

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #09**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of Alberta held in the Centre for Education, McCauley Chambers on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks
Dawn Hancock
Marcia Hole

Nathan Ip
Julie Kusiek
Marsha Nelson

Sherri O'Keefe
Jan Sawyer
Saadiq Sumar

Officials

Angela Anderson
Todd Burnstad
Grace Cooke
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Kent Pharis

Nancy Petersen
Carrie Rosa
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Trisha Estabrooks

Recording Secretary: Catherine Angeles

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. O Canada

B. Roll Call: 2 p.m.

Assistant Superintendent Muhlethaler advised that all Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Vice-Chair Ip:

**"That the agenda for the April 5, 2022, Board meeting be approved as printed."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair wished Ramadan Mubarak to all those celebrating. She noted that this is a time of worship and contemplation for Muslim people around the world, including here in our city and in our school division.

The Board Chair thanked the hard working school councils in Edmonton Public Schools. For two years councils have met online and have found new ways of meeting, communicating and in many cases growing the number of parents who attend the meetings. School councils play an essential role in our school communities and their contributions to support students are greatly appreciated.

The Board Chair noted that we are anticipating Alberta's draft curriculum sometime this spring. She said that the government previously announced that they will be moving ahead with implementing the English Language Arts and Math curriculum for grades K-3, with the Physical Education and Wellness curriculum rolling out for Kindergarten to Grade 6 this fall. She said the Board remains concerned about the draft curriculum and have advocated for a delay. She noted that the Board is also concerned that releasing the next and final draft of the curriculum this spring will not give educators sufficient time to prepare for implementation this fall.

The Board Chair advised that Edmonton Public Schools has received its funding allocations from the provincial government. And while there was a slight increase in the amount of funding the Division will receive, it is not sufficient to keep pace with growth. The Board Chair noted that the Division continues to see the negative impact of the weighted moving average on our budget which means fewer dollars to support students in our classrooms. In the coming weeks, the Board will be having further discussions about the Division's budget.

The Board Chair shared that the Division Feedback Survey is now available for families, students and staff. This year's survey has some specific questions that the Board of Trustees is keen to hear feedback on.

First, on their commitment as a Board to work towards a more inclusive calendar and finding ways to make that happen, there are questions about breaks in the school year.

Secondly, they are seeking feedback on the draft four-year strategic plan, vision and mission. The Chair explained that the Board values the input of families, students, staff and the community on the strategic plan as it sets the vision and direction for Edmonton Public Schools.

The survey is available until April 29 on [epsb.ca](https://www.edmonton.ca/epsb) and SchoolZone.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

Assistant Superintendent Muhlethaler advised that pre-enrolment for the 2022-2023 school year closes at 4 p.m. on April 14. Families can find information about the options on SchoolZone or the Division's [website](https://www.edmonton.ca/epsb)

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and social media channels. She strongly encouraged all families to pre-enrol so the Division can be ready to welcome all students in September. Any questions should be directed to the principal at your child's current school. Families who are new to the Division should contact their preferred school to learn how to register as a new Edmonton Public Schools student before April 14.

F. Approval of the Minutes

1. Board Meeting #08 – March 22, 2022

Board Chair Estabrooks requested that her Communications from the Board Chair in the March 22, 2022 minutes, be amended as follows:

Excerpt:

Holi is an ~~incident~~ ancient Hindu festival also known as the Festival of Spring or the Festival of Colours.

MOVED BY Trustee Kusiek:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #08 held March 22, 2022, 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. Update on Providing Menstrual Products in Division Schools

An update was provided on the progress towards the April 27, 2021, Board motion supporting access to free menstrual products in school washrooms.

3. Dual Credit Programming in EPSB
(Response to Request for Information # 007)

Information was provided regarding the request for information RFI #007.

4. Selection of PSBAA Provincial Executive Representative

Trustee Nelson was elected by acclamation as the Board's representative on the PSBAA Executive Committee.

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Trustee Hole was elected by acclamation as the Board's alternate representative on the PSBAA Executive Committee.

I. **Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports** - None

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

K. **Notices of Motion**

Trustee Kusiek gave notice that she would be making the following motion:

That the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to both the Province of Alberta and Government of Canada, to urge those governments to provide a per student special allocation of funding for Edmonton Public Schools to support refugee children being welcomed into our schools.

L. **Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 2 p.m.

M. **Adjournment:** 2:55 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations