Catholic school within the public school system.

Trustee Stirling stated that First Nations, Metis, and Inuit parents have expressed concerns as to how funds are allocated when students self-identify as First Nations, Metis, or Inuit and how those dollars are used to support their children. She requested that the Administration provide information as to how funds designated specifically for FNMI students are used to support programs and initiatives that benefit those students in their schools.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment (3:30 p.m.)

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Board Chair Draper adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations