

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #13**

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, May 14, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Sherry Adams
Michelle Draper
Trisha Estabrooks

Ken Gibson
Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner

Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Lisa Austin
Grace Cooke
Todd Burnstad
Ron MacNeil

Karen Mills
Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen

Kent Pharis
Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

CUPE Local 3550 – Carol Chapman, President

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.

The Board Chair advised that the fire alarm system at the Centre for Education is a Two Stage alarm system. Stage One is a single repeating alarm tone indicating a warning only and that evacuation is not required. Stage Two is a triple repeating alarm tone indicating that evacuation is required.

The Board Chair advised those attending the meeting in person that the floor area is restricted to the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, Director of Board and Superintendent Relations and Recording staff, with an area reserved for media. She advised that she would signify to any other staff or registered speakers to come down to the floor at the designated time on the agenda. The Board Chair thanked everyone for their cooperation.

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A. O Canada

The Kildare School choir performed O Canada and Rhythm of the Rain.

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustees Dunn and Ip were absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

**“That the agenda for the May 14, 2019, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Recognition

1. School Name Honourees

The Board Chair announced the following school names selected by the Board of Trustees for three new schools:

- Afton School site – Aleda Patterson
- Chappelle East School site – Garth Worthington
- Westlawn School site – Alex Janvier

There was a short break in the meeting.

E. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair shared that graduation season is in full swing and congratulated all graduates. She said that the District is very proud of each and every student – all ten thousand-that will be graduating. On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board Chair was pleased to attend the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Honouring Celebration where 125 soon-to-be-graduates were recognized.

The Board Chair thanked the Archives and Museums and all those who participated in the May 7, 2019, EQAULI-tea. She explained that there were over 85 students from District high schools along with community and Edmonton Public School leaders engaging in conversations of consequence, modelled after the tea parties and the advocacy work of the Famous Five.

The Board Chair advised that May 17th is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. She explained that this day belongs to no one individual; rather it is about people hoping

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for a prejudice-free world that can provide a place for everyone regardless of their sexual orientation.

F. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent thanked all the family and community members who have participated in the District's recent engagement sessions about visioning for new schools and reviewing Alternative Programs.

The Superintendent thanked everyone for making the Ready for Life breakfast such a wonderful success this year in advocacy for full day Kindergarten.

G. Minutes

2. Board Meeting #12 – April 30, 2019

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #12 held April 30, 2019, be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

H. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from Ms Michelle Louie, Policy Analyst for the Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention, who spoke in support of the *Tobacco Reduction Amendment Act 2013*.

I. Reports

3. Circle of Courage Presentation

The Board of Trustees received a presentation on the Circle of Courage Leadership Program that has supported hundreds of Indigenous students from M.E. LaZerte and Londonderry Schools. The program is based on the principles of belonging, mastery, independence and generosity.

The Board Chair thanked Ms Graff, Indigenous Advisor, and the students for their presentation and stated that the work being done is very important and powerful.

4. Locally Developed Courses

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That the following Locally Developed Courses be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools until August 2023:

- Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 (3)

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- Ballet 15-25-35 (5)
 - Ballet Six-year (6Y)
 - Contemporary Dance 25-35 (5)
 - Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6)
 - Dance 15-25-35 (3 and 5)
 - Dance Six-year (6Y)
 - Jazz Dance 25-35 (5)'
- (UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

Trustee Gibson requested that labour market information, career pathways post-secondary options, along with a strategy of how the District could talk with representatives in the aviation industry, both civilian and military, to make them aware that the District is trying to prepare students for these opportunities be provided for the Aviation course. The Superintendent thanked Trustee Gibson for the valuable feedback and advised that a response would be provided by a Transmittal Memorandum (TM).

There was a short break in the meeting.

5. Strategic Plan Update – First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students

Information was provided to the Board of Trustees with a more comprehensive look at areas of the District's efforts in support of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit education and the academic progress of students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

Trustee Gibson referenced Chart 3, Self-identified First Nation, Metis and Inuit Language Arts 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) on page 21 of 33, and questioned whether the data could be broken down further, specifically by how many students have been with the District one year, two years, all the way to nine years to identify if there are any consistent patterns. Do District practices make a significant improvement if a student is with the District for only two years?

Trustee Stirling remarked that having the ability to track many students attended District preschools will allow researchers to see the difference it makes when the students enter grade school.

Trustee Gibson suggested that:

1. The District share the data with the Minister of Education and First Nations, Métis and Inuit families and explain to them that the District could better assist their children with specific resources if they were to self-identify.
 - He noted that a stumbling block in the process has to self-identify annually and suggested changing this.
2. All districts experience student transiency regardless of a student's ethnic identity.

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He suggested that Administration identify other districts or communities where there is a significant transferring in and out of First Nations, Métis or Inuit students and ask those districts to go through a similar analysis as Edmonton Public Schools has done and compare the findings. It would be beneficial to know when a student originally self-identified as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit, and what supports and or issues they experienced while attending school in the transferring district prior to attending an Edmonton Public School.

3. Where we do know other districts, in particular First Nations Band schools that the District is partnering with, that more permanent partnerships with associated funding between the Band schools and the District be pursued so that the District could deliver results that will actually give a better outcome for those students and for the provincial funding of education. He said that some of the District's practices could assist under-resourced communities.

6. Motion re: Statement of Support – Tobacco Reduction Amendment Act (2013)

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

**“That the Edmonton Public Schools Board of Trustees signs the Statement of Support for proclaiming the outstanding section of the *Tobacco Reduction Amendment Act (2013)*.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Draper reported that on May 1, 2019, she attended the Edmonton Catholic School District's Celebration of the Arts and that it was a lovely evening with an opportunity to connect with their Trustees.

Trustee Draper reported that on May 8, 2019, she attended the 2019 Capital Region Rotary Integrity Awards. Ms Jan Reimer was recognized by the Rotary Club of Edmonton Sunrise and Mr. Jerry MacLachlan was recognized by the Rotary Club of Northeast. She advised that Mr. MacLachlan is the owner of Belmont Sobeys, a previous District Recognition Award Recipient and a great supporter of District schools.

Trustee Draper submitted the following report in writing:

On May 2, 2019, Trustee Draper brought greetings to the Kirkness School Evening of Learning. She advised that there were community partners and sessions on numeracy, literacy and using SchoolZone. There was a great turnout of parents and caregivers.

On May 9, 2019, Trustee Draper brought greetings at Kildare School's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

On May 10, 2019, Trustee Draper attended the Interact/Rotary lunch meeting at M.E. LaZerte and enjoyed a performance of Newsies.

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Trustee Estabrooks submitted the following report in writing:

Trustee Estabrooks thanks the Norwood School for inviting her to their “Taste of Norwood” event. This is an event where parents and students bring in dishes of food and share with the rest of the school community.

Trustee Estabrooks was truly honoured to be part of the District’s Honouring Celebration for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. She thanks the staff from the District’s First Nations, Métis, and Inuit unit for hosting such an amazing event. She met so many inspiring students that night and reports that it was an honour to celebrate with them as well as to hear from Chief of Enoch Cree Nation, Chief Billy Morin.

Trustee Estabrooks thanks the Board Chair for hosting the second EQAULI-tea and thanks the high school students, city councillors, and community and business leaders for attending this inspiring and important event.

Trustee Estabrooks was pleased to attend the District’s meeting on alternative programs and talk about the challenges as well as ideas on how to improve access to programs within the District. She thanks the parents who have and will continue to participate in this conversation.

Trustee Estabrooks thanks the parents who invited her to speak at a meeting about the possibility of offering a French immersion program at Highlands School. It is an idea at this stage, but she always commends the work of parents to organize and advocate for their children.

Trustee Estabrooks participated in Art from the Heart where students from city centre schools presented their art work at the Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts. She thanks the principals for inviting her.

Trustee Estabrooks was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees at the Asian Cultural Night last week. Guests were treated to performances from students in the District’s Mandarin program, as well as performances from invited guests.

Trustee Johner reported that the Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) held its conference for parents on April 26-28, 2019. She had the pleasure of attending several informational sessions and spoke with several parents regarding the sessions and the value they received from the conference. The feedback was positive and reinforced the value that Edmonton Public Schools parents on school councils receive from the District-wide membership of all 213 schools.

Trustee Johner was pleased to attend the Esquao Awards on May 10, 2019. Twenty recipients were honoured and it is the largest gathering to honour Aboriginal women in Canada. It is

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unique because the community nominates the women, and the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women (IAAW) coordinates the ceremony to honour them. The Esquao Awards highlight the significant role Aboriginal women hold in their home, in the healing and development of their city, town, hamlet, reserve, settlement and in the building of Alberta. To date, 456 women from over 90 communities have received Esquao Awards.

On May 11, 2019, Trustee Johner attended the Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards hosted by Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Lois E. Mitchell. Twelve students from around Alberta were recognized for their strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education paths, exemplary leadership, honour, and contribution to their culture and community. During this celebration, Trustee Johner had opportunities to speak with the Education Minister, Adrianna LaGrange, Minister of Indigenous Relations, Rick Wilson and Her Honour Lois E. Mitchell. Minister LaGrange is touring the province and said that Edmonton Public Schools is on her agenda as well. The honourable Lois E. Mitchell invited Trustee Johner for tea, which has been scheduled for May 27, 2019.

Trustee Stirling thanked W.P. Wagner School for the invitation to join them for their 50th Homecoming Gala on May 4, 2019. She loved hearing all the stories of 50 years of Wagner Warriors pride and getting to celebrate the inaugural members of the school's new Wall of Honour.

Trustee Stirling congratulated the members of the 2019 graduating class of Millwoods Christian School. She said that it is always heartwarming witnessing this close-knit school community in action. She thanked them for making her a part of their community celebration and wished all of the graduates the very best in whatever comes next.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

L. Notices of Motion

Trustee Stirling served notice that she will move that the Board of Trustees declare June 3 to 7, 2019, Pride Week in Edmonton Public Schools.

M. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: 5:30 p.m.

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The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations