

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, May 16, 2023, at 2 p.m.

Present:**Trustees**

Trisha Estabrooks
Dawn Hancock

Marcia Hole
Julie Kusiek
Marsha Nelson

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 recognition that we are on Treaty 6 Territory in the City of Edmonton or amiskwaciwâskahikan or Beaver Hills House. The Nakota Sioux called Edmonton ti oda, which translates to mean 'Many Houses', which indeed it is. And through this land acknowledgement, we celebrate the many names of our city that existed long before settlers arrived, and our place on Treaty 6 Territory.

A. O Canada

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

The Superintendent advised that Trustee O'Keefe was absent. All other Trustees were present.

C. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED BY Trustee Nelson:

**"That the agenda for the May 16, 2023, Board meeting be approved as printed."
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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

The Board Chair shared, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, that we continue to think about the Crawford Plains School community and the family who lost two loved ones in a senseless and violent tragedy. While we may not be able to ever understand this horrific act of violence, we can understand and reflect on our collective response to it. She said we are a community, a city and a Division that cares about each other. The Board Chair thanked staff who came together to support one another and the community during this very difficult time.

The Board Chair said we are also thinking of students and families who have had their lives disrupted by forest fires. It's her understanding that Edmonton Public has yet to enrol a student from one of the affected communities, but she knows that our doors are certainly open if that need arises. The unprecedented nature of these fires has been talked about a lot in the news, and she thinks it's important to also recognize the contributing factor of climate change and its ongoing impact on the forest fire season in this province.

The Board Chair commented that Trustees continue to spread their advocacy messages in the lead-up to the provincial election. She said we can imagine what's possible with adequate funding and we can imagine what it would look like if building construction kept pace with enrolment growth. The Board Chair thanked parents and school council members who continue to share the Board's advocacy materials as we collectively work to ensure public education is a top election issue.

The Board Chair shared that she and several Trustees attended the Mayor's State of the City Address. They appreciated the Mayor's comments on the value of collaboration. The Board agreed wholeheartedly with that message and looks forward to further discussions on climate action that they can take together with the City of Edmonton.

The Board Chair thanked Edmonton Catholic and Edmonton Public staff for hosting a bus driver appreciation event earlier this month. She also thanked the Trustees who attended. She said it was a great opportunity to talk to drivers, and, perhaps most importantly, thank them for their service.

The Board Chair acknowledged that May 17 is the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. The day was created in 2003 to draw attention to the violence and discrimination experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, Two-Spirit and non-binary people. While we have certainly come a long way, the day remains important given the disproportionate violence experienced by the LGBTQ2S+ community.

The Board Chair expressed congratulations to Sophia Stiles, a Grade 7 student from Vernon Barford Junior High and Evatta Enright, a Grade 7 student from Vimy Ridge Academy, for receiving honourable mention during this year's Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards from the Alberta School Boards Association. These awards celebrate exceptional students nominated by members of their education communities, based on their exemplary leadership, honour, courage, and commitment to their cultures and education paths.

MINUTE BOOK

The Board Chair shared that graduation season has officially begun. The first graduates of Edmonton Public and in fact the first graduates in the city received their high school diploma last week. Congratulations to McNally students and staff for a wonderful celebration.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent shared that today Edmonton was seeing smoke from surrounding wildfires. The Division administrative regulation HHFA.AR and guidance from Health Canada state that when the air quality index is at 7 or higher, individuals are recommended to reduce or end strenuous activities and keep students inside with the windows closed. The air quality index was 8 this morning. All schools have been asked to monitor around recess, lunch breaks and any outdoor learning experiences and keep students indoors as required. The Superintendent stated that Division schools also have enhanced ventilation systems, including the installation of MERV-13 filters where possible, and stand-alone HEPA filtration systems for all instructional spaces. The combination of HEPA filtration systems and MERV-13 filters will provide some relief from air quality issues some schools may experience.

The Superintendent reminded everyone that there will be no classes from May 22 to 24. He said that staff and students – and Trustees – have all been working very hard, and this will be a great chance to rest and recharge so we can head into the last month of this school year with good energy.

F. Approval of the Minutes

1. Board Meeting – May 2, 2023
2. Organizational Board Meeting – May 2, 2023

MOVED BY Trustee Hole:

**“That the minutes of Board Meeting held May 2, 2023, and the Organizational Board Meeting held May 2, 2023, all be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

MINUTE BOOK**H. Reports**3. 2023-2024 Non-Resident Fees and 2024-2025 International Student Fees**MOVED BY Trustee Hancock:**

“1. That the proposed 2023-2024 Non-Alberta Resident fees and the Special Needs Sponsorship fees as outlined in Attachment I be approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

“2. That the proposed 2024-2025 International Student Tuition fee and International Student Application fee as outlined on Attachment I be approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

4. Transportation Fees for 2023-2024**MOVED BY Acting Vice-Chair Kusiek:**

“That the proposed 2023-2024 Student Transportation Fee Schedule be approved for implementation in September 2023.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

There was a short break in the meeting.

5. Board Policy HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct Annual Review**MOVED BY Trustee Sawyer:**

“That the Policy Review Committee’s recommendation that Board Policy HG.BP Student Behaviour and Conduct remain as written based on the 2023 annual review be approved.”

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

6. Locally Developed Courses**MOVED BY Trustee Sumar:**

“That the following junior and senior high school locally developed courses be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools:”

MINUTE BOOK

Senior High School LDCs

Course Name	Course Codes	Version (including authorization period)	Approval Period
Ceramics 15 Ceramics 25 Ceramics 35	LDC1867 LDC2867 LDC3867	5 credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Dance 15 Dance 25 Dance 35	LDC1413 LDC2413 LDC3413	3 and 5 credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Dance Composition 35	LDC3477	5 credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Data Visualization 15	LDC1218	5 credits (2021–2025)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2025
Engineering and Design 15	LDC1147	5 credits (2020–2024)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2024
Unified English Braille Code 15	LDC1012	5 credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027

Junior High School LDCs

Course Name	Course Codes	Approval Period
Inquiry and Research 7 Inquiry and Research 8 Inquiry and Research 9	JHS7030 JHS8030 JHS9030	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Islamic Studies 7 Islamic Studies 8 Islamic Studies 9	JHS7585 JHS8585 JHS9585	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7 Study Skills and Learning Strategies 8 Study Skills and Learning Strategies 9	JHS7051 JHS8051 JHS9051	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027

(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)

7. Seclusion and Physical Restraint Update

An update was provided on the use of seclusion and/or physical restraint. Overall, the data indicated a downward trend for non-self-selected seclusion room use from 2019-2020 to 2022-2023.

8. Equity Fund History
(Response to Request for Information #015)

Information was provided regarding the Request for Information #015.

MINUTE BOOK**I. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives – 5 p.m.**

There were no registered speakers for this item.

J. Other Committee, Board Representatives and Trustee Reports

Acting Vice-Chair Kusiek shared a couple of highlights from Ward F. Lansdowne School invited her out to their spring concert. She said the music and poetry recitations were very uplifting and hopeful – a good reminder about the power of good, the community in our schools and the potential of students. One song was titled, “Joy In My Heart” and she said it was a grounding and joyful experience to be in the gymnasium with Lansdowne students, staff and families. She thanked them for having her.

Acting Vice-Chair Kusiek also shared that on Saturday, students from Lillian Osborne’s Student Solidarity Committee invited her to the LOdown LIVE Conference. It is a Tedx-style event, curated by the Student Solidarity Committee, a group of students working towards social action awareness and education, inclusion and anti-racism and equity in their school. The event goal was to bring together incredible minds from across the country. The theme was “Inspire Change for Today, to Impact the Future of Tomorrow.” The impressive lineup of speakers (including students!) shared their ideas and insights on important topics such as social diversity/inclusion/action, environmental sustainability, health and well-being, and science/technology/innovative thinking. She thanked the students of the Student Solidarity Committee for their leadership and enthusiasm for building a better world where everyone belongs.

Trustee Sumar shared some highlights from the last couple of weeks. The Public School Administrators Association Bids for Kids event helped raise funds for the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation (Foundation). He said he had a blast at the event with Trustee O’Keefe and hoped that the event raised quite a bit of money for the Foundation. Trustee Sumar also reminded everyone that the Foundation’s Reading for Life Virtual Read-A-Thon ends on May 17. If anyone wants to donate, there’s still time to do so.

Trustee Sumar thanked the staff of Ross Sheppard School for hosting the Parent Appreciation Night. There was a great presentation from the TIPS team about digital literacy and digital citizenship. The presentation is available on SchoolZone for parents and also available on the TIPS team page as well. Lots of engaged parents came out for the evening and he hopes there will be future Parent Nights for the school community.

Trustee Sumar expressed his gratitude for bringing greetings, on behalf of the Board, to the J. Percy Page grad last night. He said, “Whenever we have interactions with students, it really reinforces that idea that our students are changemakers, they are leaders...not of tomorrow but of right now, of today.” He also shared a powerful quote that stood out to him from Valedictorian Harshini Ravi, who spoke about a quote from Zig Ziglar talking about fear. *“F-E-A-R has two meanings: ‘Forget Everything And Run’ or Face Everything And Rise.’ The choice is yours.”*

MINUTE BOOK

K. **Trustees and Board Requests for Information** - None

L. **Notices of Motions** - None

M. **Next Board Meeting**: Friday, May 26, 2023, at 9 a.m.

N. **Adjournment**: 5:30 p.m.

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director Board and
Superintendent Relations