

MINUTE BOOK**Board Meeting #16**

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of the Province of Alberta held via Zoom on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Sherry Adams
Shelagh Dunn
Michelle Draper

Trisha Estabrooks
Ken Gibson
Nathan Ip

Michael Janz
Cheryl Johner
Bridget Stirling

Officials

Angela Anderson
Grace Cooke
Todd Burnstad
Karen Mills

Leona Morrison
Kathy Muhlethaler
Lorne Parker
Nancy Petersen

Darrel Robertson
Carrie Rosa
Mike Suderman
Liz Yule

Board Chair: Trisha Estabrooks

Recording Secretary: Shirley Juneau

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.

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

B. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Dunn:

**“That the agenda for the May 26, 2020, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

C. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair advised that the audit review for the Calgary Board of Education was released last week and that no financial irregularities were found. And while the Board of Trustees respects the relationship it has with the Minister of Education, she said that democratically elected school boards are at the very core of what it means to represent parents, families and students and their important voices in Education.

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The Board Chair advised that every year at time, the Division pauses to recognize the great work of the exempt staff. She explained that exempt staff fill over 200 job titles and work in every department, inside and outside of classroom. The Board Chair said that exempt staff serve students who need supports for learning, behavioural and physical challenges and they schools and central departments running smoothly, working as planner, analysts, team leaders, co-ordinators and specialist in so many other areas. The Board Chair thanked exempt staff for their support of students.

The Board Chair shared that every year at this time, the Board pauses to recognize the great work of the exempt staff. She explained that exempt staff fill over 200 job titles and work in every department, inside and outside of the Division's classrooms. The Board Chair said exempt staff serve students who need supports for learning, behavioural and physical challenges. They keep the Division's schools and central departments running smoothly, working as planners, analysts, team leaders, co-ordinators and specialists in so many other areas. On behalf of the Board of Trustees she thanked exempt staff for their support for students.

The Board Chair thanked all parents, students and staff who took the time to complete the school re-entry survey and advised that the survey is open until May 28, 2020. She advised the information collected will help inform the three scenarios being contemplated for what school will like come September 2020. The Board Chair said she continues to think of parents and the challenges they face while striving to do what is best for their children.

D. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that the first week of June is designated as Pride Week in the Division. He said that Ms Amanda Barret and Ms Kerry Maguire, SOGI consultants, are working with the Communications Unit to suggested activities for students and schools that can be done remotely and that this information will be issued next week.

The Superintendent shared that 188 schools participated in the 2019 Terry Fox Run and raised approximately \$192,000 for cancer research. He thanked all participants and those who made donations.

The Superintendent congratulated Mr. Tyler Greenslade, Department Head of Athletics and Coach for the Harry Ainlay Titans football team. He said that Mr. Greenslade was awarded the 2019 Norm Kimball Coach of the year award.

E. Minutes

1. Board Meeting #15 – April 28, 2020

MOVED BY Trustee Stirling:

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**“That the minutes of Board Meeting #15 held April 28, 2020, be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

F. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

One submission from a registered speaker was received regarding 5G development in schools and the save use of technology.

G. Reports

2. Report #13 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held November 5, 2019)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the November 5, 2019, Caucus Committee meeting.

3. Report #16 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held May 12, 2020)

Information was received regarding actions taken at the May 12, 2020, Caucus Committee meeting.

4. Strategic Plan Update – First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

The Trustee’s received information regarding First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student progress.

The following request for information was put forward by Trustee Janz in reference to Chart 11. Self-identified Frist Nations, Métis, and Inuit drop out rate: 5 year trend of the report:

- Provide a comparison of drop out rates for all students, rather than for just self-identified First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students
- Provide desegregated data by gender of students that drop out

This information will provided to the Trustees through a Transmittal Memorandum (TM).

5. 2020-2021 Non-Resident Fees and 2021-2022 International Student Fees

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

**“1. That the proposed 2020-2021 Non-Alberta Residents Fees and Special Needs Non-Residents fees be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**“2. That the proposed 2021-2022 International Student Tuition fee of \$12,500 and an International Student Application fee of \$250 be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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The following request for information was put forward by Trustees Ip and Janz:

- Has summer programming been offered to international students in previous years and, if yes, provide enrolment statistics
- Provide information on what services and supports are included in tuition fees

This information will be provided to the Trustees through a Transmittal Memorandum (TM).

There was a short break in the meeting.

6. 2021-2022 School Year Calendar

MOVED BY Trustee Johnner:

“That the 2021-2022 Division Calendar be approved.”

MOVED BY Trustee Draper:

“That the 2021-2022 Division Calendar be referred back to Administration for the development of a second calendar option that would include a full week break in May for consideration at the June 9th Board meeting.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Draper, Dunn, Ip, Janz and Stirling

**OPPOSED: Trustees Adams, Estabrooks, Gibson and Johnner
(CARRIED)**

There was a short break in the meeting.

7. Recommendation on Voting in Advance of the ASBA Spring General Meeting (SGM)

MOVED BY Trustee Janz:

“That Edmonton Public Schools trustees attending the ASBA Spring General Meeting support the proposed ASBA 2021-2021 budget.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Adams, Draper, Dunn, Estabrooks, Gibson, Ip, Janz and Johnner

**OPPOSED: Trustee Stirling
(CARRIED)**

8. Extreme Cold Temperatures and Impacts on Infrastructure
(Response to Request for Information #060)

Information was provided in response to request for information #060.

9. Response to Edmonton Public Schools Climate Readiness
(Response to Request for Information #069)

Information was provided in response to request for information #069.

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The following request for information was put forward by Board Chair Estabrooks:

- Provide an assessment of how the Division's carbon footprint compares to the other metro school boards

This information will be provided to the Trustees through a Transmittal Memorandum (TM).

H. Other Committee, Board Representative and Trustee Reports

No reports were submitted for this item.

I. Trustee and Board Requests for Information

Trustee Gibson asked that as part of the re-entry plans for the 2020/2021 school year, the Division advise how it plans to coordinate access and scheduling of on-line school sessions for children that will be in full day child care should both parents be at work?

J. Notices of Motion:

Trustee Draper served notice of motion that the following be adhered to with future survey design by the Division:

- The Division pre-tests each survey tool. This means, testing the survey out with a small sample of the intended population to assess if questions make sense, flow and timing, etc., and to make changes to the survey tool based on feedback received.
- That each survey is assessed for its readability level. Over 25 per cent of the Division's population are English Language Learners, as the language level in Division surveys can be high. This step would address this, for instance, if readability is over a Grade 6 level for anything going to parents or caregivers a literacy review would be undertaken to revise the survey tool. Also, language needs to be appropriate for the grade level being surveyed.

This would ensure that the Division is constantly and consistently modelling good survey design practices.

Trustee Dunn served notice of motion that the Edmonton Public Schools Board request more information from the Ministry of Education about plans for early intervention in Alberta, given reductions to Program Unit Funding (PUF), including:

- Potential changes to the number of children able to access early intervention
- Provincial plans for the provision of early intervention for children who will no longer be able to access early intervention through PUF programs
- Plans to address the type and level of intervention needed for students who cannot access early intervention as they enter the school system, in order to maintain long-term student achievement and well-being.

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K. **Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

L. **Adjournment:** 5: 20 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director of Board and
Superintendent Relations