

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #01**

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, September 25, 2018, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Sherry Adams
Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks
Nathan Ip
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
Kent Pharis

Darrel Robertson
Mike Suderman
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Michelle Draper

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

Staff Group Representatives

CUPE Local 474 – John Vradenburgh, 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.

MINUTE BOOK

A. O Canada 

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee Gibson was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Johner:

“That the agenda for the September 25, 2018, Board meeting be approved as printed.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair thanked Trustee Janz for organizing the Edmonton Public School Board Volunteer Appreciation event on September 15, 2018. She said that it was wonderful to meet so many volunteers in person and to be able to show appreciation for the important contributions they make to the District.

The Board Chair advised that during the past few weeks, staff, students, families and community members have engaged with the Board of Trustees in reviewing the District’s strategic plan. She thanked everyone that participated. She explained that the conversations were very rich because of the many different perspectives offered. The Board Chair acknowledged that the sessions didn’t work with everyone’s schedules and advised that for those who weren’t able to attend, that there will be an opportunity to provide input through an online survey that will launch on October 3, 2018. She advised that details will be provided on SchoolZone, the District’s website and social media channels.

The Board Chair reported that on September 24, 2018, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Edmonton Public Schools, the Goethe-Institute and the Central Agency for German Schools abroad was signed. She explained that the MOU has set the stage for collaboration for professional development for staff, curriculum development, and access to resources, cultural and educational exchange opportunities, language testing and research. The Board Chair commented that through the generous contributions from the partners, a German Resource Centre that supports students and staff has been established.

The Board Chair reported that the Board of Trustees met with City Council where there was an opportunity to discuss the work of the Board and also share concerns, specifically regarding aging infrastructure and the need for another high school in The Meadows.

The Board Chair advised that September 30, 2018, is Orange Shirt Day. She explained that Orange shirt day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event that grew out of a former student’s account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the mission in Williams Lake, British Columbia. The Board Chair expressed that the

MINUTE BOOK

orange shirt is meant to recognize the harm done to residential school students and show a commitment that every child matters. She explained that a date in September was chosen because it is the time of year when children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. She said that it is also an opportunity for First Nations, local government, schools, and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations to come. The Board Chair acknowledged that many District schools are holding special events to mark this event, and several Trustees will participate in the special ceremony at City Hall on September 28, 2018.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent commented that many people have been following stories that have been in the news recently about the use of time out rooms in schools. He remarked that the safety and well-being of all students is Edmonton Public Schools' highest priority. The Superintendent advised that the District is currently conducting a review of the use of time out rooms and shared that a provincial review was recently announced as well. He said that the District will continue to work with families to create safe, welcoming, inclusive learning environments for all students and staff. The Superintendent also stressed how important dialogue is between the school and families and that if parents have concerns about their child and the use of timeout spaces, he urged them to discuss their concerns with their school principal, particularly if their child has an individual behaviour support plan.

The Superintendent expressed that the District is very excited and proud to host the 34th Annual Canadian Student Leadership Conference. He explained that from September 25th to September 29th, Harry Ainlay, J. Percy Page, McNally, M.E. LaZerte, and W. P. Wagner schools will be hosting over 800 students from across the country and that participants will experience a wide variety of keynote speakers, group workshops, cultural moments and entertainment. He thanked the staff and students who have been planning for months to make this event possible.

The Superintendent advised that October 1st to 5th is Read In Week and that schools across the District will be welcoming many special guests, including Trustees, to help students experience the joy of reading. He thanked everyone that will be volunteering their time to share with students.

F. Minutes

1. Organizational Board Meeting – September 11, 2018

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

“That the minutes of the Organizational Board meeting held September 11, 2018, 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

2. 2017-18 Board Self-Evaluation Summary

The 2017-18 Board self-evaluation survey results were reported.

3. Strategic Plan Update – Supports for the Whole Child

Information was provided regarding the efforts being taken in support of Priority 3, Goal Two: Supports for the Whole Child by providing a snapshot of the role community plays in support of student success across District schools.

4. Update on Joint Transportation

The following update was provided to the Board of Trustees:

- There are now 25 shared routes.
- Nine of the 25 shared routes were implemented in September 2017. These shared routes will be maintained for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Sixteen additional shared routes were implemented in September 2018.
- Sharing of the 25 routes will result in savings of over \$600,000 for Edmonton Public Schools.
- To achieve the efficiencies, four Edmonton Public schools were required to shift their start time by a maximum of five minutes, following engagement with stakeholders.
- Student Transportation staff will continue to identify additional efficiencies through shared service with Edmonton Catholic Schools for implementation in September 2019.

5. Response to Request for Information #020

Information was provided regarding Request for Information #020.

I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

J. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

Trustee Adams advised that on September 13, 2018, she had the opportunity to bring greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees at the Christian Schools Commissioning Service at the Millwoods Christian School.

MINUTE BOOK

Trustee Adams reported that on September 14, 2018, she attended the Millwoods Early Childhood Coalition. She advised that the group reviewed the Early Development Instrument (EDI) outcomes and the vital work being done by the Coalition in providing much needed supports to families. Trustee Adams said that the Coalition continues to seek greater partnership opportunities in order to meet the vast needs of the community.

On September 14, 2018, Trustee Adams also attended the Educational Muslim Achievement Awards Night (EMANN) and indicated that it was well represented and that a variety of awards and trophies were received by both secondary and post-secondary students.

Trustee Adams reported that on September 24, 2018, she had the privilege to attend the Parent Council meeting at Kameyosek School. She thanked the Parent Council for the vital work they do to support the good work happening at Kameyosek School. Trustee Adams said that she appreciated the principal's focus given to the strategic plan and that the parent feedback was very valuable. She noted that council members and parents were encouraged to fill out the online District survey between October 3 and 14, 2018.

Trustee Adams reported that on September 20, 2018, she attended a Strategic Planning Engagement session at Woodcroft School. She found it to be very insightful and that the information shared will assist Administration in establishing priorities for the District Strategic Plan.

Trustee Adams shared that on September 21, 2018, a significant meeting took place between Edmonton City Councillors and the Board of Trustees. She commented that the dialogue was important in determining common priorities such as mental health concerns and infrastructure needs.

Trustee Draper reported that on September 6, 2018, she attended Kildare's welcome back barbecue and Bannerman's welcome back taste testing extravaganza on September 20, 2018. She thanked all the schools that hosted such welcoming events to start off the 2018-19 school year.

Trustee Dunn reported that it was a pleasure to work with Trustees at the Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools on a joint policy proposal submission that will be submitted to the Alberta School Boards Association regarding the need for increased funding for mental health professionals in schools.

Trustee Dunn shared that she is looking forward to being the guest reader at the WEE Read reading party at Inglewood School on September 28, 2018.

Trustee Dunn is also looking forward to attending upcoming lectures being hosted at the Centre for Education and organized by Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health (CASA) that will

MINUTE BOOK

focus on children and youth mental health. She advised that the next lecture will be held on October 11, 2018, and that Dr. Stan Kutcher will be present.

Trustee Dunn commented that she enjoyed meeting parents, community members and staff at the Board's Strategic Plan community engagement session at Jasper Place School. She explained that there were thoughtful conversations about the needs for specialized supports, and inclusion in the language of the strategic plan, as it sets the direction for the District.

Trustee Estabrooks thanked Gold Bar, Ivor Dent and Mount Royal schools for their warm welcome to their back to school barbecues. She also thanked the Administration at Eastglen School and United Way for hosting MLA David Shepherd and herself to share the great and important work of the All in for Youth program.

Trustee Estabrooks shared that she spent the morning of September 20th, 2018, with Edmonton Public Schools staff to talk about the District's Strategic Plan and Vision Statement. She said she appreciated the honesty and valuable contributions of staff during the discussions.

Trustee Estabrooks reminded everyone that the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the first draft of Board Policy HAA.BP First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education will remain open until the end of September 2018.

Trustee Estabrooks advised that on September 27, 2018, Edmonton Public Schools would be co-hosting an open house event with the City of Edmonton regarding working on building a new community hall in the Highlands area. She said that it would be a great opportunity to get an update on the Highlands modernization project and is an example of how the City of Edmonton and the District are working together.

Trustee Ip reported that he attended the Nellie Carlson Back to School community event on September 13, 2018. He said that it was an opportunity for the Nellie Carlson School staff to welcome the school community, complete with games, activities and food trucks.

On September 19th, Trustee Ip joined Minister Feehan and MLA Dang to kick off International Walk to School Week at Johnny Bright School. It was an event put on by Safe, Healthy, Active People Everywhere (SHAPE) that promotes active transportation. Trustee Ip participated in a street crossing demonstration with several Grade 1 classes.

Trustee Ip thanked parents, community members and especially students who participated in the Strategic Plan Engagement sessions at Lillian Osborne and Woodcroft schools on September 18 and 21, 2018. Trustee Ip said he appreciated the opportunity to hear directly from the community about their vision for Edmonton Public Schools. Trustee Ip said that the feedback gathered will help inform the Board's Strategic Plan for the next four years.

MINUTE BOOK

On September 24, 2018, Trustee Ip joined Board Chair Draper and Vice-Chair Stirling at the MOU signing with German government representatives at Strathcona High School. Trustee Ip explained that this was in support of the District's German Bilingual program. He shared that guests and students were treated to a performance by German pop sensation Lotte.

Trustee Stirling thanked the community members who came out to join Trustee Adams and herself at the Strategic Planning session at J. Percy Page School on September 20, 2018, and for their thoughtful, sometimes challenging input and their vision for success for students. She said it was good to hear about supports for students with special needs, the need for high-quality infrastructure in the southeast, the experiences of multicultural families in District schools, and the desire for excellent alternative programs including language and culture programs and academic alternatives such as Cogito.

Trustee Stirling advised that she is co-organizing a community rally on September 30, 2018, to stand together against hate and racism in the city and to educate Edmontonians on simple actions they can take to make the city safer for everyone. She invited everyone to join her at 3 p.m. at Churchill Square to support this work and the launch of Hate Free YEG, a grassroots community initiative to make the city a more welcoming and inclusive place for people of all backgrounds.

K. Trustee and Board Requests for Information - None

L. Notices of Motion

MOVE BY Trustee Draper:

“1. That the Board grant waiver of notice of motion to consider Recommendation 2 at the September 25, 2018, Board meeting.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That the Edmonton Public School Board write a letter to all provincial political party leaders that shares the response to Request for Information #020 and request their position on education funding and that the Board respectfully asks that a response be provided within six weeks of receipt of the letter.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

M. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at 2:00 p.m.

N. Adjournment: 3:45 p.m.

MINUTE BOOK

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Michelle Draper, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations