

**MINUTE BOOK****Board Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Edmonton School Division of Alberta held in the Centre for Education McCauley Chambers on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 2 p.m.

**Present:****Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks  
Dawn Hancock  
Marcia Hole

Nathan Ip  
Julie Kusiek  
Marsha Nelson

Sherri O'Keefe  
Jan Sawyer  
Saadiq Sumar

**Officials**

Angela Anderson  
Todd Burnstad  
Grace Cooke  
Andrea Cooper

Karen Mills  
Kathy Muhlethaler  
Kent Pharis  
Nancy Petersen  
Cliff Richard

Darrel Robertson  
Carrie Rosa  
Ron Thompson  
Liz Yule

**Board Chair:** Trisha Estabrooks

**Recording Secretary:** Catherine Angeles

The Board Chair called the meeting to order with the recognition that we are gathered here today on Treaty 6 Territory of which Amiskwaciwâskahikan or Edmonton is a part. We give thanks for the gift of living, working, raising our families, and supporting kids and families on this land, land that has always belonged to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux.

**A. O Canada**

**B. Roll Call: 2:01 p.m.**

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

**C. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOVED BY Trustee Sumar:**

**“That the agenda for the January 24, 2023, Board meeting be approved as printed.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

**MINUTE BOOK****D. Communications from the Board Chair**

The Board Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year and Happy Lunar New Year. She noted that this is the Year of the Water Rabbit and the sign of the rabbit is a symbol of longevity, peace and prosperity in Chinese culture. She thanked the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association (ECBEA) for inviting Trustees to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit at Londonderry Mall. It was also an amazing opportunity to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Chinese Bilingual Program in EPSB. The success and longevity of this program is thanks to countless people, but especially the parents and members of the local Chinese-Canadian community who came together to ensure their children would be proud of their Chinese and Canadian heritage.

The Board Chair thanked the CUPE Local 784 maintenance workers for all that they do to keep our schools and buildings running smoothly. January 18 was Maintenance Employees Appreciation Day in the Division. These workers do all sorts of important jobs in support of students and our schools.

The Board Chair expressed thanks to families who kept their children home from school when sick, as well as to staff who remained home when sick. She said families continue to feel the ongoing impact of illness and it is critical that we continue to think about others and their wellness during this new variant of Covid, influenza as well as RSV. She also thanked school staff who were ensuring masks were available for anyone who wanted to wear one.

**E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools**

The Superintendent welcomed all principals attending the Board meeting to listen to and participate in the Board conversation today.

The Superintendent shared that open house season for the Division is starting. Both virtual and in-person open houses are available. Open house information will be shared on social media, SchoolZone and through posters delivered to all Division schools. Families can visit [openhouse.epsb.ca](https://openhouse.epsb.ca) to find open house dates and times and information on how to make the most of their virtual open house experience.

The Superintendent congratulated Board Chair Estabrooks. She was awarded the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal in recognition of her significant contributions to the province. He thanked her for the care she constantly shows for our students, our city and our province.

**F. Approval of the Minutes**

1. Board Meeting – November 29, 2022

**MOVED BY Trustee O'Keefe:**

**"That the minutes of Board Meeting held November 29, 2022, 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. Report #04 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held November 1, 2022)

Information was provided regarding actions taken at the November 1, 2022, Caucus Committee meeting.

3. Annual Education Results Report

**MOVED BY Vice-Chair Ip:**

**“That the Edmonton Public Schools’ Annual Education Results Report (2021-2022) be approved.”  
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

There was a short break in the meeting.

4. Board Policy GCA.BP Approval of the School Year Calendar

An update was provided on the direction being proposed for the review of Board Policy GCA.BP Approval of the School Year Calendar. A short slide presentation was shared with the Board.

Trustee Ip and Trustee Kusiek both left the meeting at this point.

5. Refugee and Displaced Students  
(Response to Request for Information #012)

Information was provided regarding the Request for Information #012.

**I. Other Committee, Board Representatives and Trustee Reports**

Trustee O’Keefe provided an Edmonton Public Schools Foundation (“Foundation”) update:

- She thanked several schools around the Division who hosted fundraisers in support of the Foundation over the month of December. The Foundation is grateful for the creativity and generosity of our school communities.
- The Foundation Wrap and Roll, hosted by Kingsway Mall, was a great success! They are so grateful for Division staff, student and community support, which resulted in more than \$10,000 being donated to the Foundation.
- Trustee O’Keefe thanked the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association and Londonderry Mall for including the Foundation in their Lunar New Year Celebrations on Sunday, January 15. She also congratulated the many students who participated in the celebrations and performances.

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- The Foundation is looking forward to an exciting year ahead and invite everyone to follow them on social media or sign up for their Heartprints Newsletter on their webpage [foundations.epsb.ca](https://foundations.epsb.ca).

**J. Trustees and Board Requests for Information - None****K. Notices of Motions**

Trustee Hole gave notice that she would be making the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees write to Edmonton's mayor and the executive director of Boyle Street Community Services to request that a mandatory community Safety Plan be established when locating a facility that provides supportive social services near schools; the creation of such plan shall be developed through a process of fulsome stakeholder consultation with students, families, school staff and administration, and community members. Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees make the same request of all agencies providing social services to the community near schools.

Board Chair Estabrooks gave notice that she would be making the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees write to Edmonton's mayor asking that mandatory stakeholder consultation with school communities be required before issuing a permit to an agency offering supportive social services within 500 m of a school, regardless of whether a zoning change is required. Furthermore, be it resolved, that a Good Neighbor Agreement that includes the school be mandatory if and when such developments proceed.

**L. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 2 p.m.****M. Adjournment: 5:28 p.m.**

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.**

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Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

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Karen Mills, Director Board and  
Superintendent Relations