

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 16, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees

Sherry Adams
Orville Chubb
Michelle Draper

Ken Gibson
Sarah Hoffman
Nathan Ip

Michael Janz
Ray Martin

Student Trustee

Johannah Ko

Officials

Angela Anderson
Diana Bolan
Jim Davies

Mark Liguori
Ron MacNeil
Mary Michailides

Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Sarah Hoffman

Recording Secretary: Manon Fraser

A. O Canada 

Staff Group Representatives

Edmonton Public Teachers – Nels Olsen, President

B. **Roll Call:** (2:00 p.m.)

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Johner was absent. All other Trustees as well as Student Trustee Ko were present.

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C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the agenda for the December 16, 2014 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that, last Friday, the Board-Hosted Coffee Party for staff was held in the Centre for Education. Unfortunately, she and Trustee Janz were unable to attend due to a prior Alberta School Boards Association commitment. She thanked Trustee Martin for bringing greetings on behalf of the Board at the event.

The Board Chair advised that the January 6, 2015 board meeting has been cancelled. The next board meeting will be held Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that the District Recognition event for Service, Team and Merit Awards will take place this evening. The event recognizes the outstanding accomplishments, contributions, and achievements of parents, community members, staff members and students.

F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #5 – November 25, 2014

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #5 held November 25, 2014 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

2. Board Meeting #6 – December 2, 2014

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #6 held December 2, 2014 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers.

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H. Reports

3. Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Call for Input into the ASBA Strategic Plan

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the Board approve the questionnaire responses as proposed by the ASBA Issues and Resolutions Committee.”

The Board agreed by general consent to remove the “12” ranking from the items in Question 2 of the questionnaire and add the following rationale: *The rest of the seven identified items are rated as lesser priority since research suggests focusing on more than three advocacy priorities would not lead to focused, actionable strategies and attainment of outcomes. The Edmonton Public School Board believes that, if the issue of adequate, stable, predictable funding was made a top priority for the ASBA, other advocacy items would also be addressed.*

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

4. Firm Foundations and Reading 44
Response to Request for Information #050

The report was provided to the Board for information in response to a request for information.

Trustee Gibson requested that information be provided, perhaps in the form of a one-page reference document, regarding the different literacy strategies available in the district.

5. Year-Round Schooling for At-Risk Students
Response to Request for Information #057

The report was provided to the Board for information in response to a request for information.

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided regarding the rationale for the modified-calendar at Braemar School.

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6. Impact of Future Schools on Brander Gardens School Enrolment Response to Request for Information #059

The report was provided to the Board for information in response to a request for information.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5:00 p.m.

There were no registered speakers.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams, the Board's representative on the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation Board of Governors, noting it was Dr. Sandra Woitas' last board meeting, commended her for her tremendous work with the Foundation over the years and her service to the District.

Student Trustee Ko reported on the Edmonton Student Youth Council meeting she attended on December 3, 2014. She noted there was a lot of great discussion at the meeting and she was pleased to see so many students from junior high up to students in their third year of university involved in the Council.

Student Trustee Ko also reported that she had the opportunity to visit amiskwaciy Academy as well as Prince Charles and Spruce Avenue schools and experience the many different aspects of the school personalities and student demographics as well as the level of involvement and work being done not only by students but by the teachers and principals as well.

Trustee Hoffman noted that, earlier today, the Minister of Education forwarded sixteen draft regulations in support of the new *Education Act*. She provided the information to Trustees and the Administration for review.

Trustee Hoffman, the Board's representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, reported on the Board of Directors meeting that took place December 11 to 12, 2014. She noted the following:

- Craig Kielburger, co-founder of Free the Children and organizer of We Day, will be the keynote speaker at the ASBA Spring General Meeting in June 2015
- The Board of Directors reviewed and approved the 2013-2014 audited financial statements.

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- The Board of Directors is piloting a request for information process and she has put forward requests for information regarding the following:
 - o stakeholders
 - o costs for membership in the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) and National School Boards Association (NSBA) related not only to membership fees but associated costs for board members and staff to attend the annual meeting association meetings as well as other meetings such as regional and presidents' meetings and hosting costs when members of the CSBA or NSBA attend meetings in Alberta - the information was requested to prepare for upcoming budget discussions
 - o A list of associations the ASBA has memberships with or has formal agreements or partnerships with

Trustee Hoffman noted she will have the requests for information posted on the Board Intranet Site. She noted she is seeking this kind of information to assist the Board in making an informed decision regarding a cost-benefit analysis of membership in the ASBA. Trustee Martin had suggested at the May 20, 2014 board meeting when the Board approved its support for the ASBA proposed 2014-2015 budget. She asked Trustees to forward any other questions they would like her to put forward to the ASBA Board of Directors.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information – None.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment (3:25 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Sarah Hoffman, Board Chair

Dr. Sandra Stoddard, Executive Director
Governance and Strategic Support
Services/Corporate Secretary