

MINUTE BOOK

- **Board Meeting #7** -

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, December 8, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

David Colburn
Bev Esslinger
Don Fleming

Gerry Gibeault
Ken Gibson
Sue Huff

George Rice
Catherine Ripley

Officials

Edgar Schmidt
Donna Barrett
Jenise Bidulock

Bruce Coggles
Tanni Parker

Dean Power
Betty Tams

Board Chair: Don Fleming

Secretary: Anne Sherwood

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Ed Butler, President
CUPE Local 3550 – Trudy Grebenstein, President

B. **Roll Call:** (6:00 p.m.)

Mrs. Sherwood advised that Trustee Shipka was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. **Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair advised that the Minister’s Education Leadership Recognition Awards (MELRA) celebrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement at the district or jurisdiction level. The awards were created in collaboration with education stakeholders and recognize those school board leaders who make a difference in our classrooms every day. Many of the award categories are based on the Province’s

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Accountability Pillar – which is a measurement of learning goals at the school district and provincial level.

School boards are eligible to receive a Minister's Award if their annual results demonstrate significant improvement and/or very high achievement across the Accountability Pillar categories. Jurisdictions are eligible for multiple awards, and based on a specific standard per category, a jurisdiction may receive an award in each category for significant improvement and/or very high achievement.

The District is the recipient of the Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Award in a number of categories:

- ♦ For Very High Achievement in four categories: *Program of Studies, Education Quality, Citizenship and School Improvement*
- ♦ For Significant Improvement in thirteen areas: *Safe and Caring, Program of Studies, Education Quality, Drop Out Rate/High School Completion, PAT: Acceptable, PAT: Excellence, Transition Rate (6 year), Citizenship, Parental Involvement, School Improvement, Practical Arts, Healthful Living, and Other Non-Diploma*

The District was recognized in more categories than any other school board.

The Board Chair noted that these awards are not only "Board" awards. They would not have been possible without the hard work of district staff. And the number of awards we received is further testament to the dedication, knowledge, leadership, and expertise of district staff.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools – None.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #6 – November 24, 2009

MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

"That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held November 24, 2009 be approved as printed."

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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F. Improving Student Achievement

2. Improving Student Achievement by Embracing Multiculturalism

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the report entitled ‘Improving Student Achievement by Embracing Multiculturalism’ be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

Mr. Dale Hudjik expressed concern about the currency of Board Policies and Administrative Regulations.

Ms Madeline Rainey expressed concern that her comments at the October public consultation session regarding Special Needs were not accurately recorded.

Mr. Ed Butler, President Edmonton Public Teachers, thanked the Board and Administration for its collaboration, on behalf of the Local, and expressed the Local’s eagerness to continue working together in the new year.

H. Reports

3. Report #5 of the Conference Committee (From the Meeting Held December 1, 2009)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“1. That Report #5 of the Conference Committee from the meeting held December 1, 2009 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“2. That the May 25, 2009 Memorandum of Agreement between Edmonton Public Schools and the Alberta Teachers’ Association be approved.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“3. That dates for the official opening of six new ASAP schools in September 2010 be confirmed as follows:

- **Wednesday, September 8, 2010 – Elizabeth Finch School**
- **Thursday, September 9, 2010 – Florence Hallock School**
- **Wednesday, September 15, 2010 – Johnny Bright School**
- **Thursday, September 16, 2010 – Esther Starkman School**
- **Wednesday, September 22, 2010 – Dr. Donald Massey School**
- **Thursday, September 23, 2010 – A. Blair McPherson School”**

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Rice:

“4. That the Administration be authorized to execute the Tri-Party Agreement between the Board, the ASAP II contractor and the Province be confirmed.

5. That the Administration be authorized to execute the Accountability Agreement between the Board and the Province be confirmed.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Motion re Motion to Extend a Board Meeting Past 9:00 p.m.

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the Board rescind the requirement for a motion to extend the board meeting past the 9:00 p.m. adjournment time.”

The Board Chair called the question.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming, Gibson, Huff and Rice

The Motion was DEFEATED.

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5. Motion re Establishment of Working Committee re School Closures and School Viability

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That a working committee be created by the Board consisting of Trustees, City Councillors and MLAs to engage in tri-level discussions examining all possibilities related to school closures, school viability and any other related matters deemed appropriate by the committee.”

The following Amendment by Substitute Motion was MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the Board host a facilitated meeting after the current sector planning recommendations consisting of Trustees, City Councillors and MLAs to engage in tri-level discussions examining all possibilities related to space including school closures, school viability and community buildings.”

The Board Chair called the question on Amendment by Substitute Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Huff, Rice and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustee Gibson

The Amendment by Substitute Motion was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Substitute Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Fleming, Gibeault, Huff, Rice and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustee Gibson

The Motion was CARRIED.

The Board took a break at this point.

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6. Trustee Electoral Ward Boundaries

MOVED BY Trustee Colburn:

“That the realignment of trustee electoral ward boundaries for Ward F and Ward H be approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the Board defer the motion until the Board makes a determination regarding the optimal number of Trustees required to provide effective governance.”

The Board Chair called the question on the Deferral Motion.

IN FAVOUR: Trustee Colburn, Fleming, Gibeault and Gibson

OPPOSED: Trustees Esslinger, Huff, Rice and Ripley

The Deferral Motion was DEFEATED.

MOVED BY Trustee Fleming:

“That the item be deferred to the January 12, 2010 board meeting in order to examine all ward boundaries.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Fleming, Gibson and Rice

OPPOSED: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault, Huff and Ripley

The Deferral Motion was DEFEATED.

The Board Chair called the question on the original recommendation.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Colburn, Esslinger, Gibeault, Huff, Rice and Ripley

OPPOSED: Trustees Fleming and Gibson

The Motion was CARRIED.

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7. Policy Review – GAA.BP Personnel Policies Priority Objectives

MOVED BY Trustee Huff:

“That revised and renamed board policy GAA.BP Human Resources Framework be considered for the third time and approved.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

8. Multicultural Policy and Regulation: First Year Implementation Plan

MOVED BY Trustee Gibeault:

“That the report entitled ‘Multicultural Policy and Regulation: First Year Implementation Plan’ be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

9. Response to Board Request for Information

MOVED BY Trustee Esslinger:

“That the report entitled ‘Response to Board Request for Information’ be received for information.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

10. Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports – None.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

J. Notices of Motion – None.

K. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

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L. Adjournment: (8:55 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Board Chair

Board Secretary