

MINUTE BOOK

Board Meeting #9

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, February 17, 2015 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
Candace Cole

Jim Davies
Ron MacNeil
Mary Michailides

Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Darrel Robertson
Sandra Stoddard

Board Chair: Michael Janz

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 Draper:

“That the agenda for the February 17, 2015 board meeting be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair reported that he had the opportunity as well as several other Trustees to attend a session regarding the importance of early childhood, socio-emotional development and early intervention sponsored by the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation and the Norlien Foundation on February 2nd. Dr. Nathan Fox and Dr. Melanie Berry shared current research and insights about child development and highlighted the significance of understanding, implementing and supporting evidence-informed best practices in the care and education of young children.

Also in the area of Early Childhood Development, Early Child Development Mapping Project Alberta released its final report which provides an overview of the work done by coalitions in one hundred communities throughout the province and puts forward recommendations for improving early childhood development outcomes. The Administration has requested sufficient copies of the final report to be distributed to district schools and central service administrators. A copy of the report can be found on the ECMap website at www.ecmap.ca

The Board Chair noted that February 25th is Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day started following an anti-bullying stand of two Grade 12 Nova Scotia students in 2007. The students took action after witnessing a Grade 9 student being bullied for wearing pink to school and encouraged their school mates to wear pink to send a message against bullying. Since then, the Pink Shirt Day campaign has sent a powerful message that *Bullying Stops Here*. Through awareness and education, Canadians can continue to take a stand against bullying. District staff, students and Trustees are encouraged to wear something pink on February 25th to show we are working together to prevent bullying in our schools.

The Society for Safe and Caring Schools & Communities partnered with the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services (iSMSS) at the University of Alberta, Alberta Education and ATB Financial to create and share an infographic poster to celebrate Pink Shirt Day. Information for schools to obtain copies of the posters was provided in the February 13, 2015 edition of the *Need to Know News*.

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The Board Chair noted that the Chairs of the Edmonton Public, Edmonton Catholic, Calgary Public and Calgary Catholic school boards meet to discuss issues pertinent to metro school boards. He reported on the Metro Chairs' meeting that took place February 5th. He noted that the meeting went very well and provided an opportunity for great relationship building and information sharing. The next step for the Metro Chairs is to arrange a meeting with the Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board Robin Campbell and the Treasury Board to bring forward some of the key areas of concerns of the Metro school boards that have come up over the years. The group is also working on a revised Metro lobby one-pager that provides specifics about Metro school boards' capital and operational needs. The four Metro school boards represent almost 50% of Alberta students and are still experiencing tremendous growth which is a major challenge. He noted that, building on the meeting that the Edmonton Public School Board had with the Edmonton Capital Region Caucus and the Calgary Public School Board's meeting with the Calgary Region Caucus, the group is working together to ensure the messages and needs of the school districts are communicated.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that, on February 3, 2015, he attended the North-Central catchment professional development day held at Queen Elizabeth School. The focus of day was on professional development designed to examine a universal strategy for learning and supporting the District's work to ensure that every child in Edmonton Public Schools has access to a fantastic teacher in a great learning environment. He then visited Lorelei School to participate in a workshop with music teachers from across the catchment. One of the aspects of the workshop involved building and playing Aboriginal flutes.

The Superintendent advised that he and a number of the Trustees attended the District's Long Service Reception on Thursday, February 12, 2015. The event recognized staff celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service. There were three-hundred and fifty long-service recipients for 2015 representing a collective 9,880 years of experience with the District. The recipients were from across all staff groups.

The Superintendent thanked Trustees, staff and community members who are taking time to participate in his 360-degree evaluation process being conducted by Conroy Ross.

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F. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #8 – January 20, 2015

MOVED BY Trustee Martin:

“That the minutes of Board Meeting #8 held January 20, 2015 be approved as printed.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Report #7 of the Caucus Committee (From the Meeting Held February 3, 2015)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“1. That Report #7 of the Caucus Committee from the meeting held February 3, 2015 be received and considered.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

- “2. That in order to benefit Alberta students and maximize dollars in the classroom, the Edmonton Public School Board give direction to the Edmonton Public Director on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors to reduce membership fees by advocating to the ASBA Board of Directors and at ASBA Zone 2/3:**
 - a. That the ASBA give notice to leave the National School Boards Association (NSBA).**
 - b. That the ASBA give notice to leave the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).”**

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MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That the motion be amended to read: That in order to benefit Alberta students and maximize dollars in the classroom, the Edmonton Public School Board ~~give direction~~ provide feedback to the Edmonton Public Director on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors to reduce membership fees by advocating to the ASBA Board of Directors and at ASBA Zone 2/3:

- a. That the ASBA give notice to leave the National School Boards Association (NSBA).
- b. That the ASBA give notice to leave the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).”

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

The Amendment was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

MOVED BY Trustee Ip:

“That the motion be amended to read: That in order to benefit Alberta students and maximize dollars in the classroom, the Edmonton Public School Board provide feedback to the Edmonton Public Director on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors to reduce membership fees **by 10 per cent by advocating to the ASBA Board of Directors and at ASBA Zone 2/3:**

- a. That the ASBA give notice to leave the National School Boards Association (NSBA).
- b. That the ASBA give notice to leave the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).”

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MOVED BY Trustee Gibson:

“That the amendment to the motion be amended to read: That in order to benefit Alberta students and maximize dollars in the classroom, the Edmonton Public School Board provide feedback to the Edmonton Public Director on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors to reduce membership fees by 10 per cent by advocating to the ASBA Board of Directors and at ASBA Zone 2/3 **measures including:**

- a. That the ASBA give notice to leave the National School Boards Association (NSBA).**
- b. That the ASBA give notice to leave the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA).”**

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment to the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Chubb, Gibson, Hoffman, Ip, Janz and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustee Draper

The Amendment to the Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Amendment.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Chubb, Gibson, Hoffman, Ip, Janz and Martin

OPPOSED: Trustee Draper

The Amendment was CARRIED.

The Board Chair called the question on the Motion as Amended.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

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3. Motion re Consent

MOVED BY Trustee Chubb:

“That a letter be sent to the Minister of Education recommending including the topic of consent in the curriculum connected to Human Sexuality.”

The Board Chair called the question.

The Motion was UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

There was a break at this point in the meeting.

4. Caucus Committee

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That a resolution be approved directing that Section 5.4 of the Trustees’ Handbook as outlined in Attachment I be revised in order to give the Caucus Committee final decision-making power on certain types of matters, and yet constrain that power so it is used only when absolutely necessary.”

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the proposed revision to Section 5.4 of the Trustees’ Handbook as outlined in Attachment I be amended to read as follows:

- 4. The delegation of decision-making authority to the Caucus Committee is subject to the following limitations:**
 - a. it shall be used only for matters that must be kept confidential or are time-sensitive; ~~and~~**
 - b. must receive unanimous approval; and**
 - c. decisions made by the Caucus Committee shall be reported to the Board in a public meeting.”**

MOVED BY Trustee Hoffman:

“That the report and amendment be referred to the Administration to review and provide suggested wording for a proposed revision at the March 3, 2015 board meeting for Section 5.4 of the Trustees’ Handbook regarding a requirement for unanimous approval to delegate decision-making authority to the Caucus Committee.” (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

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5. Bereavement

Vice-Chair Draper reported on the passing of Mr. James Kelso.

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

There were no registered speakers for this item.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

6. Student Trustee Update

A video regarding of the Student Trustee election was shown.

Student Trustee Ko reported on her February 9th visit to Kirkness School. She met with a Grade 3 class and also with student representatives from Divisions I and II. The role of a school board was discussed as well as what the students expect from a Student Trustee. She also visited John D. Bracco School and met with the Kirkness leadership group and the Grade 7 leadership class.

Student Trustee Ko noted that, currently through the Legacy Class/Leadership Program, there is a group of four students and herself focused on working together to establish a support system for all District students that would not just inform and educate but would engage them as well.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports - Continued

Trustee Adams, the Board's representative on the [Edmonton Public Schools Foundation](#) Board of Governors, introduced the new Director of the District Foundation, Ms Tracy Poulin who was in the audience.

Trustee Adams also reported on the following Foundation activities:

- February 19, 2015 - Information Session - Lauderdale School (11:50 to 1:10 p.m.)
- March 12, 2015 - Information Session - Lauderdale School (11:50 to 1:10 p.m.)
- March 26, 2015 - Information Session - Lauderdale School (11:50 to 1:10 p.m.)
- April 14, 2015 - 3rd Annual *Ready to Frame* art auction fundraiser at the Chateau Nova Kingsway (5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- April 23, 2015 - 5th Annual *Ready to Shine* fashion show fundraiser at Kingsway Garden Mall
- May 14, 2015 - 6th Annual *Ready for Life* fundraising breakfast at W.P. Wagner School (7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.)

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Trustee Ip noted he was hosting a Ward H school network councils meeting this evening at 6:30 p.m. at Greenfield School. He invited everyone to attend.

Trustee Janz reported on behalf of Trustee Johner, the Board's alternate representative on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, on the February 12, 2015 ASBA Board of Directors meeting Trustee Johner attended. The budget assumptions (thirteen in total) were adopted and will guide the development of the ASBA's 2015-2016 budget. The highlights of the Board of Directors meeting (including the budget assumptions) are available on the Board Intranet Site (BIS) as well as on the [ASBA website](#).

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Hoffman requested that information be provided outlining some of the industry changes regarding the design and/or construction of school washrooms that increased safety, dignity and support responsible behaviour.

L. Notices of Motion – None.

M. Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment (4:00 p.m.)

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michael Janz, Board Chair

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