

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #08

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 5, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks
Ken Gibson
Nathan Ip

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Nancy Petersen
Kent Pharis

Madonna Proulx
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

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.

A. O Canada 

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

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The Superintendent advised that Trustee Johner would be joining the meeting shortly. All other Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Dunn:

“That the agenda for the February 5, 2019, Board meeting be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent acknowledged that families are preparing for pre-enrolment, which will begin on March 11, 2019. He advised that schools are opening their doors to prospective students to help them find the best fit. He encouraged students and families to visit schools, meet with staff, and get a first-hand view of the options available to them.

The Superintendent congratulated Abu Bakr al Rabeeah and Winnie Yeung for their book, *Homes*, for being chosen as one of CBC's *Canada Reads* contenders.

The Superintendent congratulated the staff and students at Mill Creek School who will celebrate their grand opening the evening of February 7, 2019. He thanked the staff and community members who worked so hard to make this beautiful new school a reality.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #07 – January 22, 2019

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting # 07, held January 22, 2019, be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Trustee Johner joined the meeting.

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from Ms Heather-Jane Au, Ms Kathleen Lowrey, Ms Dawn Knutson and Ms Myra Wong who spoke about the Confucius Institute.

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H. Reports

2. Michael A. Kostek School Presentation

The Michael A. Kostek School shared their school literacy story.

3. Board Policy AD.BP District Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities

MOVED BY Trustee Estabrooks:

**“1. That Board policy AD.BP District Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities be considered for the first, second, and third time at this meeting.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That Board policy AD.BP District Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities be considered for the first time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“3. That Board policy AD.BP District Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities be considered a second time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“4. That Board policy AD.BP District Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities be considered for the third and final time and be approved.
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

4. Strategic Plan Update - Literacy

The Trustees received an overview of the data, strategies and initiatives used in support of high quality teaching and learning of literacy, highlighting the District’s work around Literacy Foundations.

Trustee Janz requested that Administration disaggregate the most recent Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT), Highest Level of Achievement Tests (HLAT), Diploma (DIP) scores for English Language Learners (ELL) and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FMNI), and gender and provide the information to the Board of Trustees in a Transmittal Memorandum (TM).

5. Bereavements

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Mrs. Jane Baker, Ms Sara Nielsen and Mr. Irfan Qureshi.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

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Trustee Adams thanked the Sakaw School for the invitation to their special Treaty 6 Flag Raising Ceremony that was held on January 30, 2019. Elder Bob Cardinal, from the Enoch Community and Sharon Morin representing the Métis community, presented to the students, as well as Aboriginal Liaison, Crystal Leddy, from J. Percy Page, who brought an informative and captivating story about Metis culture. The Grade 6 class did a great job of presenting a beautiful ceremonial song with an ensemble that included Orff instruments and ceremonial drums.

Trustee Adams submitted the following information in writing:

Trustee Adams thanked the Chair of Jan Reimer School Council for inviting her to their council meeting on January 22, 2019. They have a strong representation of committed parents established since the short time of their opening. The Council is doing preliminary work for their playground and planning the 2nd Annual Cultural Day on March 8, 2019, similar to the “Taste of Edmonton”. There was good conversation about the District Strategic Plan and the results as well as a discussion around their deep concern regarding a high school for the southeast. Trustee Adams appreciated the opportunity to participate and observe the great work of these devoted parents.

Trustee Adams reported that the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Stakeholder Engagement meeting for parents at amiskwacy Academy was held and enjoyed time building new relationships and hearing the insights and responses from parents and community. The feedback was very valuable and will be taken into consideration in the development of the policy. Trustee Adams thanked her colleagues on the Policy Review Committee, and Ms Peterson and Ms Beaudoin for directing the process.

Trustee Dunn reported that she attended a CASA lecture with Trustee Stirling on January 24, 2019, about the transition from children’s services to adult services and the need for more services targeted at youth ages 12 to 25. She expressed that information provided in the lecture reflects that youth from 12 to 25 have the highest reported mental health concerns and the least access to services.

Trustee Dunn had the pleasure to meet with the Ward C Working Group to plan the next Ward Council event, which will likely involve a guest speaker and a chance to discuss important education issues with parents and community members concerned about education.

Trustee Estabrooks congratulated Abu Bakr al Rabeeah and Winnie Yeung for their book, Homes, for being chosen as one of CBC’s Canada Reads contenders and shared that it will be debated on CBC radio the week of March 25, 2019. Trustee Estabrooks suggested inviting Abu Bakr al Rabeeah and Winnie Yeung to a future meeting to share their story and the success of their book.

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Trustee Estabrooks congratulated McNally High School on the opening of their Health Care Aide program. She thanked District staff, in particular the Career Pathways team, and said the program was also made possible because of an important partnership with NorQuest College.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the Parent Council of Forest Heights School for the warm welcome to their meeting and shared that they are hard working parent volunteers who care deeply about not only their own children but all children within the school.

Trustee Estabrooks advised that the second round of consultations regarding Board Policy HAA.BP First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education will continue and that a meeting with parents and community members will be held at amiskwaciy Academy. She invited everyone to participate in the stakeholder feedback survey and advised that the survey will be available until midnight on February 10, 2019.

