

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #18**

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of the Province of Alberta held via Zoom on Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Sherry Adams
Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks
Nathan Ip
Michael Janz

Cheryl Johner
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Grace Cooke
Todd Burnstad
Karen Mills
Leona Morrison

Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen
Kent Pharis
Darrel Robertson

Carrie Rosa
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.

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Gibson was absent. All other Trustees were present.

B. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

**“That the agenda for the June 23, 2020, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

C. Recognition – Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence

The Board Chair announced the following students as recipients of the Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence:

- Gold Medal – Yosamin Esanullah, Jasper Place

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- Silver Medal – Cindy Liu, Old Scona
- Bronze Medal – Chiara Concini, Strathcona Schools

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair acknowledged that June 21, 2020, was National Indigenous Peoples Day. She said that often many of the Trustees take part in a pow-wow or visit schools to celebrate. The Board Chair stated that things are different this year; however, she wanted to take a moment to celebrate students, staff, families who identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

The Board Chair thanked the many people who have reached out to Trustees to share their thoughts or ask questions on re-entry plans, cuts to Program Unit Funding (PUF), and the Division's budget and the School Resource Officer (SRO) program.

The Board Chair thanked Dr. Deena Hinshaw and Education Minister Adriana LaGrange for taking the time recently to meet with school boards and superintendents to walk through the guidelines for re-entry under the three scenarios. She remarked that though the Division does not yet know what school will look like come September, she has full confidence in the Administration and their ability to be prepared for any of the three scenarios. The Board Chair advised that the Board of Trustees look forward to helping communicate and supporting the Administration once the decision is made about re-entry.

The Board Chair acknowledged how incredibly busy this school year has been and thanked, in particular, Superintendent Robertson. She stated that the Division is fortunate to have an incredibly hard working, empathetic and award winning superintendent during this time.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Board Chair thanked staff for their dedication to students, especially during the past three and a half months which has been challenging. She said that there are silver linings and lessons learned since March that will hold the Division in good stead once the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

The Board Chair advised June 23, 2020, marks last public Board meeting of the year and thanked her colleagues for their continued commitment to the job of elected Trustee.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent shared that this is the time of year when most scholarships are awarded and it highlights the great achievements of students in the Division. He thanked the many individuals and groups who sponsor student awards and said that donations help to open doors for students and allows them to give more focus to their studies.

The Superintendent acknowledged all of the Michael Strembitsky Award recipients and added that Rajan Maghera of McNally High School had also received an \$80,000 Schulich scholarship to study at the University of Alberta in the fall.

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The Superintendent acknowledged that the last four months required staff, student and families to navigate a lot of change very quickly. He shared his appreciation for the tremendous work that everyone has done to adapt to distance learning.

The Superintendent thanked the Board of Trustees for their support and guidance during this time. He said the Boards' unrelenting advocacy on behalf of students and families has been effective and appreciated.

The Superintendent advised that the Division is planning for three different re-entry scenarios and stated information received from the provincial government and the Chief Medical Officer has been provided and encouraged students and families to review the information.

The Superintendent shared that the Division will be updating everyone once the provincial government announces its decision in August. He said that student safety will be first and foremost in re-entry planning and that the Division will be following recommendations made by the Chief Medical Officer and provincial government. The Superintendent said that no matter which scenario will be acted on, the Division is working on quality teaching and learning resources and supports for families.

The Superintendent said that it is now time for a break and rest. He wished staff, students and families a healthy and restful summer break and looks forward to seeing everyone in September.

F. Minutes

2. Board Meeting #17 – June 9, 2020

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

**"That the minutes of Board Meeting #17 held June 9, 2020, be approved as printed."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from 22 registered speakers regarding the School Resource Officer (SRO) program.

There was short break in the meeting.

H. Reports

3. Report #17 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held June 9, 2020)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the June 9, 2020, Caucus Committee meeting.

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4. Setting of Ward Boundaries for the 2021 Municipal Elections

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That Concept A be approved as the recommended concept to inform bylaw amendment for the 2021 Municipal Election.”

MOVED BY Trustee Janz that the motion be amended:

“That Concept ~~A~~ B be approved as the recommended concept to inform bylaw amendment for the 2021 Municipal Election.”

The Board Chair called the question on the amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Ip, Janz and Stirling

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

The Board Chair called the question on the motion:

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Draper, Dunn, Estabrooks and Draper

**OPPOSED: Trustees Ip, Janz and Stirling
(CARRIED)**

5. Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Principles

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

**“1. That the Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles be considered for the first, second, third and final time at this meeting.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That the Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles be considered for the first time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“3. That the Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles be considered for the second time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“4. That the Board Policy EA.BP Infrastructure Planning Principles be considered for the third and final time.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

There was a short break in the meeting.

6. Motion re: Motion re: Anti-racism and Curriculum Redesign

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“Be it resolved that the Edmonton Public School Board advocate for anti-racism to be included in the curriculum redesign by the provincial Ministry of Education to ensure consistent outcomes across Alberta towards the elimination of racism. Furthermore, that the Edmonton Public School Board advocate for funding from the province for professional development for staff and coursework for pre-service teacher training in the Division’s post-secondary institutions to support the implementation of these outcomes in Alberta's curriculum.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Division Plan to Collect Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic (Response to Request for Information #071)

Information was provided regarding request for information #071.

8. Instructional Provisions for Students in Full-day Child Care (Response to Request for Information #074)

Information was provided regarding request for information #072.

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That the Board meeting proceed past 6 p.m. in order for the Board of Trustees to complete all agenda items.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

9. Delegation of Authority – 2020 Summer Recess

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“1. That in accordance with Section 3 of the Education Act Board Procedures Regulation, any special board meetings during the 2020 summer recess be at the call of the Board Chair or, in her absence, the Board Vice-Chair.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That in accordance with Section 52(1) of the *Education Act*, effective June 23, 2020, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2020 summer recess on behalf of the Board be approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“3. That a report of all such decisions be brought to the first public Board meeting in the fall of 2020.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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There was a short break in the meeting.

- I. **Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports** - None
- J. **Trustee and Board Requests for Information** - None
- K. **Notices of Motion**

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling

**“1. That the Board of Trustees grant waiver of motion to consider her recommendation on the School Officer Resource (SRO) program at the June 23, 2020, Board meeting.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

“2. That the Board of Trustees request an independent review of the school resource officer program to be conducted by a university researcher, including a literature review, environmental scan, qualitative analysis of student and family experiences of SROs and policing, focusing on the experiences of Black, Brown, and Indigenous students and students with disabilities as well as other students from marginalized communities. That an investigation be conducted into the placement of officers with disciplinary histories involving violent incidents into the SRO program, including examining disciplinary actions taken both prior to and during officers' placement in the program.

That pending the completion of the review and investigation, the SRO program will be suspended. That administration will continue to work with Edmonton Police to ensure safe, welcoming, and inclusive practices for any and all interactions between students, families, staff, and EPS members that reflect EPSB policies on safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive learning and working environments, including but not limited to AE.BP, HF.BP, HA.BP, HAA.BP, HFA.BP, HG.BP, GGAB.BP, and related policies and regulations. Further, the division will explore alternative models for conflict resolution, diversion, restorative practices, legal education, and school safety programs. Further, that the Board of Trustees, in cooperation with division administration, will develop an accountability process to report annually to the Board of Trustees on all police interactions in schools.”

MOVED BY Trustee Dunn

**“That a motion to divide be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

The motion was divided and voted on in the following order:

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“1. That the Board of Trustees request an independent review of the school resource officer program to be conducted by a university researcher, including a literature review, environmental scan, qualitative analysis of student and family experiences of

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SROs and policing, focusing on the experiences of Black, Brown, and Indigenous students and students with disabilities as well as other students from marginalized communities in **Edmonton Public Schools**.

That an investigation be conducted into the placement of officers with disciplinary histories involving violent incidents into the SRO program, including examining disciplinary actions taken both prior to and during officers' placement in the program.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

There was a short break in the meeting

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“3. That administration will continue to work with Edmonton Police to ensure safe, welcoming, and inclusive practices for any and all interactions between students, families, staff, and EPS members that reflect EPSB policies on safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive learning and working environments, including but not limited to AE.BP, HF.BP, HA.BP, HAA.BP, HFA.BP, HG.BP, GGAB.BP, and related policies and regulations. Further, the division will explore alternative models for conflict resolution, diversion, restorative practices, legal education, and school safety programs. Further, that the Board of Trustees, in cooperation with Division Administration, will develop an accountability process to report annually to the Board of Trustees on all police interactions in schools.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“2. That pending the completion of the review and investigation, the SRO program will be suspended.”
IN FAVOUR: Trustees Dunn, Ip, Janz and Stirling
OPPOSED: Trustees Adams, Draper, Johner and Estabrooks
(DEFEATED)

Trustee Janz put forward the following notice of motion:

That the Division rename Dan Knott and Oliver Schools following a process where it seeks input from the community, following a process similar to the naming of new schools.

L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

M. Adjournment: 9:55 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

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Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations