

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #11**

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, May 3, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks
Dawn Hancock
Marcia Hole

Nathan Ip
Julie Kusiek
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
Darrel Robertson
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: 2:01 p.m.

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

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Vice-Chair Ip:

**“That the agenda for the May 3, 2022, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair, on behalf of the Board, thanked the Sahota family for the vigil remembering Karanveer Sahota on Friday. Karanveer's family, friends, fellow students and the McNally school community came together that night. She thanked the many school divisions who reached out from across Alberta to share their condolences.

The Board Chair stated that at the last Board meeting, the Board passed the Distribution of Funds recommendation, which allows individual schools to start preparing their budgets for the next year. She noted that next year's budget will be the toughest for the Division in a decade and said she's heard first hand how tough this budget will be. She noted that principals will do their very best to stretch dollars to support students and she appreciated the efforts being made to consult with families and educate parents on the tough choices that will have to be made.

The Board Chair shared she continues to hear that mental health is a top concern in many of our schools and with school councils. The demand for services, both those in our schools and those external to our schools, is greater than the support that exists. She advised that the Division is not adequately funded to provide mental health supports in our schools. The Board of Trustees will continue to advocate for comprehensive mental health supports for the children and families they serve, including reminding the government of their own panel looking into child and youth well-being and the recommendations it put forward.

The Board Chair wished Eid Mubarak or happy Eid al Fitr to all those celebrating. Yesterday was Eid, the festival held after a month of fasting during Ramadan for Muslims. She said the generosity and the community celebrations held this year, after two years of not being able to meet in person, have been really uplifting.

The Board Chair shared that May 2022 is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month. In 2018, the Government of Canada created the Canadian Jewish Heritage Month Act, where the month of May was designated to "provide an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the inspirational role that Jewish Canadians have played and continue to play in communities across the country."

The Board Chair shared that May is also Asian Heritage Month. Asian Heritage Month has been celebrated across Canada since the 1990s when the Senate of Canada adopted a motion proposed by Senator Vivienne Poy to designate May as Asian Heritage Month. In May 2002, the Government of Canada officially designated May as Asian Heritage Month in Canada.

The Board Chair said that throughout the month, schools are honouring the lives, histories and accomplishments of Jewish and Asian Albertans and Canadians.

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E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent welcomed Charlene Howard and Christine Pichlyk to the Board meeting. Both serve as members of the Superintendent's Community of Practice in Education (SCOPE) Committee.

The Superintendent noted that graduation season is upon us and expressed appreciation to the Board members, who are busy signing up for speaking engagements at high school graduations. The Superintendent congratulated graduates and encouraged everyone to take care over the graduation season. He wanted to make sure that everyone was celebrating in a responsible manner and to have a great end to the school year and a transition to post-secondary studies and the world of work.

F. Approval of the Minutes

1. Board Meeting #10 – April 19, 2022

Trustee Sumar requested that his report, under Item I in the April 19, 2022 minutes, be amended as follows:

Excerpt:

Trustee Sumar said he had the pleasure of attending the Millwoods ~~President's~~ Presidents Council meeting a couple of weeks ago. He spoke with community members about transportation and playgrounds.

MOVED BY Trustee O'Keefe:

**"That the minutes of Board Meeting #10 held April 19, 2022, be approved as amended."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from five registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Report #07 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held on April 19, 2022)

Information was provided regarding actions taken at the April 19, 2022, Caucus Committee meeting.

3. Locally Developed Courses (LDCs)

MOVED BY Trustee Hancock:

"That the following LDCs be approved for use in the Edmonton Public Schools from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026:

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- American Sign Language and Deaf Culture Three-year (3Y) 15-25-35 (5 credits)
- Astronomy 15-25-35 (3 credits)
- Competencies in Math 15 (3 and 5 credits)
- Drawing 15-25-35 (5 credits)
- Educational Assistant: Assistive and Adaptive Technology 35 (5 credits)
- Global Perspectives 25-35 (5 credits)
- Guitar 15-25-35 (3 and 5 credits)
- Introduction to Educational Assistant 25 (5 credits)
- Learning to Lead 7-8-9
- Punjabi Language and Culture Twelve-year (12Y)
- Speech and Debate 15-25-35 (3 credits)
- Technical Theatre 15-25-35 (3 and 5 credits)

That the following LDCs be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2025:

- Chemistry (Advanced) 35 (3 credits)

That the following LDCs be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2024:

- Biology (IB) 35 (3 credits)
- Chemistry (IB) 35 (3 credits)
- Physics (IB) 35 (3 credits)”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

4. New Curriculum Implementation Information

Administration provided an update to the Board of Trustees on new curriculum implementation.

5. KN95 Masks for Edmonton Public Students and Staff
(Response to Request for Information #006)

Information was provided regarding the Request for Information #006.

I. Other Committee, Board Representatives and Trustee Reports

Trustee Kusiek thanked the 30-plus people who participated in the Transportation Forum hosted by the Infrastructure Committee (herself and Trustees Ip and Sumar). She expressed her gratitude to their special guests, Tracey Coutts with Ever Active Schools and Councillor Cartmell. They had discussions, made connections and generated some good ideas to continue to think about.

Trustee Kusiek really appreciated the opportunity to connect with schools. She thanked the school councils at McKernan and Harry Ainlay for inviting her. She looks forward to the Ward F School Council Chairs

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Meeting on May 11. She said if any school council chairs were listening and hadn't had a chance to register, visit her website www.juliekusiek.ca for the RSVP form.

Trustee Kusiek highlighted a recent meeting with MLA Rakhi Pancholi where they touched base on shared constituent concerns and opportunities. She continues to look forward to future conversations with all elected colleagues with whom Ward F overlaps.

Trustee Kusiek shared a good news story for Ward F that came from the student leaders at Harry Ainlay. Two students presented at the recent school council meeting about the many student-led activities that give voice to students. She said student leadership is just so fantastic and she thanked them for their efforts and said to keep it up!

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

K. **Notices of Motion** - None

L. **Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 2 p.m.

M. **Adjournment:** 3:50 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations