

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #09**

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of the Province of Alberta held in McCauley Chambers in the Centre for Education on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper
Trisha Estabrooks

Ken Gibson
Nathan Ip
Cheryl Johner

Bridget Stirling

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
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Trisha Estabrooks

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 

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O Canada was performed by the Northmount School Choir and Northmount Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Mrs. Vivianne Kruhlak.

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustees Adams and Janz were absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

**“That the agenda for the January 28, 2020, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair thanked staff in the Division’s 213 schools that helped keep students’ spirits up and their minds engaged during the very cold weather in mid-January. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Board Chair thanked the Maintenance and Custodial staff who worked hard to make sure schools were safe and running smoothly.

The Board Chair thanked Education Minister LaGrange for a recent meeting with Superintendent Robertson, Vice-Chair Dunn and herself. She said they had an important conversation about some of the financial challenges facing Edmonton Public Schools and explained the importance of planning ahead for a Division this size. The Board Chair stated that Minister LaGrange recognized that there is much change ahead and she agreed that as many dollars as possible should be directed to the classroom.

The Board Chair thanked the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) for bringing board chairs from across the province together in Edmonton last week. She explained that it was an important meeting for chairs from public, separate and francophone divisions to share the impact of the Fall Budget and discuss concerns for Budget 2020 as well as the many uncertainties that exist around the funding framework and the pending changes to how money will be allocated for education.

The Board Chair thanked organizers of the Annual Autism Conference in Edmonton for inviting her to speak and appreciated the opportunity to share the desire of the Edmonton Public Schools Board to work towards phasing out seclusion rooms. The Board Chair acknowledged the work of Edmonton Public Schools staff and all of their efforts in providing training, setting high standards for what seclusion rooms must look like, the Division’s strict regulations on the use of these rooms and how important parents are in the conversation about the use of seclusion rooms.

The Board Chair thanked parents and families who had completed the transportation survey and advised that it is available online until January 31, 2020. She encouraged all parents, even those

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who do not have children that ride the bus, to participate in the survey. She remarked that the Division is at a critical crossroads and the Board of Trustees realizes that the way in which we offer transportation services is not sustainable. The Board Chair said that things need to change and that the Division is committed to listening to parent feedback on the kind of service that is provided and what is charged for that service.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent announced that Hockey Helps Kids launched its 5th year on January 16, 2020. He explained that kids from around the city get the opportunity to learn the value of social responsibility and community outreach, and they get to do so as part of the Oilers team. The Superintendent reported that four Edmonton Public Schools are paired with an Oilers player and together each team chooses a charity. The teams then competes for fan votes to win \$25,000 for its charity. He shared that all runner-up teams receive a participation award of \$10,000 for their charity. The January 2020 Hockey Helps Kids teams are as follows:

OILER	SCHOOL	CHARITY
Khiara	Hillcrest	YESS (Youth Empowerment & Support Services)
Nurse	Westminster	Little Warriors
Draisaitl	Allendale	Prosper Place Clubhouse
Nugent-Hopkins	Balwin	YOU CAN Youth Services

The Superintendent thanked the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation and school staff and students for working together for these great causes. He encouraged everyone to get their votes in and said that they can vote every day until February 19, 2020.

F. Minutes

- Board Meeting #08 – January 14, 2020

MOVED BY Trustee Dunn:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #08 held, January 14, 2020, be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

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H. Reports

2. Second, Third and Final Reading of DK.BP Division Technology

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“1. That Board Policy DK.BP Division Technology be considered for the second, third and final time at this meeting.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That Board Policy DK.BP Division Technology be considered for the second time.

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“3. That Board Policy DK.BP Division Technology be considered for the third and final time and approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board Chair thanked the community members and staff that completed the survey and provided valuable feedback.

3. Omnibus Board Policies *Education Act* References: First, Second, Third and Final Reading

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“1. That Omnibus Board Policies *Education Act* be considered for the first, second, third and final time at this meeting.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That Omnibus Board Policies *Education Act* be considered for the first time.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“3. That Omnibus Board Policies *Education Act* be considered for the second time.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“4. That Omnibus Board Policies *Education Act* be considered for the third and final time and approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

4. Motion re: Choice in Education Survey

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That the Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools request the disaggregated results from the Choice in Education survey, rather than a summary compiled by the Ministry, and it be shared with all school boards.”

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MOVED BY Trustee Ip that the motion be amended:

“That the Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools request the disaggregated results from the Choice in Education survey **as well as information collected from focus group sessions that were conducted by the Ministry of Education, and any other data collected during the consultation process rather than a summary compiled by the Ministry, and it be shared with all school boards.”**

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

The Board Chair called the question on the motion as amended.

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

5. Interim Ward Boundaries

Information was provided regarding land that has been newly annexed into the City of Edmonton and will become part of the Edmonton Public School Division by Ministerial order. This requires the Division to provide education, transportation and an Edmonton School Division Trustee.

6. First, Second and Third Reading of Bylaw to Amend the Trustee Ward Boundaries

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“1. That Bylaw No. 2020-1 be introduced.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That, in accordance with Section 76 of the *Education Act*, Bylaw No. 2020-1 be read for the first time.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“3. That, in accordance with Section 76 of the *Education Act*, Bylaw No. 2020-1 be read for the second time.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“4. That, in accordance with Section 76 of the *Education Act*, Bylaw No. 2020-1 be read for the third time.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Annual Update on Operational Efficiencies 2018-2019

Information was provided regarding efficiencies that were continued from 2017-2018, new efficiencies that occurred during the 2018-2019 school year, and other efficiencies currently being explored.

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Trustee Gibson requested that the Board Chair send a letter including the Division's Annual Update on Operational Efficiencies report to the Minister of Education and the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction.

8. **Edmonton Public School Division Climate Readiness**
(Response to Request for Information #055)

Information was provided regarding the Division's climate readiness and carbon emissions reduction efforts.

Trustee Dunn requested the following information:

- What knowledge, skills and attitudes will students need in a world impacted by climate change?
- What is Edmonton Public Schools Division's current carbon footprint?

Mr. Wright advised that this information would be provided to the Board.

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

Trustee Adams submitted the following report in writing:

On January 17, 2020, Trustee Adams attended the Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting where Mr. Maurice Fritz gave a valuable presentation on effective ways to lobby the government.

Trustee Adams reports that she attended the Chinese New Year celebration at Meyokumin School. She also attended four parent council meetings that were held at Bisset, Dan Knott, Menisa, and Sakaw schools. Trustee Adams mentions that parents have been very engaged in the discussions about the upcoming budget and what it means for each school and the Division as a whole. These meetings have been good opportunities for parents to understand possible implications to classrooms, to voice their personal concerns, look at some creative solutions and become advocates to the government for a greater investment in the education of children and their future.

Trustee Draper stated that in this challenging time in public education, it is more important than ever for Trustees to engage families in discussions about the impacts of the provincial budget. Over the past few weeks, she has had the opportunity to attend Homesteader, Dr. Donald Massey, Kildare, Kirkness, Sifton and Belmont school council meetings. She will be attending Delwood and Belvedere's meetings next week.

Trustee Dunn reported that she is pleased to be attending many school council meetings, and to see parents engage in valuable conversations regarding the Division's upcoming budget process and the budget scenarios that have been shared. She has been copied on many letters from parents expressing their concerns about the freeze on education funding while enrolment

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numbers continue to grow. Trustee Dunn thanked parents and community members for including her in their personal advocacy.

Trustee Ip invited everyone to a town hall meeting he will be hosting on January 30, 2020, commencing at 6:30 p.m. at Nellie Carlson School.

Trustee Stirling thanked the W.P. Wagner, Clara Tyner, Velma E. Baker, Donnan, and Edith Rogers school councils for inviting her to join them for important conversations about the provincial budget and the decisions Edmonton Public Schools may be facing. Trustee Stirling thanked the families for their strong support for public education.

Trustee Stirling advised that she will be hosting a town hall meeting on April 2, 2020, at Greenview School, following the spring provincial budget to discuss the implications for Edmonton Public Schools of the funding formula review and anticipated legislative changes.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Draper requested that the Administration share how the extreme cold weather during the past few weeks affected Edmonton Public Schools. In particular, she is interested in impacts on infrastructure and challenges with transportation and how these challenges were addressed.

Trustee Draper met with Member of Parliament Ziad Aboultaif to discuss the motion about federal support for newcomer families, and the challenges Edmonton Public Schools is facing in its growing Division with reduced funding from the provincial government. She looks forward to ongoing conversations about what federal support the Division may be able to access to continue to support Edmonton Public Schools students and families.

K. Notices of Motion

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

**“1. That the Board of Trustees grant waiver of notice of motion to consider my proposed motion at this meeting.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“2. That Edmonton Public Schools Administration conduct a survey or otherwise gather parent and staff input regarding preferences on how a calendar that has an additional three PD days and two non-instructional days, while maintaining overall instructional time and the quality of the Division’s students’ education could be structured and bring that information back as a recommendation report to the Board.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Dunn, Estabrooks, Gibson, Ip, and Johner

**OPPOSED: Trustees Draper and Stirling
(CARRIED)**

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The Superintendent advised that input will be gathered and a Recommendation report including an updated 2019-2020 Division Calendar will be presented to the Board of Trustees for their deliberation at the February 25, 2020, Board meeting.

L. **Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.**

M. **Adjournment: 5:03 p.m.**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations