

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #08**

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 14, 2020, 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
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Trisha Estabrooks

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Heather Quinn, 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 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. O Canada 

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED BY Trustee Adams:

**“That the agenda for the January 14, 2020, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair recognized the tragic loss of life and the grief many people in Edmonton are feeling after the plane crash in Ukraine last week. She said 57 Canadians died, many of whom were from Edmonton, including two Edmonton Public students. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, she extended the Division’s sincere condolences to those affected by the crash.

The Board Chair advised that the Board of Trustees is looking forward to hearing more about the funding framework review undertaken by the provincial government. She said this review is promising to overhaul the way in which education funding is currently allocated in Alberta. The Board Chair reported that the Division has provided the government with suggestions and looks forward to working with the government on the changes.

The Board Chair shared that the Board of Trustees is also looking forward to hearing more about the curriculum review from the provincial government. She said the current curriculum is outdated and that staff and students deserve to have a modern, up-to-date curriculum.

The Board Chair shared that Maintenance Employees Appreciation Day will be on January 15, 2020, and thanked CUPE Local 784 (Maintenance Staff) for their dedication to keeping schools safe and running smoothly.

The Board Chair congratulated Highlands School student Sophia Sejutee who, along with a group of Grade 7 students from Rosslyn Junior High school, came up with an experiment that will be tested at the International Space Station. She said their experiment focuses on the early development of brine shrimp in microgravity.

The Board Chair congratulated Assistant Superintendent Mr. Ron MacNeil on attending his 300th Board meeting today.

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

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The Superintendent wished everyone a Happy New Year and a healthy and productive 2020.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #07 – December 10, 2019

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #07 held December 10, 2019, be approved as amended.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Motion re: Class Size Reporting

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That Edmonton Public Schools continue to collect and publish class size data consistent with previous reporting requirements by the Alberta government and report on this information annually at public Board meetings.”

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling that the motion be amended:

“That Edmonton Public Schools will ~~continue to~~ collect and publish class size data consistent with previous reporting requirements by the Alberta government **for the 2019-2020 school year. Further that the Board will consult with Administration and other school jurisdictions to develop a potential reporting model that takes into account both class size and complexity for future years.**” ~~and report on this information annually at public Board meetings.~~

The Board Chair called the question on the amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Draper, Estabrooks, Johner and Stirling

OPPOSED: Trustees Dunn, Ip, Janz and Gibson

(CARRIED)

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

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Draper, Dunn, Estabrooks, Janz, Johner and Stirling

OPPOSED: Trustees Adams, Ip and Gibson

(CARRIED)

There was a short break in the meeting.

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3. Changes to the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar
(Response to Request for Information #058)

Information was provided regarding request for information #058.

4. Bereavements

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Mrs Kathleen Richey.

I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams submitted the following report in writing:

December 17, 2019 – Trustee Adams attended the parent council meeting at Svend Hansen School. There was a good discussion about the budget and how everyone can be involved in advocating for the needed increased funding for education. Parents were also very motivated to advocate for the build of the Meadow High School to begin immediately for a timely opening date in 2022. Trustee Adams will be following up with Principal Ron Hansen, who is very supportive, and with the parent council with more information to assist in their continued advocacy efforts.

December 18, 2019 – Trustee Adams was happy to serve the grateful students of Dan Knott School at their fifth annual Christmas dinner. It was an excellent meal prepared by the students of W. P. Wagner School. Trustee Adams reports that this is a good partnership and a wonderful undertaking by Principal Shelley Fenton and her staff to express care and kindness for the students at Dan Knott School. Following the lunch, Trustee Adams attended the school concert at Ekota School and enjoyed the opportunity to connect with the new Principal, Kristina Bagan.

December 19, 2019 – Trustee Adams brought greetings on behalf of Trustee Janz and shared the Board of Trustees' gratitude for the beautiful poinsettias that are delivered every year by the students of L.Y. Cairns School. There was a wonderful crowd present to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Christmas dinners served at L.Y. Cairns School. Trustee Adams reports that it was a lovely time to meet several people who serve our Division in many different capacities and see their love for the school. Trustee Adams commends the great group of School Resource Officers who served the dinner.

Trustee Adams took the opportunity to respond to an invitation to stop by the Circle of Courage Christmas luncheon. She had heard a lot about the wonderful work and wanted to observe first-hand the impressive work that takes place at M.E. LaZerte School with the Aboriginal students. She witnessed some incredible testimonies of how significantly this program has made a difference in their lives and their outlook for their future. Trustee Adams commends Ms Veronica Graff for her ongoing support and care for the students and the impact she is making in the lives of Aboriginal students.

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In the evening, Trustee Adams attended the school concert at Weinlos School. Trustee Adams reports that the concert was very well attended and performed. Parents and children alike were excited about the lively and enthusiastic presentation. The hard work of Principal Gagne and her staff was readily apparent as the concert was a great success.

January 7, 2020 – Trustee Adams reports that the Student Mental Health and Well-Being Committee has started the year off with some very meaningful discussions and has developed a strong work plan for 2020.

January 13, 2020 – Trustee Adams reports that despite the inclement weather, there was a good turnout for the Kate Chegwin parent council meeting. Principal Holmes has begun a strategy to attract more parents to the council meetings by offering a short presentation of interest to parents before the meetings begin. The presentation for this evening consisted of what to expect in the transition of a student's life from Junior High to High School and specifically, their catchment school, W.P. Wagner. The presentation was very informative and provided helpful assistance to parents as they support their children through this transition. Trustee Adams did a budget presentation using the new advocacy budget folders. The parents appreciated the information.

January 17, 2020 – Trustee Adams attended an afternoon concert at Jan Reimer School and reports that the program was full of joy and it brought home the importance of having opportunities for the students to perform for the parents and for the parents to see their children perform. Trustee Adams thanked everyone for making this concert such a great success.

Trustee Ip invited everyone to a town hall meeting he will be holding from 6-8:30 p.m. on January 30, 2020, at Nellie Carlson School. Primary discussions will be around the implications of budget cuts and public education. Trustee Ip thanked the principal and school council in advance for hosting this event.

Trustee Stirling thanked everyone that attended and supported her town hall meeting on January 9, 2020, at Julia Kiniski School.

J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

K. Notices of Motion

Trustee Draper served notice of motion 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 that it be shared with all school boards.

L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: 4:11 p.m.

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The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations