

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") held in the Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta on Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee S. Taylor, Chair
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee J. Hehr
Trustee T. Hurdman
Trustee P. King
Trustee A. Stewart

Administration:

Mr. D. Stevenson, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. S. Church, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. C. Faber, Superintendent, Learning Innovation
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Mr. S. Miller, on behalf of Dr. C. Oishi, Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. D. Parsons, Superintendent, Learning Services
Mr. B. Brunton, Chief Communications Officer
Mr. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services (arrived at 4:00 p.m.)
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. B. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Mr. B. Hebert, Elementary School Principals' Association
Mr. R. O'Shaughnessy, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association

1 | **CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME**

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and O Canada was led by students of the Vocal Jazz Ensemble from Western Canada High School.

Chair Taylor acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.



2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Barkway noted that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 10, 2014 had a late circulation, resulting in the removal of Item 8.1 from the Consent Agenda for consideration following the Consent Agenda.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of June 17, 2014 be approved as submitted, subject to the revision as noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

3.1 Lighthouse Award

Superintendent Faber introduced the Lighthouse Award recipient as Beakerhead, which brings together the arts and engineering sectors city-wide to build and showcase interactive works of art and science during an annual week-long exhibition each fall. Beakerhead partnered with the Calgary Board of Education early in its development to create a hands-on learning opportunity for students through the Beakerhead Summer Intensive. Throughout this initiative a team of artists, engineers, scientists, machinists, designers and technologists mentor the students and help bring their design ideas to life. Students of the Summer Intensive achieve high school credits through the Career and Technology Studies Program of Study.

Alex, a Grade 10 CBe-Learn student, shared comments about his experiences with Beakerhead during the Summer Intensive, which he noted had opened up many different career options and courses that could be pursued. His time spent in the welding shop led to his enrolment in a welding course at the Career and Technology Centre the following year. Alex stated it is an option that he will be exploring in detail throughout his life and it is definitely something that he can see himself doing as a career.

Superintendent Faber introduced Ms. K. Varney, Education Programs Manager and founder of Beakerhead, and Mary Ann Moser, President and co-founder of Beakerhead. Ms. Varney expressed appreciation for the partnership and for the opportunities they can offer to students. On behalf of the Board, Chair Taylor presented the Lighthouse Award with words of gratitude for the enhanced and enriched learning experience that Beakerhead offers to our teachers and our students. She also thanked Alex for sharing his learning experience and achievements.



4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **Western Canada High School Presentation**

Mr. C. Davies, Director, Area IV, provided introductory remarks and called on Principal K. Hackman, Western Canada High School, to commence the presentation. Mr. Hackman shared his belief that Grade 12 students Natasha, Kyle and Jerry would provide a good representation of the depth of programming available at Western Canada High School and in the Calgary Board of Education, and of the diversity of the student population.

Jerry, Natasha and Kyle shared their individual challenges, personal experiences and academic achievements. Jerry came to Canada from Beijing, China in September 2013; Natasha entered the public school system in Grade 7, and Kyle came to Canada from Dublin, Ireland when he was 13. They all spoke of the great support they received from their peers and teachers at Western Canada High School. Jerry shared his desire to become an engineer in the oil and gas sector, and to study at the University of Calgary. Natasha will be studying Arts and Social Sciences at Dalhousie University with English as her writing course. Kyle aspires to play football as a professional, to study criminal justice and to become a police officer.

On behalf of the Board, Trustee Hehr stated that the student presentation on Results 1: Mission, was very compelling. She remarked that trustees and senior leadership are proud to know that the absolute best learning opportunities are alive and well in Western Canada High School and in other schools in our city. She thanked Director Davies and Principal Hackman for their dedication to public education, and Jerry, Natasha and Kyle for sharing their personal stories and their success.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 **OE-1: Global Operational Expectations – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Stevenson noted that OE-1 acts as an umbrella statement for organizational performance. It speaks to ensuring that direction and conditions are present that support and enhance our organization and further, that these operate in accordance with applicable legislation.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-1: Global Operational Expectation.

Trustee comments in debate of the motion are summarized as follows:

- A Trustee expressed her belief that the report is very comprehensive and it gives clear evidence of compliance.



- This is an expansive operational expectation and when the Board monitors other operational expectations a body of evidence is built that supports compliance with Operational Expectations 1.

Chair Taylor called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.2 OE-9: Communicating with the Public – Reasonable Interpretation

Mr. B. Brunton, Chief Communications Officer, provided comments on the proposed revision to indicator 3 for policy subsection 9.1, as referenced on pages 5-15 and 5-17 of the report. He also provided a synopsis of our current results with the parental involvement category as indicated by Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar survey.

Administration's responses to questions posed by Trustees are summarized as follows:

- Some of our challenges with this indicator and parental involvement can be attributed to the large size of our organization and the diversity that exists within.
- The Accountability Pillar survey is completed by parents across the system, which includes those parents involved with accommodation issues.
- Administration noted that a percentage figure for the feedback from parents was not immediately available, but the numbers for Calgary are between 4,000 and 5,000 responses.
- Two of the indicators for OE-9 are representative of all members of the public, and indicator 3 is solely representative of parents.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the revised reasonable interpretation and indicator of OE-9: Communicating with the Public, subsection 9.1.3.

Trustees debated the motion and their comments are summarized as follows:

- It was noted that within the resources that are available to our organization at this time, this is a great indicator because it is from an external source and it can capture and compare the feedback from parents from year to year.
- A majority of Trustees expressed their appreciation for the revision to indicator 3, with the expectation that annual parent involvement will result as intermediate or higher.
- A Trustee expressed her opinion that the other two indicators for subsection 9.1 should be reviewed in future as well to consider having a system-level indicator that is not as process oriented.

Chair Taylor called for the vote on the motion.



The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee King
Trustee Stewart
Trustee Taylor

Opposed: Trustee Hehr

5.3 OE-11: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students – Reasonable Interpretation

Superintendent Parsons reviewed the proposed revisions to the indicators of compliance for policy subsections 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4, as put forward in Appendix I of the report. He noted that if the Board approves the revisions to these indicators there may be a delay of one year in reporting the information for the new indicators, and specifically for policy subsection 11.4.

Administration's responses to questions posed by Trustees are summarized as follows:

- A Trustee noted that the indicators speak to having rules in place and awareness being made of those rules, and questioned whether the monitoring report would detail specific incidences of breaches of subsection 11.4. Chief Superintendent Stevenson stated that specific incidences of significance pertaining to lost data or equipment containing data would be reported under a different operational expectations policy, such as OE-8: Communication with and Support for the Board.
- With respect to the proposed revision to 11.4.2 with the wording change to state that staff be made aware of the Administrative Regulations (AR) guiding the collection, use and protection of confidential student information, it was noted that the wording could be revised to be more explicit but the inference is that awareness of the regulation equates to staff complying with it. Administration noted that AR 6024 "Student Records" is currently being rewritten for the fall of 2014.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the revised reasonable interpretation of OE-11: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

1. **THAT the Board of Trustees postpones consideration of the revised indicators of OE-11: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students, pending further discussion; and**
2. **THAT the Chief Superintendent reports back to the Board by December 31, 2014.**



Trustees debated the motion and their comments are summarized as follows:

- A Trustee shared that she could support the revised indicators of compliance for policy subsections 11.2 and 11.3, but she felt that the indicators for subsection 11.4 could use more clarity.
- A comment shared by a Trustee was that it is not enough to write policy and to train people on policy – we also need assurance that policy is being followed.
- A few Trustees expressed their support for the motion to provide opportunity for some refinement to the indicators.
- A Trustee expressed her belief that the indicators proposed by Administration are reasonable because the gathering and handling of student information is highly controlled by other legislation and Administration Regulation 6024 aligns with the legal requirements.
- A Trustee expressed her desire for fewer measures rather than more, with good solid data. She noted her concern about time expended by Administration in gathering data.
- A Trustee shared her belief that Administration has carefully reviewed the operational expectations and indicators of compliance and she was concerned that a postponement of this work would delay the monitoring schedule and the data gathering that is already underway.
- A Trustee noted that the availability of the Administrative Regulations, where applicable, would be helpful in the review of reasonable interpretations and indicators for the Operational Expectations policies.

Chair Taylor called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Stewart
Trustee Taylor

Opposed: Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

Chair Taylor acknowledged Mr. K. Hehr, MLA for Calgary Buffalo, in the public gallery.

Recessed: 4:32 p.m.

Reconvened: 4:50 p.m.



The Board agreed to reorder the Agenda to move the North East High School Extension to Item 7.1.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **North East High School Extension**

Chair Taylor noted that during the break she received a call from the Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister of Education, in which he relayed that the province will fully fund the North East High School's extension of 300 student spaces, for a total capacity of 1800 students. In light of this good news, there is no requirement for the Board to consider the use of up to \$4.2 million of capital reserve funds for this extension, as recommended in the report from Administration.

7.2 **Report from Board Procedures Committee**

Trustee Stewart provided a summary of the report containing the recommendations of the Board Meeting Procedures Committee. She noted the Committee recommends that the changes be approved, in principle, and implemented as a pilot project for the period of September 1 to December 31, 2014.

The following is a summary of responses to questions posed by Trustees:

- Trustees discussed the implementation date of the changes proposed for September 1 and how it may affect the Organizational Meeting proposed to be held in June 2014.
- A Trustee questioned whether or not the proposed change to the time of Regular meetings would affect our stakeholder representatives and union representatives. The proposal is to have the meetings commence at 12 Noon and end at 3:00 p.m. Chief Superintendent Stevenson shared that some of our schools have been polled on this matter and they see great outcomes in their students' participation in reporting on the results. It was noted that this is a pilot project and feedback would be welcomed.
- In consideration of Committee recommendation 7, page 7-23, it was noted to be very important that advance notice of Board meetings be given as soon as possible to our Lighthouse Award recipients and to our school principals to allow them time to schedule and prepare their presentations.
- In regards to a question of where best practices were gleaned from, it was noted that the conversation was bridged in consultation with Aspen Group™, and this is a bit of uncharted territory; hence the suggestion that this be piloted. The belief was shared that attempts were made throughout discussions of the Committee members to strike a balance with openness and transparency.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves, in principle, Committee recommendation #1 regarding the Organizational Meeting, for implementation for a pilot project period effective immediately to December 31, 2014.



The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Hehr
Trustee King
Trustee Stewart
Trustee Taylor

Opposed: Trustee Hurdman

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approves, in principle, Committee recommendations 2 to 14 as outlined in the report, for implementation for a pilot project period from September 1, to December 31, 2014; and**
- 2. THAT, for the pilot project period identified above, the Board of Trustees agrees to waive the sections of the Board Meeting Procedures impacted by these changes; and**
- 3. THAT the Board of Trustees reviews the recommendations and their implications by January 2015.**

Trustees debated the motion and their comments are summarized as follows:

- A few Trustees shared their belief that the work of the Committee was a good exercise and that some of the recommendations, but not all, reflect the thoughts and ideas discussed by the Committee members.
- Concern was noted by a few Trustees about the public Board meeting 12 Noon start time and the possibility that it could pose an inconvenience for principals, students and stakeholders. A trustee also shared her concern that public comments will be allowed only at one meeting per month.
- A few Trustees expressed their appreciation and confidence that a more fulsome discussion at public Board meetings will be beneficial to making informed decisions.
- A few Trustees commented that this will result in more transparency and openness. A couple of Trustees disagreed with this statement.
- A Trustee read the stem of the Board's Governance Culture policy GC-2 and shared that she was not of the belief the new format of Board decisions being spread over two public Board meetings will assist the Board of Trustees to govern better. She felt that the best utilization of time is dependent on the discipline of individual Board members and the ability of the Board to work together better, to plan strategically for advocacy and linkages with its stakeholders. One other Trustee shared a similar sentiment with respect to these statements.
- Support for the motion was expressed by some Trustees because the changes are recommended as a pilot project.



Chair Taylor called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Stewart
Trustee Taylor

Opposed: Trustee King

7.3 Trustee Liaison Report – Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils

Trustee Stewart spoke to the report, noting it speaks to the funding request from the Calgary Association of Parents and Schools (CAPSC) for the 2014/15 school year. She noted that CAPSC plays an important role in representing the voice of school councils within the Calgary Board of Education. She pointed out that their membership is small but they manage to accomplish some amazing feats, which she provided highlights of.

She responded to questions posed by Trustees, which are summarized as follows:

- It was questioned whether the Minutes attached to the Annual Report dated February 26, 2014 have a typo error with the date showing as February 20, 2012. It was suggested that the Minutes could be viewed and retrieved from the CAPSC website.
- Trustee Stewart reported that at this point in time, when all outstanding items have cleared the account of CAPSC, they will show a surplus of just over \$10,000. Of that, \$5,000 is a grant specifically earmarked for the Traffic Safety Committee. At end of year, June 30, 2013, CAPSC had a surplus of just over \$1200.
- Of the ± 210 CBE schools with school councils, approximately 50 have a membership with CAPSC, and the average number of attendees per meeting is 25-30.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves funding for the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) for the 2014/15 school year, in the amount of \$3,000.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

THAT the Board of Trustees postpones its decision on funding for Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) pending receipt of further financial and organizational information from CAPSC.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Taylor noted that Item 8.1 was removed from the Consent Agenda and would be considered at this time.



8.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held June 10, 2014

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 10, 2014, as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Taylor declared the following items on the Consent Agenda approved as submitted.

8 | **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

8.2 Correspondence

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the following correspondence for information and for the record, in the form as submitted:

- **June 10, 2014 Board of Trustees' response to the May 2014 report and recommendations of the Task Force for Teaching Excellence.**
- **Correspondence from Frank Coppinger regarding notification of the Open House to be held on June 18th to give community stakeholders the opportunity to learn more about new schools and school modernization projects for the Calgary Board of Education.**

9 | **CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA**

9.1 OE-6: Financial Administration – Reasonable Interpretation

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report for information.

9.2 Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan

THAT the Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan, 2014-2017, as presented in the attachments to the report, be received for information.

9.3 Third Quarter Budget Variance Report for the 2013-14 Operating and Capital Budgets

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the 2013-14 third quarter operating budget variance analysis (Attachment I) for information and for the record;

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the amended planned 2013-14 use of operating reserves and designated funds (Attachment II) for a total of \$11.6 million; and



THAT the Board of Trustees receives the 2013-14 third quarter capital budget variance reports (Attachments III and IV) for information and for the record.

9.4 Modular Construction Funding

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the use of \$600,000 from the building capital reserve for the installation of eight new modular classrooms.

9.5 P-3 Modular Classroom Air-conditioning

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the use of up to \$600,000 of building capital reserve funds to undertake an air-conditioning installation project for the modular classrooms delivered under the second Alberta School Alternative Procurement program for new school construction.

10 | ADJOURNMENT

Chair Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

