

**MINUTE BOOK**

**Board Meeting #04**

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, October 22, 2019, at 2:05 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  
Grace Cooke  
Todd Burnstad  
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills  
Leona Morrison  
Kathy Muhlethaler  
Lorne Parker

Nancy Petersen  
Darrel Robertson  
Mike Suderman

**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** 

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

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The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

### **C. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOVED BY Trustee Johner:**

**“That the agenda for the October 22, 2019, Board meeting be approved as printed.”**

**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **D. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair welcomed the Student Senators, three Student Trustees Elect and guests that were present. She explained that the Student Senate is comprised of up to two students from each of the District’s 24 high schools. The Board Chair advised that at their first meeting, the Student Senate elected three Student Trustees.

The Board Chair advised that the government will table their budget this Thursday and that, leading up to this budget, the Board of Trustees has made it clear to the government that any cut to education will affect students. She said that the Board of Trustees has also articulated the critical need for an investment in the District’s Capital Plan, and have shared the reality that Edmonton Public Schools will be out of high school space by 2022 if a new high school is not built in the southeast part of Edmonton. The Board Chair expressed that the Board of Trustees looks forward to the budget and intends to hold Premier Kenney accountable to his statement that funding for education will be increased or maintained in this budget.

The Board Chair shared that last week Education Minister Adriana LaGrange released a report about class sizes. Chair Estabrooks emphasized that reducing the overall funding for class sizes remains a concern and is an item in the upcoming provincial budget that the Board will be watching closely. The Board Chair looks forward to further conversations with the government as they continue reviewing the way in which funding for education is allocated in the province.

The Board Chair advised that students across the District took part in mock elections in the run up to the federal election this week. She said that student voice matters and that she commends the students who took time to research the candidates, the parties and then cast their ballot. The Board Chair thanked the teachers who supported and encourage this worthwhile initiative.

The Board Chair thanked the Administration and staff for supporting students and their families who chose to participate in the Global Climate Strike, many of whom were inspired to attend because of 16 year old Greta Thunberg.

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

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The Superintendent thanked parents and community members who volunteer on School Councils and said they play a vital role in supporting District students and making connections between the school, parents and the larger community. The Superintendent also thanked the Board of Trustees for paying for all schools to be members of the Alberta School Council's Association (ASCA). He advised that ASCA is offering a training session for all school council volunteers the evening of October 23, 2019.

The Superintendent advised that Results Review is in the near future and extended an invitation to anyone who would like to sit in on the sessions. He thanked the Trustees in advance for their time commitment and participation in these reviews.

### **F. Receipt of Oaths of Office – Student Trustees Elect**

Oaths of Office were received from:

- Josh Karathra – Old Scona
- Johanna Lau – M.E. LaZerte
- Tristin Odnokon – Academy at King Edward

### **G. Minutes**

1. Board Meeting #03 – September 10, 2019

**MOVED BY Trustee Ip:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #03 held September 10, 2019, be approved as printed.”**

**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **H. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

The Board of Trustees heard from one registered speaker regarding seclusion rooms.

### **I. Reports**

2. Student Senate 2019-2020 Work Plan

The Student Senate presented their work plan for the 2019-2020 school year.

### **J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

There were no registered speakers for this item.

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### **K. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports**

Trustee Adams submitted the following report in writing:

On October 10, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Awards Night at J. Percy Page School where she brought congratulations to the students for their outstanding contributions and achievements. Trustee Adams acknowledged the recipient of the Governor General's Bronze Medal Aditya Chilwal, who achieved a combined average of 95.5% for all the courses he had taken in Grades 11 and 12 on his official transcript. Congratulations to Aditya for his exceptional accomplishment and much success in his continued studies.

Trustee Adams reported that on October 11, 2019, several leaders working with preschool children gathered for the monthly Mill Woods Early Childhood Coalition. This is a time for participating organizations to share information and resources in order to collaborate more effectively in making a difference for families of young children within the areas of Mill Woods. Trustee Adams is working on connecting the coalition with the Mill Woods Presidents' Council for Mill Woods Community Leagues to hopefully reach more families who could benefit from their services.

Trustee Adams enjoyed participating in READ IN week at Crawford Plains, Dan Knott, Michael Strembitsky, Satoo, Kameyosek, and Shauna May Seneca Schools. Trustee Adams reports that she especially enjoyed reading to the Grade 6 class at Shauna May Seneca School and that following the story they had a very good discussion around the role of a Trustee. Trustee Adams explains that Grade 6 is a time when students study the role of government and that she was genuinely impressed with the level of the student's interest and profound questions during their discussion. It was a very encouraging week in schools.

On October 21, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Policy Review Committee meeting and is looking forward to working Trustees Janz and Stirling and staff that support the committee. This year's work plan is very ambitious but she is confident that it will be accomplished. Trustee Adams reports that the committee is making good progress regarding policies related to Early Years, Multicultural Education and District Technology.

Trustee Dunn thanked all the schools in Ward C who invited her to READ IN Week. She also thanked the School Councils that invited her to share the work of the Board of Trustees. Trustee Dunn said that she has been fortunate to partner with ASCA to visit the School Councils with her to talk about their work and the role of school councils in providing a voice for their local school, the Board of Trustees and education in this province.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked the many students and staff that welcomed her into their classrooms during READ IN Week. She thanked the Grade 6 and 9 students at Ellerslie Campus for inviting her to speak during a politics panel. Trustee Estabrooks thanked Highlands School Parent Council for the recent meeting and other school councils in Ward D who have reached out to her.

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Trustee Janz reported that Ms Cathy Hogg was re-elected as the President, and Mr. Gerry Steinke was re-elected as Vice Present for the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta.

Trustee Janz invited Trustees and the general public to a town hall meeting he will be hosting on October 24, 2019, at the Harry Ainlay School from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

### **Trustee Johner**

Earlier in the month, she attended the round dance and pipe ceremony at L.Y. Cairns School with Board Chair Estabrooks.

Trustees Johner and Draper attended Councillor Aaron Paquette's community building meeting. They met Police Chief Dale McFee. Trustee Johner reports that Chief McFee is very supportive of the School Resource Office Program.

On October 10, 2019, Trustee Johner hosted a successful town hall meeting. She thanked Trustees Draper and Estabrooks for co-presenting with her. She said that in attendance there were two principals, two assistant principals, MLAs Hoffman and Neilson, City Councillor Dziadyk and many parents. They provided information on Board advocacy points such as transportation, infrastructure, budget, student mental health and well-being and the importance of public education.

As a representative of the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA), she attended the SOGI 123 meeting. She said this resource rich organization helps educators make schools inclusive and safe for students of all sexual orientation and gender identities and offers over 300 safe contacts in Alberta. Their goal is to expand to new districts within the province as well as strengthen current partnerships that are already in place.

On October 16-18, 2019, Trustee Johner attended the PSBAA Annual General Meeting. She advised that Ms Cathy Hogg is the President for the association for 2019. Ms Carol Picard stepped down from her position as Director and they welcomed Mr. Dennis McNeil to the Executive Committee. Trustee Johner said that Education Minister Adriana LaGrange spoke with students from the Student Voice Program, sat on the Legacy Panel and attended the MLA reception. She said that special keynote speaker Senator Paula Simons gave an inspirational speech regarding the value of public education.

**L. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None**

**M. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Estabrooks gave notice that she will make the following motion at the November 5, 2019, Board meeting:

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That the Board of Trustees advocates for adequate, equitable funding that takes into account enrolment growth, ensuring that all children receive the support they need to be successful.

**N. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 5, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.**

**O. Adjournment: 3:00 p.m.**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director of Board and  
Superintendent Relations