




Edmonton School District No. 7  
One Kingsway  
Edmonton, Alberta

McCauley Chambers  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019  
2:00 p.m.

Board Meeting #01

- A. O Canada 
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of the Agenda
- D. Communications from the Board Chair
- E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools
- F. Minutes:
  - 1. DRAFT – Board Meeting #16 – June 25, 2019
  - 2. DRAFT – Organizational Board Meeting – June 25, 2019
- G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives  
*(NOTE: Pre-registration with the Board Office [780-429-8443] is required by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2019, to speak under this item.)*
- H. Reports:
  - 3. Actions Taken Under Delegation of Authority – 2019 Summer Recess (Information)
  - 4. Strategic Plan Update – School Nutrition Program (Information)
  - 5. Bereavements (Information)
- I. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports
- J. Trustee and Board Requests for Information
- K. Notices of Motion
- L. Meeting Dates
- M. Adjournment

# AGENDA

**BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES**

**Trisha Estabrooks**  
Board Chair

**Shelagh Dunn**  
Board Vice-Chair

**Sherry Adams**  
**Michelle Draper**  
**Ken Gibson**  
**Nathan Ip**  
**Michael Janz**  
**Cheryl Johner**  
**Bridget Stirling**

**MINUTE BOOK****Board Meeting #16**

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, June 25, 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  
Lorne Parker  
Nancy Petersen  
Kent Pharis

Darrel Robertson  
Mike Suderman  
Liz Yule

**Board Chair:** Michelle Draper

**Recording Secretary:** Shirley Juneau

**Staff Group Representatives:**

Edmonton Public Teachers – Heather Quinn, President  
CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President and Gloria Lepine, Chief Steward

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.

**MINUTE BOOK**

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 Johnner:**

**“That the agenda for the June 25, 2019, Board meeting be approved as printed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. **Recognitions**

1. Homes – A Refugee Story

The Board Chair said that it was a wonderful privilege for the District to celebrate a District teacher and her student who have found fame on the national stage. She shared that Ms Winnie Yeung is a teacher at Highlands School and that Abu Bakr al Rabeeah is a teenage refugee who spent his childhood in Iraq and Syria before moving to Edmonton with his family in 2014. After learning about Abu Bakr's life, his English teacher – Ms Winnie Yeung - decided that she wanted to share his remarkable story with as many Canadians as possible.

*Homes: A Refugee Story* is Abu Bakr's remarkable true story of growing up in a war zone and ultimately finding safety in Edmonton. *Homes* is Ms Yeung's first book and it has received extensive critical acclaim. It was shortlisted for the 2018 Governor General's Literary Award for Nonfiction and the 2019 Writers' Trust Shaughnessy Cohen Award for Political Writing. *Homes* was also a finalist on CBC's Canada Reads 2019.

The Board Chair advised that Abu Bakr couldn't be present at the meeting, but that the District wanted to celebrate the fact that his story is continuing positively. She said he is graduating from high school this month and that she was honoured to see him cross the stage at the graduation ceremonies. The Board Chair thanked Ms. Yeung for showing such care and sensitivity to Abu Bakr and his family, and all of her students.

The Board Chair advised that she has purchased several copies of the book and that she will be donating them to the District's Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education, Central units for social studies, English Language Learners, diversity consultants and the Archives and Museum. The Board Chair wished Ms Yeung and Abu Bakr every success in the future and thanked them for bringing this story to everyone's attention.

## **MINUTE BOOK**

### **2. Michael A. Strembitsky Award Recipients**

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

- Gold Medal – Michael DeMarco from McNally School
- Silver Medal – Esther Muloki from Eastglen School
- Bronze Medal – Mehera Salah from M.E. LaZerte School

The Board Chair called a 20 minute recess to accommodate a reception for students and guests.

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

The Board Chair advised that the Board of Trustees met with the Minister of Education. The Trustees shared their appreciation for the announcement of funding for growth as well as the District's need for additional high school space and funding for modernizations. They also discussed the District's growing enrolment, classroom complexities and commitment to collaborate. The Board Chair thanked the Minister of Education for making time to meet with the Board of Trustees.

The Board Chair stated that the June 25, 2019, Board meeting is the final meeting of the 2018-2019 school year and wished all students, staff and families a wonderful, safe and relaxing summer holiday. She thanked everyone for contributing to the District's vision of Success, one student at a time.

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

The Superintendent advised that the District held multiple stakeholder engagement sessions over the last month to inform policy creation and student accommodation. He thanked everyone who participated in these sessions. He also advised that mid-June, the District held community meetings at Svend Hansen and A. Blair McPherson Schools in the southeast and a meeting about Soraya Hafez School in the northeast to gather input on attendance areas. The Superintendent explained that the setting of attendance areas is an administrative decision, not one made by the Board of Trustees. The District views community voice a key component in making decisions. Presentations and an online survey for each attendance area are available on the District website. The surveys will be open until June 27, 2019.

The Superintendent thanked staff, students and parents for all the effort put into making 2018-19 a great year. He also thanked the Board of Trustees for their work to ensure all students have access to what they need for a great education.

The Superintendent wished everyone a safe and happy summer.

**MINUTE BOOK****G. Minutes**

3. Board Meeting #15 – June 11, 2019

**MOVED BY Trustee Adams:**

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #15, held June 11, 2019, be approved as printed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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

The Board of Trustees heard from Ms Jody Deckert and Ms Nancy LaFrance regarding attendance areas in The Meadows area.

**I. Reports**

4. Approval of the 2019-2020 Spring Budget

**MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:**

**“1. That the 2019-2020 Budget of \$1,216,360,562 be approved.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That the budget report for the year ending August 31, 2020 be approved.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

There was a short break in the meeting.

5. Motion re: Multi-Block Funding Model

**MOVED BY Trustee Ip:**

**“1. That the Edmonton Public Schools Board of Trustees endorse a two per cent multi-year block funding model as outlined in Request for Information Report #037, and that the Board advocate for this model to the Premier of Alberta, Minister of Education and Minister of Infrastructure. “  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That the Board share the Request for Information Report #037 with the Mayor of Edmonton, Edmonton City Council and other metro school boards, and request a meeting with each party and our Board Chair and Infrastructure Committee Chair to discuss opportunities for joint advocacy.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

### **MINUTE BOOK**

6. Annual Policy Review for *School Act* Compliance

**MOVED BY Trustee Estabrooks:**

**“That the Board confirm the Policy Review Committee’s annual review of policies required to be in compliance with the *School Act*.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

7. 2018-2019 Superintendent of Schools’ Evaluation Summary

An overall summary of the 2018-2019 Superintendent of Schools’ evaluation was provided to the Board of Trustees for information.

8. Bereavement

The Vice-Chair reported on the passing of Mr. Marvin Eidelman and Mrs. Shirley Simmonds.

9. Delegation of Authority – 2019 Summer Recess

**MOVED BY Trustee Janz:**

**“1. That in accordance with Sections 61(1), 65(2), 65(3) and 67(1) of the *School Act*, any special board meetings during the 2019 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 61(1) of the *School Act*, effective June 25, 2019, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2019 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 2019.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

- J. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

- K. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams advised that she attended the High School Collaboration Journey at Harry Ainlay School where ten high schools met and working together to share information, trust and commonalities. She thanked Assistant Superintendent, Mike Suderman, for initiating this work.

### **MINUTE BOOK**

Trustee Adams submitted the following report in writing:

On June 11, 2019, there was an Infrastructure Engagement Session to discuss The Meadows Attendance Area Redesign at Svend Hansen School. The meeting was well attended by parents, staff and students. It was very difficult for the parents to even consider a change in the Kindergarten to Grade 9 school they have come to enjoy in two short years. Unfortunately, the critical overcrowding of the school necessitates a change. Hearing from the parents will help to determine what change will be the most beneficial.

On June 12, 2019, the Dan Knott School Creative Arts and Concert event was a very special evening. The library was transformed into an amazing art gallery with some really exceptional art work. Trustee Adams was honoured to meet the artists and hear the stories behind their art. Trustee Adams thanks the teachers behind the success of both the artwork and the band concert.

On June 13, 2019, the Svend Hansen School hosted a Fine Arts Night. Trustee Adams thanks everyone for making this evening such a huge success. There were various art works and grade presentations throughout the evening. Hundreds of parents came out to support this evening and it was a great opportunity to meet and share with a number of them throughout the evening. The parent council had a steady job with their popcorn fundraiser that evening.

On June 14, 2019, Trustee Adams and Estabrooks attended the panel discussion at Victoria School regarding the practice of eugenics in Alberta, especially in respect to the coerced sterilization of Indigenous women. Relating to Canada's ideal of "joining hands in an open process of dialogue and truth-telling", a concerned student at Victoria School initiated the dialogue around the *Sexual Sterilization Act* of 1928 and the continuation of its practice today. The dialogue was weighty and brought much awareness to an alarming part of our history.

On June 14, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the Millwoods Early Childhood Coalition at Millwood's School library. There was an inspiring discussion about possible community groups that would benefit from Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) presentations and the Brain Architecture Games Workshops in the fall. Free trauma-informed training will be offered through Living Hope throughout the coming year, starting in July.

On June 14, 2019, Trustee Adams was honoured to bring congratulations to the Grade 9 graduates at the Ellerslie Campus and Michael Strembitsky Schools.

On June 17, 2019, Board Chair Draper gave an overview of the District's needs and shared its concerns at a meeting with the Minister of Education, Adrianna LaGrange. The meeting was followed by a debriefing session for the Board of Trustees.

On June 18, 2019, Trustee Adams met with Councillor Mohinder Banga and his staff regarding The Meadows redesign and reports that it was a good opportunity to share information about the critical situation the District is facing regarding this area and to clarify next steps. Parent

### **MINUTE BOOK**

feedback is essential before any decisions will be made. She appreciated the aspiration of the councillor and his staff to work together and to share consistent messaging with constituents. Councillor Banga and his staff were pleased to hear there will be another consultation meeting with the parents of Svend Hansen School.

On June 19, 2019, the second Multicultural Policy Advisory Committee meeting was held. The information gathered will be very significant in the formation of this policy.

June 20, 2019, the District Retirement Banquet was held to honour those who have served the District so reliably. Trustee Adams thanks Ms Cathy MacDonald and her team for the excellent job of planning and success of the event.

On June 21, 2019, Trustee Adams attended the year-end barbeque at Tipaskan School and reports that it was privileged to serve hot dogs with Member of Parliament Amarjeet Sohi. Trustee Adams commends the Rotary Club for volunteering and sponsoring this special event for all of the children of Tipaskan School.

Trustee Dunn submitted the following report in writing:

Trustee Dunn thanks the Trustee members of the Mental Health Committee, and the administrative staff also working on this committee for their commitment and hard work this past year. We developed and delivered advocacy messages to the Alberta Association of School Boards, to the Health and Education ministries and to parents and the public about the importance of increased collaboration between health care and education and the need for shared funding for mental health professionals serving our students in schools. Trustee Dunn is hopeful that this work will continue on a renewed committee examining mental health and well-being next year and is looking forward to working with the new provincial government on these goals.

Trustee Dunn reports that one of her favourite times of the school year is attending graduations and witnessing the end of a journey that took many hands. Congratulations to the graduates of Victoria School who held their ceremony last week, and Edmonton Christian High who will be holding their ceremony Thursday.

Trustee Dunn reports that it was a pleasure to attend a celebration of the learning happening at City Hall School and to celebrate the careers of staff who will be retiring at the end of this year.

Trustee Draper reported on the following items:

On June 12, 2019, she participated in the procession of the University of Alberta convocation for Elementary Education at the Northern Alberta Jubilee.

On June 13, 2019, Trustee Draper was pleased to participate in the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Londonderry Junior High School as well as the M.E. LaZerte School Interact barbeque.

### **MINUTE BOOK**

On June 20, 2019, Trustee Draper helped celebrate District Retirees at their banquet and said that it was a lovely evening.

Trustee Estabrooks submitted the following report in writing:

She thanks the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) for hosting an information session on Bill 8 for Trustees. This is an important piece of legislation that will affect school boards in the province and she appreciates the ASBA's leadership around informing locally elected trustees about the proposed legislation.

Trustee Estabrooks had the honour of being invited to a number of events and graduations and thanked Ms Linda Hut, teacher at City Hall School for the warm welcome to City Hall along with Trustees Dunn and Ip to celebrate another year of learning about civic government with more than 600 students from Edmonton Public and Edmonton Catholic schools.

Trustee Estabrooks was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees at an event at the Edmonton Convention Centre that features student art work as well as wish retirees the very best on the next journey of their lives at the District retirement banquet.

Trustee Estabrooks thanks Centre High School for once again hosting a fabulous graduation ceremony for their emergency responders' career pathways program graduates. The dedication by these young people for a career of serving the public is inspiring.

Trustee Estabrooks thanks and congratulates the Eastglen School students for sharing their graduation day with her and reports that there is amazing things happening at the school and she is proud to represent families and students.

Trustees Estabrooks thanks the Norwood School and staff for inviting her to their annual Roots and Shoots celebration, honouring the work of students who contribute to community and raise awareness about environmental issues.

Trustee Ip thanked everyone who helped the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation exceed their fundraising goal at the 2019 Ready for Life Fundraising Breakfast by raising more than \$75,000 in support of one full-day Kindergarten classroom.

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

**M. Notices of Motion**

Trustee Janz served notice that he will make a motion at the September 10, 2019, Caucus Committee meeting that Edmonton Public Schools oppose Federal government funding of separate Catholic schools by any means necessary, including legal action, and that support be immediately solicited from other school boards across Alberta.

**MINUTE BOOK**

N. **Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

O. **Adjournment:** 5:45 p.m.

**The Board Chair** adjourned the meeting.

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Michelle Draper, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director of Board and  
Superintendent Relations

**MINUTE BOOK****Organizational Board Meeting**

Minutes of the Organizational 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, June 25, 2019, at 5:50 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  
Lorne Parker

Kent Pharis  
Darrel Robertson  
Mike Suderman  
Liz Yule

**Board Chair:** Michelle Draper

**Recording Secretary:** Shirley Juneau

**MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:**

**“That in order to complete the June 25, 2019, agenda items, the Board of Trustees agree to continue the meeting proceed past 6:00 p.m. if necessary.”**  
**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**A. Roll Call:**

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

**B. Agenda****MOVED BY Trustee Dunn:**

**“That the agenda for the Organizational Board meeting be approved as printed.”**  
**(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**C. Report**

1. Confirmation of Committees, Board Representation and Regular Meetings

**MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:**

**“That recommendations 1-9 be approved.”**  
**(UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED)**

**MINUTE BOOK****RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the following standing committees of the whole be confirmed:  
Caucus Committee  
Audit Committee
2. That the following Board committees be confirmed:
  - a) Governance and Evaluation
  - b) Infrastructure
  - c) Policy Review
3. That Board representation on the following District staff negotiating committees as required be confirmed:
  - a) Custodial Staff (CUPE Local 474)
  - b) Maintenance Staff (CUPE Local 784)
  - c) Support Staff (CUPE Local 3550)
  - d) Teaching Staff (Edmonton Public Teachers' Local 37)
4. That Board membership and representation on the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) be confirmed:
  - Provincial Executive
  - Provincial Executive – Alternate
5. That Board membership and representation on the Alberta School Boards Association of Alberta (ASBA) be confirmed:
  - Provincial Executive
  - Provincial Executive – Alternate
  - Zone 2/3 Executive
  - Zone 2/3 Executive - Alternate
6. That the Board's ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee, comprised of the Board Chair or Board Vice-Chair, the ASBA Provincial Executive Board of Directors representative and the ASBA Zone 2/3 representative be confirmed.
7. That the following Board representative assignment be confirmed:
  - Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors
8. That the following dates and times of regular meetings be confirmed:
  - a) Board: The Board will hold its regular meetings at 2 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month when possible, unless otherwise directed by special motion or by the Board Chair.
  - b) Caucus Committee: Caucus Committee meetings will be held on an as-needed basis at the call of the Caucus Committee Chair. The first Tuesday morning of each month will be reserved for such meetings.
9. That the Board reappoint or review the following positions and committees:

### MINUTE BOOK

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>1. Standing Committee of the Whole:</b>   | <b>2018-2019</b>  | <b>2019-2020</b>   |
| a) Board Chair   | Michelle Draper   | Trisha Estabrooks  |
| b) Board Vice-Chair  | Bridget Stirling  | Shelagh Dunn   |
| c) Audit Chair   | Cheryl Johner   | Cheryl Johner  |
| <b>2. Board Committees:</b>  |   |  |
| a) Governance and Evaluation<br>(3 members)  | Ken Gibson<br>Michael Janz<br>Cheryl Johner                                     | Michelle Draper<br>Shelagh Dunn<br>Ken Gibson                                  |
| b) Infrastructure<br>(3 members)   | Shelagh Dunn<br>Ken Gibson<br>Nathan Ip   | Nathan Ip<br>Ken Gibson<br>Bridget Stirling                                    |
| c) Policy Review<br>(3 members)  | Sherry Adams<br>Trisha Estabrooks<br>Bridget Stirling                           | Sherry Adams<br>Michael Janz<br>Bridget Stirling                               |
| <b>3. Negotiations:</b>  | <b>2018-2019</b>  | <b>2019-2020</b>   |
| a) Custodial Staff (CUPE Local 474)<br>(A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was reached for the period September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2020)              | <i>Trustee representatives were not required for the 2018-2019 school year.</i> | <i>Trustee representatives are not required for the 2019-2020 school year.</i> |
| b) Maintenance Staff (CUPE Local 784)<br>(A collective agreement was ratified in 2017-2018 for the period of September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2020)    | <i>Trustee representatives were not required for the 2018-2019 school year.</i> | <i>Trustee representatives are not required for the 2019-2020 school year.</i> |
| c) Support Staff (CUPE Local 3550)<br>(A collective agreement has been negotiated for the period September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2020)                | Michelle Draper<br>Trisha Estabrooks  | <i>Trustee representatives are not required for the 2019-2020 school year.</i> |
| d) Teaching Staff – Edmonton Public Teachers' Local 37<br>(A memorandum of agreement was reached for the period September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2018) | Michelle Draper<br>Michael Janz   | Trisha Estabrooks<br>Michael Janz – TEBA Representative                        |
| <b>4. Representatives for the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)</b><br>(2 Provincial Executives)                                  | Michael Janz<br>Cheryl Johner   | Michael Janz<br>Cheryl Johner  |

### MINUTE BOOK

| 5. | <b>Representatives for the Alberta Schools Board Association (ASBA)</b>   | <u><b>2018-2019</b></u>  | <u><b>2019-2020</b></u>                        |
|----|---|--|--|
|    | <b>a)</b> Provincial Executive<br><i>*Provincial Board of Directors – Director terms shall commence every November of even-numbered years for one Director and one Alternate Director and shall be eligible for re-election for one successive term of two years.</i> | Michael Janz   | Trisha Estabrooks                              |
|    | <b>b)</b> Provincial Executive – Alternate  | Trisha Estabrooks  | Michael Janz                                   |
|    | <b>c)</b> ASBA Zone 2/3 Executive)  | Sherry Adams   | Sherry Adams                                   |
|    | <b>d)</b> ASBA Zone 2/3 Executive - Alternate   | Trisha Estabrooks  | Michael Janz                                   |
| 6. | <b>ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee (1-year term – 3 positions)</b>  |  |  |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>1</sup>Board Chair or Vice-Chair</li> </ul>   | <sup>1</sup> Michelle Draper                                       | <sup>1</sup> Trisha Estabrooks<br>Shelagh Dunn |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>2</sup>ASBA Zone 2/3 Executive representative</li> </ul>  | <sup>2</sup> Sherry Adams  | <sup>2</sup> Sherry Adams                      |
|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>3</sup>ASBA Provincial Executive Board of Directors representative</li> </ul>   | <sup>3</sup> Michael Janz  | <sup>3</sup> Trisha Estabrooks                 |
| 7. | <b>Ad Hoc Committee and Board Representative Assignment:</b>  |  |  |
|    | <b>Mental Health and Student Well Being Committee</b><br>(3 members)  | Shelagh Dunn<br>Trisha Estabrooks<br>Nathan Ip<br>Bridget Stirling | Sherry Adams<br>Shelagh Dunn<br>Cheryl Johner  |
|    | <b>Representative Assignment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edmonton Public Schools Foundation</li> </ul>   | Nathan Ip  | Nathan Ip                                      |

D. **Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.**

E. **Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.**

**MINUTE BOOK**

**The Board Chair** adjourned the meeting.

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Michelle Draper, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director of Board and  
Superintendent Relations

**DATE:** September 10, 2019

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Actions Taken Under Delegation of Authority – 2019 Summer Recess

**ORIGINATOR:** Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

**REFERENCE:** [Board Policy CHA.BP – Board Delegation of Authority](#)  
[Board Policy EA.BP – Infrastructure Planning Principles](#)  
[Education Act – Section 52\(1\)](#)  
[June 25, 2019, Board Report – Delegation of Authority – 2019 Summer Recess](#)

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### ISSUE

The Superintendent reports to the Board on any decisions he made under the Delegation of Authority during the summer recess on matters that would normally be brought to the Board.

### BACKGROUND

The Board passed the following motion at the June 25, 2019, Board meeting:

1. That in accordance with Sections 61(1), 65(2), 65(3) and 67(1) of the *School Act*, any special board meetings during the 2019 summer recess be at the call of the Board Chair or, in her absence, the Board Vice-Chair.
2. That, in accordance with Section 61(1) of the *School Act*, effective June 25, 2019, delegation of authority to the Superintendent of Schools to make decisions during the 2019 summer recess on behalf of the Board be approved.
3. That a report of all such decisions be brought to the first public board meeting in the fall of 2019.

### CURRENT SITUATION

The Superintendent reports that no actions were taken in accordance with this motion.

KM:km

**DATE:** September 10, 2019

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Strategic Plan Update: School Nutrition Program

**ORIGINATOR:** Nancy Petersen, Managing Director, Strategic District Supports

**RESOURCE STAFF:** Marnie Beaudoin and Karen Linden

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## ISSUE

The purpose of this Strategic Plan Update report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an overview of the relationship between nutrition and students positively engaging in school as well as the work happening in some of the District's most socially complex schools to help ensure children have access to healthy food.

## BACKGROUND

In 2018, Edmonton Public Schools formally reaffirmed the District Strategic Plan for the 2018-2022 term. The District Strategic Plan has three priority areas with supporting goals and outcomes. The plan provides common direction and alignment between the work of the Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools and District staff. The plan serves as the foundation for a District culture of evidence-based decision making, assurance and accountability.

To demonstrate the District's commitment to transparency and accountability, Strategic Plan Update reports were introduced in 2016–2017 as an extension of the Annual Education Results Report (AERR). The reports are intended to provide the Board of Trustees with detailed progress towards the goals and outcomes of our Strategic Plan.

## CURRENT SITUATION

This Strategic Plan Update report sites current research relevant to school nutrition, highlights the importance of schools working with community to provide school nutrition programming, identifies critical components of quality nutrition programs and is in direct response to Priority 3 Goal 2 of the 2018-2022 District Strategic Plan for the District to establish community partnerships to provide supports and services that foster growth, well-being and success of students and families.

## KEY POINTS

This Strategic Plan Update report provides the Board of Trustees with an overview of work in support of school nutrition programming.

## ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Strategic Plan Update: School Nutrition Program

NP:mh



# Strategic Plan Update:

## School Nutrition Program

September 10, 2019

[epsb.ca](http://epsb.ca)

## INTRODUCTION

This Strategic Plan Report provides the Board of Trustees with an update on school nutrition programming in the District. Priority 3 *Enhance public education through communication, engagement and partnerships*, and Goal 2 *Supports for the Whole Child* of the 2018-2022 District Strategic Plan call for the District to establish community partnerships to provide supports and services that foster growth, well-being and success of students and families.

As part of the Alberta curriculum and in fostering welcoming, inclusive, safe and healthy learning environments, schools across the District address healthy eating and nutrition in their daily work with students. For some schools, this work around nutrition is taken one step further, as they become a key resource or daily source of support for families faced with barriers to food security.

City of Edmonton census data from 2018 indicates that 1 in 8 citizens live in poverty; of these, 40,000 are children. Children and families living in poverty are more likely to have limited access to an adequate supply of healthy food. Many of these children are students in District classrooms where staff recognize first hand the challenges and signs that a child may be sitting in class too hungry to focus, too hungry to learn. Schools become a logical and critical partner in the community's efforts to address food security and ensure every child has predictable and daily access to healthy food.

This report will take a closer look at the relationship between nutrition and students positively engaging in school, as well as describe work happening, in partnership with community, in some the District's most socially complex schools to help ensure children have access to healthy food.

## WHAT THE RESEARCH TELLS US

For more than two decades, North American research has confirmed the connection between proper nutrition and a student's ability to engage meaningfully in academic learning. More recent research in this area has continued to confirm that nutrition directly affects engagement in learning and has also demonstrated a direct relationship between nutrition and a student's social/emotional well-being, their behaviour and overall health - all factors that impact school success and academic performance. The following are two examples from this recent research:

- Access to nutrition, particularly breakfast, can enhance a student's psychosocial well-being, reduce aggression and school suspensions and decrease discipline problems. (Brown et al., 2008).
- Numerous benefits of a school morning meal nutrition program include improvements in student behaviour, attendance and learning (Toronto District School Board, 2016).

Additionally, the research reinforces or helps to inform the importance of the quality and quantity of food provided in a school nutrition program.

- Dietary adequacy and variety were identified as specific aspects of diet quality important to academic performance, which highlights the value of eating a diverse selection of foods to meet the recommended number of servings from each of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide (Florence, Asbridge & Veugelers, 2008).
- Poor eating habits and low nutrient intake in the first two decades of life are linked to increased risk for serious disease later in life, and the quality of nutrition has been linked to academic performance, behaviour and self-esteem in children and youth (various research cited in Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth, Government of Alberta, 2012).
- Children who report consuming vegetables and fruit less than five times a day are more likely to be overweight or obese (Shields, 2004, as cited in the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth, Government of Alberta, 2012).

# SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMMING

## The Journey of School Nutrition

Due to the close connection between teachers and their students, for decades school staff have provided an informal response to student hunger - teachers adding food to their personal grocery orders to have snacks in their desks for hungry students or schools keeping bread and lunch meat on hand to ensure all students have, at minimum, a sandwich for their lunch.

Over 20 years ago, educators and key members of Edmonton's food security network began to explore how to better leverage the role schools could play in ensuring children in socially complex communities have access to nutrition programming. This journey over the past two decades is briefly summarized below:

- Norwood School and e4c started the first daily school lunch program in the District; today, e4c provides the School Lunch Program in an additional eight District schools, as well as snack or morning meal funding support in nine schools.
- As awareness and culture around school nutrition programming began to emerge, many schools applied for grants focused on the provision of daily nutrition support for students, while others reached out to members of the community seeking either food donations or financial resources to help support their capacity to provide a school nutrition program for their students.
  - According to 2018-2019 data entered in the District's School Community Tracking Tool, 77 schools identified having community support for school nutrition.
  - Many of these schools rely on multiple sources of community support to provide adequate nutritional support for their students.
- Across District schools, many staff continue to bring in extra food to support students who come to school hungry.
- To clearly articulate the District's responsibility towards student health and well-being the Board of Trustees established [Board Policy AEBB.BP Wellness of Students and Staff](#). The policy recognizes the five dimensions of wellness and anchors the role schools play in support of health and wellness within a comprehensive school health approach, this includes nutrition and healthy eating.
- To guide District expectations around school nutrition, [Administrative Regulation FBE.AR Health and Wellness of Staff and Students](#) was first implemented in March 2008. These expectations around the serving and selling of food in schools are informed by Alberta Health Services' [Healthy Eating in Schools: Policy Recommendations](#) and reflect the *choose most often*, *choose sometimes* and *choose least often* strategy of determining food choices.

## Today's Context

In our schools serving our most socially complex communities, having students come to school hungry is not limited to one or two students a day who forgot their lunch at home, but represents a significant number of students each day struggling because they are hungry. Within these school communities a formal school nutrition program is an essential service to support families and enable students to succeed. However, in Alberta there is not a predictable or stable systemic response for school nutrition programming; the provision of this programming reflects a shared responsibility, commitment and collaboration between schools and community stakeholders. In 2016, Alberta Education launched a pilot to begin to address this critical gap.

## Alberta Education School Nutrition Program

In 2016, Alberta Education invited the District to participate in a provincial pilot exploring school nutrition programming. The first year of the School Nutrition Program (SNP) enabled the District to implement this work in two highly socially vulnerable District schools. This work was delivered in partnership with e4c and saw the provision of a daily meal that included four food groups and was made universally available to all students of the school community.

Another key aspect of the model was engagement with both students and families. The intent was not to simply feed the children, but to build their awareness and understanding of hunger, nutrition and well-being so that they could be empowered to make life-long healthy choices in respect to food and eating. Parents also played an

important role in the model, as they are partners and contributors to their child's healthy eating. Families were encouraged to send food when able and children ate a combination of both their food from home and food from the SNP to meet their daily nutritional needs.

In 2018, the District was provided with additional provincial funding that enabled the expansion of the program into 20 more schools, bringing the total Alberta Education SNP cohort to 22 schools. The 20 new schools were selected with consideration to the District's high social vulnerability\* data, existing school nutrition supports, as well as engagement within each school community. The work to onboard the new cohort of schools was based on the same model and principles as the year one SNP schools. Supplemental to Alberta Education SNP funding, the District invested dollars to support facility upgrades in SNP schools to ensure Alberta Health Services' food handling, storage and preparation standards could be met in all 22 schools.

Across the cohort of 22 schools, the 2018-2019 provincial SNP funding has enabled for the provision of:

- Access for 4,606 students to a daily meal consisting of all four food groups.
- Funding to address the human resources required to support the provision of a daily, nutritious meal within a school community.
- Food preparation, storage and serving equipment that meets Alberta Health standards.
- Nutrition education to support students developing lifelong healthy eating habits.

The District approached participation in Alberta Education's SNP through a capacity-building approach, to enable SNP schools to continue to support the safe delivery of healthy food, and to benefit schools outside of the SNP cohort through leveraging lessons learned about best practices. This capacity-building approach was enabled through the collaborative efforts across several Central departments, including Strategic District Supports, Infrastructure, Purchasing, Finance and Curriculum and Resource Support. Resources developed to be shared across District schools include:

- A District purchasing list for infrastructure items to support the safe preparation, storing and serving of food in schools. This list was:
  - Developed in collaboration with e4c to ensure alignment to food handling standards.
  - Negotiated to obtain best cost efficiencies for the District.
- Weekly meal and snack menus that reflect the Alberta Nutritional Guidelines for Children and Youth.
- Lesson plans linked to provincial curriculum that support nutrition education and lifelong healthy eating habits.

### **Evidence of Impact**

To support program evaluation, staff from the Alberta Education SNP schools were surveyed to offer their observations of the impact of the school nutrition program for their school community. They shared that the provision of school nutrition resulted in improvements to student behaviour, attendance and learning. Some of their feedback included:

- "The school nutrition program has positively changed many of our students' lives :)"
- "This is an amazing program and we are seeing really positive results at our school. Thank you for helping us access this opportunity for our students and families."
- "Internal school survey data of staff suggests a perception of increased student engagement and achievement over the long term of the school nutrition program implementation."
- "There has been increased school attendance and fewer 'late' students. Some of our very challenging families with attendance issues are coming to school more consistently. Student volunteers that assist with the breakfast program are happy to show up early every day."

\*District High Social Vulnerability is calculated annually based on September 30th enrolment information, student postal codes and census data; the data helps to identify schools with a significant percentage of students deemed to be socially vulnerable.

Additionally, the District conducted a survey in year one of the SNP to better understand the benefit and impact of a formal school nutrition program on quality teaching and learning. The following is a summary of these results:

- 100 per cent of staff agreed that the availability of breakfast and snack had a positive impact on student learning.
- 80 per cent of staff agreed that having school breakfast had a positive impact on student attendance.
- 100 per cent of staff agreed that having a universally available breakfast had a positive impact on student behaviour.

Given the option to share a personal story or comment in the survey, one teacher wrote:

*"The method of delivery and the timing of the Alberta nutrition program food service is a wonderful fit for a High Social Vulnerable school like ours. Our children's faces and spirit, and overall confidence is visibly different due to a total predictability of school based nutrition. Teachers now are content that their students are nourished, and the teachers are therefore keeping excellent instruction foremost in mind."*

### **Lessons Learned**

The pilot has enabled the District to gain greater insight into the components necessary to deliver school nutrition programming in a safe, healthy and predictable manner. Comprehensive school nutrition programs play an important role in supporting student success in socially vulnerable schools. In order to be effective and meet food and health standards, these programs require the capacity to provide the following:

- Healthy food aligned with the Alberta Nutritional Guidelines for Children and Youth.
- Nutrition education to support students' understanding of healthy eating and portion control.
- School-based infrastructure to support the safe handling and storage of food.
- Adequate human resources to ensure the safe preparation, handling and service of food.

### **Support for School Nutrition Programs**

Effective, sustainable school nutrition programming cannot be achieved solely by the efforts of schools. Schools are willing hosts to school nutrition programs because educators recognize the critical interplay between children having proper nutrition and their overall well-being and ability to learn. However, educators can not do this alone.

- Education is funded to provide K to 12 educational programming; with the exception of the SNP sites, a school's budget does not have the capacity to cover the operational costs of a daily universally available nutrition program.
  - Based on nutrition guidelines, the average daily cost for a morning meal consisting of four food groups is \$1.62 per child.
  - The work to plan, prepare and deliver a daily morning meal is substantial and most schools depend upon volunteers or additional funding to support the human resources required to run their nutrition program.
- Additionally, educators do not have the knowledge and expertise to construct nutritionally optimal menus or ensure the delivery of a healthy and safe food service; to meet these standards, schools depend upon the expertise and support of nutrition partners within the community.

In the absence of a systemic response to school nutrition programming, District schools have collaborated with many stakeholders in the Edmonton area who are concerned about children being hungry and want to step up and help address this issue. These community stakeholders include not-for-profit organizations, service clubs, local businesses and private individuals. The 2018-2019 School Community Relationship Tracker Tool data identified 61 unique community stakeholders directly supporting school nutrition programming in District schools. For a complete list of these valued partners, see Appendix I.

As long as the efforts to address student hunger generate locally at the school and community level, there is the risk of these supports not being sustainable. Additionally, in the absence of a systemic response, there will be schools struggling to provide access to adequate nutritional support for their students.

## NEXT STEPS

School nutrition programs provide an essential service for students and families in many District schools. The challenge continues to be accessing predictable and stable funding to support the provision of these programs in our most socially vulnerable communities.

This fall, District schools will continue to be responsive to the needs of the families they serve. For many schools, this responsiveness will include offering a school nutrition program. These programs will reflect the collective grassroots efforts of school staff and many community partners.

**Supports for School Nutrition**

The 2018-2019 School Community Relationship Tracker Tool data identified 61 unique community stakeholders supporting school nutrition programming across District schools. The following list represents those community stakeholders who gave permission for their name to be publicly acknowledged and celebrated by the District.

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Andy's IGA                           | Loblaws                                      |
| AON Insurance                        | Loonie Toons Express                         |
| APPLE Schools                        | Lunch Lady, The                              |
| Bear Mountain                        | Mayfield Rotary Club                         |
| Best Bite                            | Meals to Go                                  |
| Bon Ton Bakery, The                  | Nitza's Pizza                                |
| Breakfast Clubs of Canada            | Panago                                       |
| Bryan & Alison's No Frills           | Pembina Pipeline Corporation                 |
| Capital Meats                        | Pizza City                                   |
| COBS Bread                           | President's Choice Children's Charity        |
| e4c                                  | Real Canadian Superstore                     |
| Edmonton Food Bank, The              | Safeway                                      |
| Elks and Royal Purple Edmonton       | Salvation Army                               |
| Family Centre, The                   | Sangha Operating Group                       |
| Food for Thought                     | Saputo Dairy                                 |
| Go Auto                              | Save On Foods                                |
| Good Shepherd Anglican Church        | Snack Shack                                  |
| Grocery People, The                  | Sobeys                                       |
| H & W Produce                        | Sold Sisters, The                            |
| Hope Mission                         | St. Mark and St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church |
| International Boilermakers Local 146 | Starbucks Mill Woods Towne Centre            |
| Kiwanis                              | University of Alberta                        |
| Lions Clubs                          | Wok Box                                      |

**DATE:** September 10, 2019

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Bereavements

**ORIGINATOR:** Angela Anderson, Chief Human Resources Officer, Human Resources

**RESOURCE STAFF:** Cindy Maksymuik

**REFERENCE:** AEBC.AR Acknowledging Student, Staff and Trustee Deaths and Bereavements

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Mr. Talvinder Jasser passed away on July 3, 2019, at the age of 55 years. Mr. Jasser was hired to the District in January 1990, and spent his 19-year career working as head custodian at Parkview, Pollard Meadows, Weinlos, Avalon, Keheewin and Rideau Park schools. He is survived by his wife, Gardish, his children, Vishal and Jatin, as well as numerous family and friends. Mr. Jasser was on a leave of absence prior to his passing. A memorial service celebrating Talvinder's life was held on July 3, 2019.

Mr. Dave Kowalchuk passed away on July 29, 2019, at the age of 53 years. Mr. Kowalchuk was hired to the District in August 1989. He spent his 30-year career working as a teacher at Homesteader, Bisset and Kirkness schools, assistant principal at Dunluce School and principal at Athlone, Forest Heights and Caernarvon schools. He is survived by his wife, Mary Muir, daughter Claire, son Quinn, his father John, siblings Mark and Darlene as well as a large extended family that was dear to his heart. A memorial service celebrating Dave's life was held on August 10, 2019.

Mrs. Ana Letelier passed away on June 27, 2019, at the age of 62 years. Mrs. Letelier was hired to the District in September 1991, and spent her 27-year career as a custodial assistant at Richard Secord, Edith Rogers, Malmo, Millwoods/Ritchie, J.Percy Page, Jasper Place, Crawford, Harry Ainlay and Svend Hansen Schools. Mrs Letelier was on a leave of absence prior to her passing. A memorial service celebrating Ana's life was held on July 12, 2019.

Mrs. Kathie Peterson passed away on August 10, 2019, at the age of 55 years. Mrs. Peterson was hired to the District in August 1989, and spent her 30-year career as a teacher at Brander Gardens, Ellerslie, Westbrook, Centre High and W.P. Wagner schools. Mrs. Peterson was on a leave prior to her passing. She is survived by her husband Norm, brother Todd, close family and her fur kids, Sydney and Hudson. A memorial service celebrating Kathie's life was held on August 15, 2019.

Mrs. Martina Plumb passed away on May 24, 2019, at the age of 57 years. Mrs. Plumb was hired to the District in September 1983, and spent her 26-year career working as a teacher at Forest Heights School. She is survived by her husband Myles, her children, Kaitlyn Paul (Nathan) and Danica (Kevin), her parents, siblings and numerous family and friends.

Mr. Christopher Postle passed away on July 16, 2019 at the age of 46 years. Mr. Postle was hired to the District in February 1999, and spent his 20-year career as a teacher at Victoria and Jasper Place schools. He

is survived by his father Art, stepmother Janet, his sister, stepsisters and brothers, nieces, nephews and numerous family and friends. A memorial service celebrating Chris' life was held on July 22, 2019.

Mr. Jeffrey Wade Sim passed away on August 13, 2019, at the age of 57 years. Mr. Sim was hired to the District in February 1982, and spent his 37-year career working as a maintenance worker, custodial assistant, head custodian and custodial consultant. He is survived by his wife, Bonny, four children, two grandchildren, as well as many other family members. Mr. Sim was on a leave of absence prior to his passing. A memorial service celebrating Wade's life was held on August 24, 2019.