Trustee Ip reported that on January 23, 2019, he was a guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Point Community League. Trustee Ip shared the plans and design of the new Dr. Anne Anderson School. He also spoke about the community centre attached to the school and the unique partnership with the City of Edmonton. Councillor Cartmell and MLA Thomas Dang were also in attendance.

Trustee Ip attended school council meetings at Johnny Bright and Lillian Osborne Schools earlier this month and share Board updates.

On January 27, 2019, Trustee Ip attended the Southwest Ski Fest organized by the Southwest Area Council where he was also a judge for the chili cook-off. MLA Feehan, Councillors Walters and Cartmell and Trustee Janz also participated. Trustee Ip would like to thank organizers for a wonderful community event.

On February 3, 2019, Trustee Ip had the pleasure of bringing greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees at the Chinese New Year Celebration at Kingsway Mall. He advised that students from the Mandarin Bilingual program provided the majority of the entertainment and performances. MP Boissonnault, Councillor Esslinger and other dignitaries were also in attendance.

Trustee Ip invited his colleagues and members of the public to attend one of the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation's upcoming Show and Tell events. The events are from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are a great way to learn about the work of the Foundation and the impact of full-day Kindergarten. Upcoming dates include:

- February 27, 2019, at Mee Yah Noh School
- April 11, 2019, at Mee Yah Noh School
- April 25, 2019, at Beacon Heights School

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Trustee Ip reminded everyone that the Ready for Life breakfast is taking place May 3, 2019, at J. Percy Page School from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. He encouraged everyone to attend and host a table of ten guests to support the important work of the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation. He asked that those wishing to attend to RSVP to the Foundation staff.

Trustee Janz advised that a group of parents and education supporters will be hosting a celebration for public education at the Legislature on February 23, 2019, from 1-3 p.m.

Trustee Janz invited everyone to join him and Strathcona High School Council on February 20, 2019, where information about Edmonton Public Schools, the budget, growth plans, and ways that the general public can help advocate for a better public education system for all young people will be shared.

Trustee Janz shared that he has 75 free tickets for students that would like to attend the next two films: Malcom X and Gandhi, that are part of the film series about social justice called Reel Revolution.

Trustee Stirling reported that on January 23, 2019, she was delighted to join District students for the Escuela Mill Creek Move-In Day. Seeing students move into their new building was truly magical. One of the best moments was having a student come through the door of his new school and exclaim to her "it has a huge library!" She thanked Trustee Estabrooks for joining in the fun as well. She is looking forward to all of the Trustees having the opportunity to see the new school in person at the opening later this week.

On January 23, 2019, Trustee Stirling joined students at A. Blair McPherson School for their ABM Mighty Love of Reading night. This year's theme was Space, and everyone had a lot of fun reading about explorers like Chris Hadfield. Students also had the chance to see presentations on space-themed projects from junior high students and got to take home a book along with some milk and cookies for family story time.

On January 24, 2019, the CASA lecture, attended by Trustee Dunn and Trustee Stirling, was a great opportunity to learn more about adolescent transitions to adult mental health services and how everyone can assist young people to bridge that gap successfully.

Trustee Stirling reported that on January 26, 2019, the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association Lunar New Year Celebration at Bonnie Doon Mall was a busy, energetic day of games, dance, music, song, and, of course, dragon and lion dances. She said they were joined by MP Linda Duncan, MLA Denise Woollard, Mayor Don Iveson and Councillors Knack and Henderson, along with many students, families, volunteers, and community members.

Trustee Stirling thanked the Clara Tyner School Council for welcoming her to their January 28, 2019, meeting. She said there was enthusiastic and engaging conversation around the new Kindergarten to Grade 4 curriculum implementation and the work on the Grades 5-9 and 10-12

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curricula. Trustee Stirling advised that there was a discussion regarding traffic safety concerns around the school and identified some common issues that schools are experiencing across the central southeast with LRT construction and other issues causing increased traffic on neighbourhood roadways. She shared that they are considering different ways to advocate to the City better traffic safety measures for Ottewell School.

Trustee Stirling reported that from January 30 to February 3, 2019, she attended the Ever Active Schools Shaping the Future conference where they reviewed comprehensive school health. Sessions this year had a strong focus on wellbeing for the whole child, including physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellness. Trustee Stirling appreciates the hard work Ever Active does to promote wellness in schools across Alberta and enjoyed the chance to learn and connect with education leaders, teachers, and partners all working to ensure students have safe, caring, welcoming, inclusive, and healthy schools.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Gibson said that in the context of effective and efficient use of District and provincial funds and efficiencies that could be gained through collaboration with other school districts to support implementation of new curriculum, he requested that Administration indicate whether the District has the capacity to provide professional learning supports to other Districts and/or to develop teaching and learning resources collaboratively or independently to support new provincial curriculum implementation, and if yes, provide information regarding potential funding models.

K. Notices of Motion - None

L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: 4:20 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations