

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

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, September 12, 2023, at 2 p.m.

**Present:****Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks  
Dawn Hancock  
Marcia Hole

Julie Kusiek  
Marsha Nelson

Sherri O'Keefe  
Jan Sawyer  
Saadiq Sumar

**Officials**

Angela Anderson  
Todd Burnstad  
Grace Cooke  
Andrea Cooper

Karen Mills  
Kathy Muhlethaler  
Kent Pharis  
Nancy Petersen  
Cliff Richard

Darrel Robertson  
Carrie Rosa  
Ron Thompson  
Liz Yule

**Board Chair:** Trisha Estabrooks

**Recording Secretary:** Catherine Angeles

The Board Chair called the meeting to order with recognition that we are meeting on Treaty 6 Territory and that, by acknowledging Treaty, we are acknowledging the promises made many years ago. Today we must talk about those promises and work towards acknowledging Treaty and relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit. We also acknowledged the importance of this land as for a long time and still now it is still such an important gathering place for the Nehiyawak, Saukteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux.

**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 Hole:**

**"That the agenda for the September 12, 2023, Board meeting be approved as printed."  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

## **MINUTE BOOK**

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

The Board Chair welcomed back her fellow Trustees, the Superintendent, staff and most of all the students. She said it promises to be an exciting school year. The Board looks forward, this year, to keeping the momentum around the Board's priorities: building on outstanding learning opportunities for all students, advancing action towards anti-racism and reconciliation and promoting a comprehensive approach to student and staff well-being and mental health. The Board is committed to these priorities and looks forward to working with Administration to make progress in these areas for the students and families they have the honour of serving.

The Board Chair shared that the Division's space crunch is front and centre as enrolment numbers are over 115,000 students. Families continue to choose Edmonton as a great city to live in and Edmonton Public Schools as an amazing school community to join. The Board looks forward to continued conversations with the Minister of Education about the need for new schools and modernizations.

The Board Chair acknowledged that next week is Gender Equality Week. The theme this year is United for Gender Equality: Stronger Together. She said that this week is based on the idea that we are stronger together when everyone is included. Everyone benefits when we all feel accepted regardless of our gender, sexual orientation, racial background or level of education.

The Board Chair shared that this coming weekend is Community League Day and wanted to take a moment to thank all the Community Leagues who have reached out to the Trustees to invite them to Community League Day celebrations. Like schools, community leagues are at the heart of our communities and it's great when we can find ways to support each other and work together.

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

The Superintendent welcomed everyone to the 2023-2024 school year and said that our schools are off to an amazing start. He shared that as of September 12, 2023, the current enrolment numbers are 115,694 students. This is 6,482 students or 5.9 per cent up from the finalized September 30, 2022 count and 1,022 over the projected 2023 numbers.

### **F. Approval of the Minutes**

1. Board Meeting – June 20, 2023
2. Organizational Board Meeting – June 20, 2023

**MOVED BY Trustee O'Keefe:**

**"That the minutes of the Board meeting held June 20, 2023, and the Organizational Board meeting held on June 20, 2023, both be approved as printed."  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MINUTE BOOK****G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives**

There were no registered speakers for this item.

**H. Reports****3. Recognition of School Name Honouree**

The Board Chair announced that the name of the new school being built in The Meadows neighbourhood will be Elder Dr. Francis Whiskeyjack School.

A short video presentation was shared acknowledging the school name honouree for the new southeast high school, set to open in September 2024.

There was a short break in the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 3:02 p.m.

**4. Actions Taken Under the Delegation of Authority – 2023 Summer Recess**

The Superintendent reported that no actions were taken on behalf of the Board during the 2023 summer recess.

**5. Report #01 of the Special Caucus Committee (From the meeting held September 6, 2022)**

Information was provided regarding actions taken at the September 6, 2022, Caucus Committee meeting.

**6. Report #05 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held December 13, 2022)**

Information was provided regarding actions taken at the December 13, 2022, Caucus Committee meeting.

**7. 2022-2023 Superintendent of Schools' Evaluation Summary**

The Board of Trustees provided to the public a summary of the annual Superintendent evaluation results from the 2022-2023 school year.

**8. Bereavement**

Vice-Chair Kusiek reported on the passing of Ms. Lindsay Adrian, Mr. Sidney (Sid) de Haan, Ms. Linda Hudson and Mrs. Amalia Pavo.

**MINUTE BOOK****I. Other Committee, Board Representatives and Trustee Reports**

Trustee O'Keefe shared an Edmonton Public Schools Foundation (Foundation) update. The Foundation is excited to be offering the Chromebooks for Kids program for its third year. Through generous community donations, the Foundation once again has 500 brand new Chromebooks to distribute across the Division through a referral process with Division principals. She thanked all the donors who have made this program a success; with their help, the Foundation is increasing access to technology for Division students.

Trustee O'Keefe congratulated Forest Heights on their fabulous new playground. Foundation members, Board Chair Estabrooks and folks from Central departments were so grateful to have the opportunity to celebrate this past Sunday with the school community, as well as with many of the donors who contributed to this incredible project. A special thanks to the Foundation's partners, Kal Tire and the Sinatra Aldea Foundation, who contributed not only to this space, but who continue to work with the Foundation on playground projects across the Division.

**J. Trustees and Board Requests for Information - None****K. Notices of Motions - None****L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 2 p.m.****M. Adjournment: 3:16 p.m.**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director Board and  
Superintendent Relations