

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, February 19, 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
Todd Burnstad
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen

Kent Pharis
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman

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.)

MINUTE BOOK

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the agenda for the February 19, 2019, Board meeting be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair stated that it is an honour and a privilege to serve as Board Chair and reflected on the work of the Board and tied it into the concept of distributed leadership. She thanked Vice Chair Stirling for representing the Board several times this term when she was unavailable. The Board Chair shared that most recently the Vice Chair helped to remind the Minister of the District’s pressing need for another high school at an event at Dr. Lila Fahlman School, where students interviewed both her and the Minister. The Board Chair advised that they, along with Trustee Dunn celebrated the grand opening of the Mill Creek replacement school. She explained that the advocacy work behind each announcement is a collective endeavour, and every announcement reflects the hard work of the District.

The Board Chair said that during the past term, she has witnessed the Chairs of each Board committee exhibiting great leadership and dedication and that she has trust and confidence in their work. She expressed that success is achieved one student at a time, working together with the Superintendent, Administration, staff, and students, including the Student Senate, families and communities. She thanked each Trustee for their commitment to public education, and District staff, students, families and communities for their collective work in making the District one that everyone is proud to serve and be a part of.

The Board Chair advised that February 27, 2019, is Pink Shirt Day, which started as an anti-bullying stand by two Grade 12 Nova Scotia students in 2007. She explained that 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 must stop and through awareness and education Canadians can continue to take a stand against bullying.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent shared that it is open house time in the District starting on March 11, 2019. He said that attending open house events is a great way to learn more about schools and the programs they offer. For more information, the Superintendent encouraged everyone to look to SchoolZone and the District website.

MINUTE BOOK

The Superintendent advised that February 19, 2019, was the last day to vote for the Hockey Helps Kids teams and encouraged everyone to vote before 11:59 p.m. He thanked the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, school staff and students for working together in support of the chosen charities.

The Superintendent said that he is looking forward to the District's Night of Music on February 27, 2019. He thanked staff and students in preparation for the event and families for supporting the musicians.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #08 – February 5, 2019

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #08 held February 5, 2019, 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. Student Senate Work Plan Update

The Student Trustees presented an update of the Student Senate work in support of their 2018-2019 Work Plan.

3. Locally Developed Courses

MOVED BY Trustee Estabrooks:

“That the following LDCs be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools:

- **Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35 (3 and 5)**
- **Audio 15-25-35 (3 and 5)**
- **Biology (IB) 35 (3)**
- **Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35 (5)**
- **Chemistry (IB) 35 (3)**
- **Christian Studies 15-25-35 (3)**
- **Dance Composition 35 (5)**
- **Fire Rescue Services 15 (3)**
- **Geometry 7-8-9**
- **Islamic Studies 7-8-9**

MINUTE BOOK

- **Musical Theatre 15-25-35 (5)**
 - **Physics (IB) 35 (3)**
 - **Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9**
 - **World History 7-8-9”**
- (UNANIMOUSLY 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 Adams commented that Edmonton Public Schools has an amazing team in place when responding to school emergencies such as broken pipes and flooding issues that the Jan Reimer School experienced during the recent extreme cold weather. She shared that the school was back in order before the night was over and the next day staff, students and families were welcomed back. Trustee Adams sincerely thanked everyone who went above and beyond the call of duty to rectify the problems and make the school available the next day.

Trustee Adams submitted the following information in writing:

On February 6, 2019, there was a District Leadership meeting. Following the Superintendent's motivational presentation, the principals broke out into groups for discussion with the Assistant Superintendents. The first discussion focused on exempting students from Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma exams. Trustee Adams was interested to hear the Principals discuss the various circumstances when considering to exempt a student from writing an exam. It was encouraging to note there was no mention about how a zero affects the school's or District's overall score, and that the well-being of the student was the primary focus.

On February 7, 2019, the final stakeholder engagement session was held at amiskwaciy Academy regarding draft Board policy HAA.BP First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education. Trustee Adams reported that there was good representation of community organizations that provided very helpful and even challenging responses that will create rich discussion in the preparation of the final draft of this policy by the Policy Review Committee.

On February 12, 2019, Trustee Adams was honoured to be invited to share her personal leadership journey with the “Learning Leaders” at their recent meeting at Jan Reimer School. Principal Shelley Fenton from Dan Knott Schools, Ms Mary Michailides and Principal Gane Olsen provide key leadership for the group that meets at rotating schools on a monthly basis. Learning Leaders is a team of teachers and assistant principals that meet together to build on their relationships, instructional leadership capacity, and personal growth. The commitment level of this group is very high as it is meeting a very relevant and strategic need within the J. Percy Page Catchment leaders.

MINUTE BOOK

On February 12, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Ellerslie Parent Council meeting. Trustee Adams reported that the Ellerslie Parent Council is a strong, committed council that serves their school very well. They host numerous fundraisers and events through the year to provide for the needs of the school. They had a good discussion regarding the District Strategic Plan, results review and Equity Plan. Principal George Hoyt shared the value of the Equity Fund for Ellerslie Campus including a part time Success Coach. The parents were interested to learn about the Strategic Plan and the Equity Fund and the many benefits it has brought to their school.

On February 15, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Aboriginal Studies Class at J. Percy Page School and thanks Ms Krista Leddy for the invitation to a “circle” discussion of about 30 students of many different backgrounds. Each student shared a desire to gain more knowledge and understanding of Indigenous history. It was very interesting to participate in the class and hear about the students’ own backgrounds and what they hoped to gain from the class. Trustee Adams has been invited back later on in the semester to experience the growth that takes place in the students after one semester.

Following the class, Trustee Adams was invited to meet with one of the assistant principals from J. Percy Page and the youth liaison from the Family Centre where they are creating a network in the Millwoods area to develop a program for at-risk youth. Trustee Adams is encouraged about their passion for the students in the area who would benefit from some additional supports. Trustee Adams looks forward to hearing more about their work.

On February 19, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Parent Council at Satoo School and shared information about the District Strategic Plan and discuss the great concern regarding a high school for the southeast. Trustee Adams reports that Principal Nick Diederichs, staff and Parent Council have done an excellent job of providing a warm welcome and embracing the Kindergarten and Grade 1’s from Michael Strembitsky School over the last three years. There has been a lot of additional work and changes to accommodate the overcrowding experienced at Michael Strembitsky School. Trustee Adams thanked everyone for the great attitude and service to make this the best situation possible for the families and students for both schools.

Trustee Dunn reported that she represented the Board of Trustees at the provincial Valuing Mental Health Advisory Committee and provided feedback pertaining to the collaborative provincial work happening across ministries. She advised parents living in Ward C that there is a survey available under the Trustee section on SchoolZone requesting input in determining upcoming Ward Council topics and said the survey will be available until March 1, 2019.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the Parent Council at Virginia Park School, staff and students at Ivor Dent and Oliver Schools who recently invited her to visit their schools.

Trustee Estabrooks shared that talking to Grade 6 students about politics, the importance of voting, of being involved in the community and the role of a Trustee is one of her favourite things to do.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Estabrooks congratulated students in the Nellie McClung program for once again organizing a fabulous event by students and for students. She said the Power of Women event hosts some fabulous and inspirational speakers and that she was honoured to be present.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the Parent Council at Highlands School for their continued advocacy work around making sure that students who cross 118 Avenue are safe. Trustee Estabrooks reported that the Highlands Parent Council is thinking ahead to when the modernized, much larger school will be open and that she appreciates the information that they have shared with her and Councillor Tony Caterina.

Trustee Janz reported that on February 8, 2019, the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta hosted Dr. Stephen Murgatroyd who gave a powerful presentation focused on Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in Alberta.

Trustee Janz advised every one of the upcoming events:

- February 20, 2019, Strathcona School Council meeting
- February 21, 2019, Malcom X, the second movie that is part of the film series about social justice will be shown
- March 21, 2019, Gandhi, the third movie that is part of the film series about social justice will be shown
- March 21, 2019, is the Greenfield Dads Matter get-together at Boston Pizza on 51 Avenue

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Estabrooks requested that Administration provide the Board of Trustees with a presentation about Edmonton Public School's role in the Alberta government's curriculum redesign at a future public Board meeting.

L. Notices of Motion - None

M. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: 3:20 p.m.

MINUTE BOOK

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations