

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Board Room, Education Centre, 515 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday, September 5, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Board of Trustees:

Trustee G. Dirks, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee N. Close
Trustee P. Cochrane
Trustee K. Fawcett
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Dr. B. Croskery, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. J. Barkway, Assistant Corporate Secretary
Mr. D. Dart, Superintendent, Corporate Services – Secretary Treasurer
Mr. J. Drysdale, Superintendent, Educational Support Services
Ms. B. Hubert, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. J. Jones, Executive Assistant to the Chief Superintendent
Ms. B. Kuester, Executive Director of Communications
Ms. S. Wasylyshyn, Executive Assistant to the Trustees
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. R. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Ms. L. Androsoff, Elementary School Principals' Association
Ms. G. Burger-Martindale, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
Mr. L. Liffiton, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Mr. B. Unterschultz, Elementary School Principals' Association

Action By

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Dirks called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the Bowness High School Choral 10-20-30 students led in the singing of the national anthem by way of a pre-recorded DVD. Chair Dirks welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations and members of the public. He also introduced and welcomed Sean who is a Board Page for the 2006-2007 school year.

2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting held September 5, 2006 be approved as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Douglas Harkness Community School

Superintendent Drysdale provided introductions and noted that Douglas Harkness Community School won the national video competition for racism in the “Stop It” campaign sponsored by the Minister of Canadian Heritage and the Status of Women. The students from Douglas Harkness Community School were the youngest group to enter this competition and to win.

Ms. L. Kinsman, Principal, shared comments about the work at the school, noting that much of it is focused on Ends 3 – Citizenship, and to a great extent the work is about building peaceful communities together. Seventy percent of the students at Douglas Harkness Community School are English as a Second Language and a strong focus of the learning for the school’s multi-literacy students is through the fine arts and technology programs. Ms. Kinsman noted that the students’ work on their video exemplifies their confidence in working together as a team, and the strengths they gained in verbal skills and leadership. The students’ racism video was shown and Mr. M. Scullion, Technology Lead Teacher, gave remarks about the students’ learning through technology. The following students came forward and shared comments about racism: Kyle, Harmeet, Sirine, Taylor, Omar, Salim and Somira.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Fawcett thanked the presenters for the presentation and congratulated the students on their success with their video on racism.

4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Correspondence

Chair Dirks read the contents of a letter received from The Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), that was received in response to the Board’s expressed interest in having the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) initiative introduced into Calgary schools, and the letter indicates that CIC will be expanding in-school support activities to more communities across Canada.

5.2 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR AND TRUSTEES

Trustee Cochrane shared comments about a celebration that was held in early July at Stanley Jones School. Stanley Jones School has three separate programs operating out of its building, including the Regular program, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program, and Alice Jamieson Girls’ Academy, and all of its students have undertaken a partnership project with two schools in Ghana, West Africa. A celebration was held in acknowledgement of this partnership and attendees of the celebration included three tribal Chiefs from Ghana, Deputy Chief Superintendent Hubert and Trustee Cochrane.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Dirks expressed a special word of welcome to our 100,000 students as they head back to school for the fall, and to all teaching staff, support staff, parents and the CBE administration, wishes for a very successful year of education. He also expressed congratulatory remarks to those communities which have new schools opening this fall, and to those that will be opening in the 2006-2007 school year.

5.3 Report from the Chief Superintendent

Chief Superintendent Croskery shared words of appreciation to CBE staff for their work over the summer months; and he noted that our teaching staff and administrators were in schools long before the re-opening of schools, working to get the school year started.

Chief Superintendent Croskery noted that he and Deputy Chief Superintendent Hubert met earlier in the day with a delegation from the Department of Foreign Affairs, The People's Government of Zhejiang Province in China, who are very interested in Canadian education and are visiting select school divisions in Canada.

5.4 Public Question Period

There were no questions from the public.

5.5 Stakeholder Reports

There were no stakeholder reports.

5.6 Trustee Inquiries

There were no Trustee inquiries.

6.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

6.1 Ends

There were no items.

6.2 Executive Limitations

6.2.1 Executive Limitations 1: General Executive Constraint

Chief Superintendent Croskery spoke briefly to the contents of the report. He pointed out that the report puts forward an administrative recommendation that in light of the monitoring requirements for each of the other 15 Executive Limitations, the Board of Trustees may wish to review the purpose of monitoring EL-1: General Executive Constraint separately.

Chair Dirks reviewed the criteria against which the Trustees are to judge this report, including that of reasonable interpretation of the policy, compliance with the policy, and whether sufficient information has been provided. He noted further that the particular vote with regard to compliance should in no way be considered as a vote of non-confidence.

MOVED by Trustee Fawcett:

THAT the Chief Superintendent has reasonably interpreted the provisions of Executive Limitations 1: General Executive Constraint, and that the Board of Trustees finds the Chief Superintendent to be in compliance with this policy.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

There were no items.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

There were no objections to the Board Consent Agenda and Chair Dirks declared the items to be adopted as presented.

8.1 Board Consent Agenda

8.1.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held June 13, 2006
- Regular Meeting held June 20, 2006
- Regular Meeting held June 27 and reconvened on July 5, 2006

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meetings held June 13, 2006, June 20, 2006 and June 27, 2006, as submitted.

8.1.2 EducationMatters (Quarterly Report)

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the second quarter 2006 unaudited internal financial report for EducationMatters for information and for the record, in the form as submitted with the agenda for the Regular Meeting held September 5, 2006.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Preliminary Review of the imagineCALGARY 30-Year Targets

Chief Superintendent Croskery provided an overview of the contents of the report, and commented that the CBE is making sound progress toward supporting the imagineCALGARY initiative.

Trustees posed questions, which were responded to by Administration, regarding the communication of this work throughout our schools, the reporting structure by CBE schools and area offices in going forward with this initiative, and how that work would be conveyed to Trustees.

Ensuing from further discussion, it was suggested that this report could be forwarded by Trustees to imagineCALGARY as a response of the CBE's action commitment to the initiative, and in response to the target-action table provided by imagineCALGARY. Trustees will discuss options for action at a future work session.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report *Preliminary Review of the imagineCALGARY 30-Year Targets* for information.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Trustee notices of motion.

5:46 p.m. – Recessed.

6:00 p.m. – Reconvened.

11.0 IN-CAMERA ISSUES

11.1 MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

During the in-camera session, Trustees agreed to the continuation of the meeting past the scheduled completion time of 6:00 p.m.

11.2 MOTION TO REVERT TO PUBLIC MEETING

MOVED by Trustee Cochrane:

THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves out of in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3 MOTIONS TO ACTION IN-CAMERA RECOMMENDATIONS

MOVED by Trustee Fawcett:

THAT the identified long range student accommodation challenges and proposed program expansions for the 2007-2008 school year be received for information and for the record, in the form as submitted with the private agenda for the Regular Meeting held September 5, 2006.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees requests the Minister of Education to extend the Consideration of School Closure Procedures beyond one school year, with reference to the proposed accommodation plan that was submitted with the private agenda for the Regular Meeting held September 5, 2006.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes Administration to proceed with filing application to appeal the judicial decision of September 1, 2006 in the case of Calgary Board of Education versus Palliser Regional Division, in accordance with the in-camera discussion held on September 5, 2006.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Bazinet
	Trustee Cochrane
	Trustee Dirks
	Trustee Fawcett
	Trustee Ferguson
	Trustee Lane
Opposed:	Trustee Close

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.