

MINUTE BOOK**Special Board Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of Alberta held via Zoom on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 8:30 a.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

Andrea Cooper
Kent Pharis
Nancy Petersen
Cliff Richard

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. Roll Call: 8:30 a.m.

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

B. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Hancock:

“That the agenda for the November 15, 2022, Board meeting be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK**C. Reports**

1. Motion to Write to the Chief Medical Officer of Health to Request Clarity on Data Used to Determine Additional Health Protocols

MOVED BY Trustee Sumar:

That the Board of Trustees grant waiver of notice to consider the following motion at the November 15, 2022, Special Board meeting.

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

Given that the Edmonton Public absenteeism rate due to illness has been rising steadily since school started in August, exceeding 13 per cent on November 7, 2022,

Given that more than 150 EPSB schools have met or exceeded the 10 per cent threshold for contacting Alberta Health Services as of November 7, 2022,

Given that these numbers exceed pre-pandemic rates of absence due to illness, and

Given the October 27, 2022, ruling from the Court of King's Bench,

I move that the Edmonton Public School Board of Trustees write to Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health requesting thresholds to determine when additional health protocols, including mandatory isolation periods and masking requirements, should be put in place for schools.

MOVED BY Trustee Hole that the motion be amended:

Given that the ~~Edmonton Public absenteeism rate of student absences due to illness in Edmonton Public Schools~~ has been rising steadily since school started in August, exceeding 13 per cent on November 7, 2022,

Given that more than 150 EPSB schools have met or exceeded the 10 per cent threshold for contacting Alberta Health Services as of November 7, 2022,

Given that these numbers exceed pre-pandemic rates of absence due to illness, ~~and~~

Given the October ~~2627~~, 2022, ruling from the Court of King's Bench ~~CM v Alberta, 2022 ABKB 716~~, and

Given the simultaneous spread of COVID, influenza and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) never seen before in our community,

I move that the Edmonton Public School Board of Trustees write to Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health requesting thresholds to determine when additional health protocols, including mandatory isolation periods and masking requirements, should be put in place for schools.

MINUTE BOOK

Furthermore, be it moved that the Edmonton Public School Board request that, during periods when schools are on outbreak status, the CMOH alongside the Provincial Government reinstate safety protocols including masking, and other previously implemented measures as per the CMOH's recommendations, to help reduce the spread of illness in schools.

The Board of Trustees, along with Administration, request a meeting with the CMOH, Minister of Education and Minister of Health.

There was a short break in the meeting before the Trustees voted on the amended motion.

**The Board Chair called the question on the amendment.
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**The Board Chair called the question on the amended motion.
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Adjournment: 10:56 a.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Darrel Robertson, Superintendent