

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, September 26, 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
Grace Cooke
Andrea Cooper

Karen Mills
Kathy Muhlethaler
Kent Pharis
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, of which amiskwaciwâskahikan or Edmonton or Beaver Hills House is part of. We talk about Treaty and we acknowledge Treaty because although Treaty was created in the past, it is still very much part of the present. Treaty, the promises made, need to be part of conversations today as we work collectively and individually towards first uncovering truth and then working towards reconciliation.

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 Trustee Nelson:

**“That the agenda for the September 26, 2023, Board meeting be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

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

The Board Chair recognized Aiden Chen from Argyll School for receiving the 2023 Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Student Award. Aiden received this award yesterday at Government House from Lieutenant Governor Salma Lakhani and Minister of Education, Demetrios Nicolaides. Aiden was one of nine students recognized for their growth and success, both academically and personally.

The Board Chair noted that three students were selected from Edmonton Public to serve on the 2023-2024 Minister's Youth Council. They are Soloman Heys from McKernan School, Lilja Radstaak from Vimy Ridge Academy and Grace Zhang from Dr. Anne Anderson School. The 40-member council will help provide the provincial government with viewpoints and opinions from students' perspectives on Alberta's education system. She congratulated the three Edmonton Public students and thanked them for putting their names forward to serve on this important council.

The Board Chair shared that the Board of Trustees issued a statement about the rally that happened in our city last Wednesday. She said the Division is a welcoming, inclusive school community and, supported by the direction in their Board policies, the Board works hard to ensure that all students feel welcome, safe and included.

The Board Chair thanked parents and family members who have reached out to Trustees to share their feedback about transportation and bus services so far this year. She thanked parents for their patience as the Division works to resolve challenges with bus routes and driver shortages. The Board Chair also thanked Vice-Chair Kusiek and Trustee Sawyer, who attended the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council meeting last week. The Board of Trustees also thanked Minister Nicolaides for attending that meeting.

The Board Chair shared that yesterday was Yom Kippur and it was also a day off for students within the Division. Yom Kippur is a sacred day in the Jewish faith. The Board Chair said, on behalf of the Board, that they hoped it was a meaningful day of reflection for those who observed this holy day.

The Board Chair noted that this Saturday is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The Division staff and students will mark the day on Friday with a livestream event. This day gives us an opportunity as a Division to learn about and reflect on the truth of residential schools. Through truth, it is then that we can start the process of reconciliation. She said we need to sit in and with the truth for a long time, as was shared with her by an Elder this summer. Those who endured residential schools are truly survivors. She asked that later this week we take a moment to honour them and also remember the children who tragically died as a result of the genocide at residential schools in this country.

E. Communications from the Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent shared that this Thursday, September 28, the Division will be celebrating the new location for Centre High Campus. Centre High is a school for returning fourth- and fifth-year high school students. It's an adult-like atmosphere for Division students, where they have the ability to not only complete other high school programming, but also can begin to test the waters in terms of career and post-

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secondary aspirations. The Division is thrilled to be relocating Centre High into the former Alberta College campus just off the river valley. The Division is very fortunate and appreciative of the decision of the Board to purchase the Alberta College building for Centre High because it helps the Division to optimize our operational funds every year rather than spending money on leases, through that pathway of ownership. The Superintendent expressed his appreciation to the Board and said the Division is looking forward to the celebration on Thursday.

F. Approval of the Minutes

1. Board Meeting – September 12, 2023

MOVED BY Vice-Chair Kusiek:

**“That the minutes of the Board meeting held September 12, 2023, be approved as printed.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

G. Comments from the Public and Staff Group Representatives

There were no registered speakers for this item.

H. Reports

2. Process and Timeline for the Fall Review of the 2022-2023 Results and the 2023-2024 Plans

MOVED BY Trustee Sumar:

**“That the process and timeline for the 2022-2023 Results Review and the 2023-2024 Plans as outlined in Attachment I, be approved.”
(UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED)**

3. 2022-2023 Board Self-Evaluation Summary

The Board of Trustees provided to the public a summary of the annual Board Self-Evaluation survey results from the 2022-2023 school year.

Vice-Chair Kusiek provided feedback and suggested the committee consider getting rid of the neutral response option in future Board self-evaluations.

Trustee Nelson commented that she would love to see the Board schedule a mid-year review of the Board self-evaluation, either in January or February.

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 - None**K. Trustees and Board Requests for Information - None****L. Notices of Motions - None****M. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 2 p.m.****N. Adjournment: 2:31 p.m.**

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Trisha Estabrooks, Board Chair

Karen Mills, Director Board and
Superintendent Relations