

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #2**

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, October 18, 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

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Laurie Barnstable
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil

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
CUPE Local 3550 –Linda Harris, Treasurer and Janis Zielke, Vice 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 

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

**“That the agenda for the October 18, 2016 board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair stated that recently District schools have been receiving “Clown Threats”. He explained that Clown threats are a relatively recent trend in hoaxes and that the trend has evolved into social media threats (via Instagram, Twitter, for example) of violence against specific people or places (e.g., schools). Because these threats must be taken seriously by school administrators and law enforcement, they have resulted in lock downs in several schools in both Canada and the United States. He advised that District Support Services and the Communications department are working with Edmonton Police Service and Edmonton Catholic Schools on both the management and prevention of these threats.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Board Chair thanked all staff for their exemplary handling of these situations.

The Board Chair thanked all those involved in organizing the Nellie Carlson School opening that was held on October 6, 2016. He shared that Ms Nellie Carlson sang the honor song with her family honoring five generations of family brought together.

The Board Chair advised that on October 20, 2016, the Roberta MacAdams School opening will be held.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent congratulated the 2016 District Student Awards recipients. He shared that every year, the District recognizes outstanding student accomplishments, contributions and achievements and that this year, there are six award categories for students who were in Grade 12 during the 2015-2016 school year.

The six categories are:

- Academic Excellence Award
- Career and Life Pathways Award
- Fine Arts Award
- Health and Wellness Award
- Humanities Award
- Math/Science/Technologies Award

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The Superintendent advised that the District is celebrating 97 Grade 12 students from 18 different high schools. Certificates and congratulations letters were sent to high school principals to distribute to the students. He shared the District is also profiling recipients in an online recipient guide which has already been posted on epsb.ca and will be promoted by District social media channels starting later in the afternoon.

The Superintendent stated that the Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence nominees and bronze, silver and gold recipients were recognized at the June 21, 2016 Board meeting and have their own online recipient guide.

F. Minutes

1. Organizational Board Meeting – October 4, 2016

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That the minutes of the Organizational Board meeting held October 4, 2016 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from Mr. Mahdi Qasqas regarding ensuring that there is sufficient support for Syrian refugee students.

The Board Chair thanked Mr. Qasqas and advised that the Administration would follow up with him in the near future.

H. Reports

2. Funds for 2017-2018 Clause 23 Professional Improvement Program

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That, an allocation of \$1,100,000 from the 2017-2018 operating budget for the purpose of granting professional improvement leaves and/or tuition support for the 2017-2018 school year be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

3. Funds for 2017-2018 Exempt Staff Professional Improvement Program

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

“That, an allocation of \$150,000 from the 2017-2018 operating budget for a second pilot year of the Exempt Staff Professional Improvement Program be approved for the purpose of granting exempt staff professional improvement leaves and/or tuition support for the 2017-2018 school year.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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4. Bereavement

Vice-Chair Draper reported on the passing of Mr. Angelito Molino.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

There were no registered speakers for this item.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Johner advised that Premier Rachael Notley, Education Minister David Eggen, Christina Gray Minister of Labour, and Marlin Schmidt, Minister of Advanced Education were at Queen Elizabeth High School to launch the public feedback survey on curriculum redesign. A video conference was held with a number of schools which allowed students to ask questions to of Minister Eggen regarding the redesign. Trustee Johner advised that the public feedback survey is accessible on the Alberta Education website for anyone wishing to share their opinions on curriculum redesign.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Public School Administrators Association for welcoming Trustee Ip and herself to the annual President's Reception on October 5, 2016. She stated that school administrators are an essential part of the work of the District, providing leadership and supporting staff, students, and families in learning and growing together.

Trustee Stirling thanked the King Edward, Julia Kiniski, Waverley, and Avonmore schools for welcoming her to read to classes during READ IN week. She also thanked the University of Alberta for hosting such an excellent kick-off event for the READ IN week.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

L. Notices of Motion - None

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment (2:30 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

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