

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, June 6, 2023, at 2 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks
Dawn Hancock
Marcia Hole

Julie Kusiek
Marsha Nelson

Sherri O'Keefe
Jan Sawyer
Saadiq Sumar

Officials

Angela Anderson
Todd Burnstad
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 recognition that we are on Treaty 6 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Nehiyawak, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. This is also land that was and still is important to the Papaschase First Nation. This land for thousands of years has and continues to feed, shelter and inspire Indigenous people. We continue to live on this land as Treaty people. In the spirit of reconciliation, the Board Chair said 'hiy hiy' and 'marsí', which mean thank you in Cree and Dene.

A. O Canada

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

The Superintendent advised that all Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Acting Vice-Chair Kusiek:

**"That agenda items 5 and 10 be deferred to the June 20, 2023 Board meeting."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

MINUTE BOOK**MOVED BY Trustee Hole:**

**“That the agenda for the June 6, 2023, Board meeting be approved as amended.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

D. Communications from the Board Chair

The Board Chair recognized that June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, an opportunity to learn about the unique cultures, traditions, languages and experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. She said it's a time to honour the stories, achievements and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, who have lived on this land since time immemorial and whose presence continues to impact our school division, our city and our country. It is a time to dig deeper, to understand further and to be curious and explore this month in our schools as we work together as a Division towards Priority Two of our Strategic Plan: Advance action towards anti-racism and reconciliation.

The Board Chair also recognized that this week is Pride Week at Edmonton Public Schools. It's a week to celebrate and show support for all 2SLGBTQIA+ students, staff and families. She thanked staff and students who are planning some great events across the Division. EPSB has held Pride celebrations since 2019 when the Board of the day unanimously voted to declare the first week of June as Pride Week in the Division.

The Board Chair congratulated Rutherford teacher Krysta Florence for receiving the Zone 2/3 Edwin Parr First Year Teacher Award. She reminded everyone that Ms. Florence was EPSB's nominee for this prestigious award. Ms. Florence was named the winner of this award at a ceremony held at the end of May.

The Board Chair formally congratulated former colleague, Nathan Ip, on his election to the Alberta legislature. She said she has no doubt that he will represent the constituents of Edmonton-South West well. The Board Chair also acknowledged that she has received and accepted his letter of resignation from the position of Trustee of Ward H.

The Board Chair expressed congratulations to everyone else who was elected to the legislature. The Board of Trustees is committed to finding collaborative solutions and working with the new government. The Board was vocal during the provincial election about what the Board would like to see the new government focus on. That included exploring ways to adequately fund public education as well as investing in and recognizing our phenomenal growth by committing to building new schools. She thanked parents, fellow public education advocates, and community members for helping amplify the Board's message. The Board looks forward to sharing their ideas with Premier Smith's government and seeing how we can work together to support students.

MINUTE BOOK

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent expressed his sincere congratulations to the graduates across the Division. He hopes grads have a safe and enjoyable celebration of their transition.

The Superintendent thanked the Board of Trustees for attending numerous graduations and bringing greetings on behalf of the Board and the Division. He thanked staff for putting together the graduation commencements, as well as the banquets, as this is a huge undertaking and their efforts are much appreciated.

The Superintendent expressed his appreciation for the parents and guardians who have, over the years, spent countless hours supporting their young ones to come through our system and make this significant transition to a life of dignity and fulfillment.

F. Approval of the Minutes

1. Board Meeting – May 16, 2023
2. Special Board Meeting – May 26, 2023

MOVED BY Trustee Hancock:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting held May 16, 2023 and Special Board Meeting held May 26, 2023, all be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Recognition

3. Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence Presentations

The Board Chair announced the following students as recipients of the Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence:

- Gold Medal – Abinash Saravanan, W.P. Wagner School
- Silver Medal – Sofia Sejutee, Ross Sheppard School
- Bronze Medal – Victoria Silva-Veltkamp, Academy at King Edward School

There was a short break in the meeting.

H. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

The Board of Trustees heard from one registered speaker for this item.

MINUTE BOOK**I. Reports**4. Student Senate – Summary of Work Accomplished

Student Trustees Akhalya Arulmozhi, Abinash Saravanan and Tia Dobbernack presented a summary of their work in support of their 2022-2023 Work Plan.

5. Locally Developed Courses

This report was deferred to the June 20, 2023, Board meeting.

6. 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

MOVED BY Trustee Sawyer:

“That the 2024-2025 School Year Calendar (Version 1) as shown in Attachment I be approved.”

MOVED BY Acting Vice-Chair Kusiek that the motion be amended:

“That Version 1 of the proposed 2024–25 School Year Calendar be approved with the following amendments:

- **Move April 16 and 17 PD days to May 22 and 23**
- **If the government moves provincial diploma examinations to begin April 1, then the June 9 PD day could be moved to March 31.”**

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Kusiek

**OPPOSED: Trustees Estabrooks, Hancock, Hole, Nelson, O’Keefe, Sawyer, and Sumar
(DEFEATED)**

The Board Chair called the question on the original motion.

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Proposed Revision to Trustee Representation for ASBA

MOVED BY Trustee Hancock:

“That the Board of Trustees grant waiver of notice for the recommendation to elect one Trustee at each annual Organizational Board meeting to serve as both ASBA Zone 2/3 Representative and Alternate Director.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“That the Board of Trustees elect one Trustee at each annual Organizational Board meeting to serve as both ASBA Zone 2/3 Representative and Alternate Director.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

There was a short break in the meeting.

MINUTE BOOK8. Options for Vacant Ward H Trustee Position**MOVED BY Trustee Nelson:**

“That the Board select from among current Trustees to represent Ward H for the remainder of this term.”

IN FAVOUR: Trustees Hancock, Kusiek, Nelson, O’Keefe and Sawyer

OPPOSED: Trustees Estabrooks, Hole and Sumar

(CARRIED)

9. Preliminary Findings from Extended Student Demographic Survey

The initial results from the Extended Student Demographic Survey were presented. Over the coming months and years, the Division will further analyze the data from the survey to help inform actions that will remove barriers and improve the school experience so that all students can be proud of who they are, experience success and feel welcome at school. This initiative was identified as a key action in Year One of the Division’s Anti-racism and Equity Action Plan.

MOVED BY Trustee Sumar:

“That the Board meeting be extended beyond 6 p.m.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

J. Other Committee, Board Representatives and Trustee Reports10. Infrastructure Committee Update

This report was deferred to the June 20, 2023, Board meeting.

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

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

MOVED BY Trustee Sawyer:

“That the Board of Trustees grant waiver of motion to consider the following motion at the June 6, 2023, Board meeting.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“That Trustee Kusiek continue to act as Acting Vice-Chair until the Organizational Board meeting on June 20, 2023.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

MINUTE BOOK

M. **Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 2 p.m.

N. **Adjournment:** 5:52 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director Board and
Superintendent Relations