

**MINUTE BOOK****Board Meeting #09**

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, April 10, 2018 at 2:00 p. m.

**Present:****Trustees**

Sherry Adams  
Shelagh Dunn  
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks  
Nathan Ip  
Michael Janz

Bridget Stirling

**Officials**

Angela Anderson  
Lisa Austin  
Grace Cooke  
Todd Burnstad  
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills  
Leona Morrison  
Kathy Muhlethaler  
Kent Pharis

Darrel Robertson  
Mike Suderman  
Liz Yule

**Board Chair:** Michelle Draper

**Recording Secretary:** Shirley Juneau

**Staff Group Representatives**

CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President and Janice Kube, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President and Janis Zielke, Treasurer

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 fire 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.

The Board Chair advised those attending the meeting in person that the floor area is restricted to the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, Director of Board and Superintendent Relations and Recording staff, with an area reserved for media. She advised that she would signify to any other staff or registered speakers to come down to the floor at the designated time on the agenda. The Board Chair thanked everyone for their cooperation.

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A moment of silence was held in honour of the Humboldt Broncos, their families and community.

A. **O Canada** 

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustees Gibson and Johner were absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“That the agenda for the April 10, 2018, Board meeting be approved as printed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair shared that the Board is pleased with the funding of the K-9 School in Chappelle and the Westlawn Cluster Consolidation. She remarked that funding schools in both new and mature neighbourhoods shows that the provincial government is committed to equity. The Board Chair stated that the District wants all students to have access to high-quality, 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning spaces, regardless of where they go to school in the District.

The Board Chair said that the need for more schools has been a key issue for families, students and staff and that the Board of Trustees will continue to advocate for a much-needed high school, which is the number one priority in the District’s Capital Plan.

The Board Chair reported that student growth is continuing on an upward trend of about 2.5 per cent and that the District expects to register more than 100,000 students in the fall. The Board Chair thanked the Provincial government for continuing to fund student population growth.

The Board Chair reported that she had a meeting on March 27, 2018, with Mayor Iverson, his Chief of Staff and the Chair of the Edmonton Catholic School District on March 27, 2018. She explained that they shared their thoughts about the Provincial budget and discussed how the organizations can work together to support strong education in Edmonton. The Board Chair said there was an opportunity to connect about shared work, including schools as community hubs, early learning opportunities, planning and infrastructure. She advised that a meeting with the Board of Trustees and City Council is being coordinated.

E. **Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent acknowledged “Be Kind to Your Lawyer Day” and recognized Ms Cooke, Legal Counsel.

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The Superintendent reminded everyone that pre-enrolment will close at 4 p. m. on April 16, 2018, and encouraged parents and students to contact their principals should they have any questions or require assistance.

### **F. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #08 – March 20, 2018

#### **MOVED BY Trustee Ip:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #08 held March 20, 2018, 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. Report # 04 of the Special Caucus Committee (From the meeting held March 20, 2018)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the March 20, 2018, Special Caucus Committee meeting.

3. Strategic Plan Update: Priority 1, Goal One: An Excellent Start to Learning

The Trustees received an overview of the efforts being taken in support of Priority 1, Goal One: An Excellent Start to Learning with the outcome of more children entering Grade 1 reaching emotional, social, intellectual and physical development milestones.

There was a short break in the meeting.

4. Motion re: Shared Approach to Curriculum Implementation to Alberta Education Next Steps

#### **MOVED BY Board Chair Draper:**

**“That the Board of Trustees act on the advocacy points contained in the September 12, 2017, Board report entitled *Shared Approach to Curriculum Implementation to Alberta Education.*”**

**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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The Board Chair requested that Administration develop a work plan with timelines that would assist the Trustees to act on the advocacy points outlined in the report.

5. 2019-20 School Year Calendar

**MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:**

**“That the 2019-20 District calendar be approved.”**

**MOVED BY Trustee Ip:**

**“That the 2019-20 District calendar be amended by moving the Professional Development day scheduled on October 25, 2019, to November 1, 2019, be approved. ”**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.**

**IN FAVOUR: Trustee Ip**

**OPPOSED: Trustees Adams, Dunn, Draper, Estabrooks, Janz and Stirling  
(DEFEATED)**

**The Board Chair called the question on the Motion.**

**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

The Board Chair requested that a notation be added to the calendar explaining the change to the spring break.

The Superintendent advised that the Edmonton Public Schools Transportation department will share the approved calendar with the Edmonton Catholic School district.

6. Lower Cost or No Cost Transportation  
(Response to Request for Information #015)

Information was provided regarding request for information #015.

7. Bereavement

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Ms. Susan Mitchell.

**I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**

Trustee Dunn commented that each time she attends a school council meeting she is impressed by the dedication of parents in District schools. She reported that she attended school council meetings at Mayfield, Ross Sheppard, Victoria and Winterburn Schools. Trustee Dunn remarked that it is an honour to share news from the Board of Trustees, get feedback on work of the Board, and to hear about the unique initiatives happening at each of these schools, and the hard work of the parent community.

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Trustee Dunn reported that she was pleased to meet with principals at John A. McDougall and Westglen Schools. She commented that when she was at John A. McDougall School, she saw first-hand the benefits of the All in for Youth program and how these wrap-around supports provide teachers the opportunity to focus on teaching critical skills in literacy.

Trustee Dunn reported that she also had a chance to connect with elected officials at different levels of government to promote the work of the Board of Trustees and had some excellent conversations about mental health, the important work of the District's Gay-Straight Alliances, and the use of community space. Trustee Dunn said that she is looking forward to continued positive relationships and collaboration.

Trustee Estabrooks reported that she was pleased to attend a number of school council meetings in the last two weeks. She thanked the principals and school councils of Abbott, Riverdale and Rutherford Schools for welcoming her to their meetings. Trustee Estabrooks commented that these are small elementary schools that serve students and families who live near the school and that they exemplify what it means to be a community school by working hard to make sure parents, neighbours and students are part of their school communities.

Trustee Estabrooks shared that she had the pleasure of visiting Centre High School recently and learned about the great programming that the school offers. She said that being located in the heart of downtown Edmonton; the Centre High School provides essential learning to hundreds of students.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the people of Beverly for welcoming her and some District staff to their community meeting last week where they discussed ways to revitalize and grow the Beverly community. She remarked that schools, school communities and buildings that were formerly schools are all part of the equation in how to grow and sustain vibrant communities in the city.

Trustee Janz reported that on March 15, 2018, he met with the Brander Gardens Rocks program organizer and toured Brander Gardens School. He shared that this is one of the District's flagship collaborations between community and a school helping vulnerable students. He explained that there are many amazing things being done in the southwest. Trustee Janz thanked the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Brander Gardens Rocks program that is very grateful for the support they receive from Brander Gardens and Riverbend Schools.

Trustee Janz reported that on April 5, 2018, the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) gave a presentation called Disconnected, Distracted or Attached. The presentation was about the use of smart phones, and growing up digital. He explained that information was presented regarding research findings pertaining to the effects that smart phones can have on teenagers' sleep, social alienations, bullying and many other factors. He remarked that the ability to have still places in life and switch off technology at times is very important to the wellness of

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youngsters. Trustee Janz commented that it is important to be mindful of this when discussing issues and concerns regarding the mental health of students.

Trustee Janz reported in writing that:

On April 6, 2018, he served as a moderator for Public Interest Alberta at their conference to speak about public education issues in Alberta in future elections.

On March 23 and 24, 2018, he had the opportunity to attend and present at the Higher Ground event at the Columbia Institute. Trustee Janz indicated that there were excellent learnings on sustainability, local governance, democracy, equity and social justice. Trustee Janz shared the District's work regarding sustainability and the excitement around the solar strategy.

Trustee Stirling thanked the school councils at A. Blair MacPherson and Clara Tyner Schools for welcoming her to join them for their March meetings. She remarked that it is great to see such engaged and active school councils, and she thanked them for being such enthusiastic partners in advocating for public education and especially in supporting the work of the Board to ensure high school space for their elementary school-aged children is available when they reach Grade 10.

Trustee Stirling reported that on March 24, 2018, she had the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Board of Trustees at the March for Our Lives rally at the provincial legislature. She said that while school shootings are thankfully rare in Canada, ensuring safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive schools is a priority and that they shared their support and solidarity with students in the United States who are working to end violence in schools.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Association for Gifted Children for meeting with her and Trustees Gibson and Ip, to share their experiences as families of gifted and twice-exceptional students and the special needs of this student population.

Trustee Stirling reminded families in Wards G and I about the upcoming Trustee Night that she and Trustee Adams will be hosting at Ekota School on April 18, 2018, at 7 pm. She welcomed all families to join them, ask questions and learn about the work of the Board of Trustees.

#### **J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information**

Trustee Draper asked that given the huge role technology plays in everyone's lives, how is Edmonton Public schools preparing District students to not only be consumers of technology but drivers and producers, specifically in terms of developing core competencies in coding across all grade levels.

Trustee Janz requested that Administration provide a brief report on how shared school design models or operations between Public and Catholic School Boards are operating in Saskatchewan.

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Trustee Dunn served notice that she will make a motion that the Edmonton Public School Board of Trustees advocate to the provincial government for improved access to mental health services available to students in schools, through dedicated funding and increased collaboration between the Ministries of Education, Health and Infrastructure.

**L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at 2:00 p. m.**

**M. Adjournment: 4:40 p. m.**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Michelle Draper, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director of Board and  
Superintendent Relations