

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, February 5, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee G. Dirks
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee K. Kryczka
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Ms. B. Hubert, Acting Chief Superintendent/Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Copping, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. J. Crarer, Acting Superintendent, Educational Support Services
Mr. D. Dart, Superintendent, Corporate Services – Secretary Treasurer
Mr. J. Jones, Executive Assistant to the Chief Superintendent
Ms. B. Kuester, Executive Director of Communications
Mr. R. Peden, Director and General Counsel, Legal Affairs
Ms. J. Barkway, Assistant Corporate Secretary
Ms. S. Wasylyshyn, Executive Assistant to the Trustees
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Ms. G. Burger-Martindale, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
Ms. A. Craig, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. B. Johnston, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. J. Kylo, Elementary School Principals' Association
Ms. M. Leew, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Mr. F. Reaume, Canadian Union of Public Employees
Ms. J. Regal, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38

Action By

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and the singing of the national anthem took place led by Laura, a student from Central Memorial High School. Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Barkway advised that three stakeholder reports would be given under Item 5.4, and that requests were made for the removal of Item 9.1.1 – Regular Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2008, and Item 9.2.2 - Capital Budget Status Report as at November 30, 2007, from the Consent Agenda. The two items would be given consideration immediately following the Consent Agenda.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2008, be approved as submitted, subject to the addition of the three stakeholder reports and the removal of two items from the Consent Agenda.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were no honours or recognitions.

5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Report from the Chair and Trustees

Trustee Kryczka commented on her visit to Braeside School and to a school council meeting that was held last week at Windsor Park School.

5.2 Report from the Deputy Chief Superintendent

Deputy Chief Superintendent Hubert noted that Chief Superintendent Croskery is on a short-term medical leave and that he is making a good recovery. She provided highlights of the following issues and events that were attended by some Trustees and CBE personnel:

- The Innovation Showcase, which is an appreciation event for our many partners in the corporate sector and is hosted by the Calgary Board of Education, was held on January 23, 2008 at Mount Royal College. A note of thanks was extended to Ms. S. Church, former Director of Corporate Partnerships, and Mr. N. Sigalet, Specialist, for organizing the event.
- The New Principals Dinner was held at the Chamber of Commerce on January 28, 2008, hosted by the Alberta Teachers' Association.
- The Mayor's Excellence Awards Gala was held at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel on January 29, 2008. The Calgary Board of Education was honoured with a number of partnership awards in the categories of Health and Wellbeing; The School to Work Transitions Programs; Literacy Support and Enhancement; Advancement of Aboriginal Youth; and Special Settings.
- Cambrian Heights School will be celebrating its 50th anniversary and they have completed a couple of legacy projects in commemoration of the event, including a naturalization area and an outdoor classroom, as well as a barrier-free creative playground that is going to be accessible to all children, regardless of mobility issues.

5.3 Public Question Period

There were no questions from the public.

5.4 Stakeholder Reports

5.4.1 Ms. D. McIlvride, Windsor Park School Council Chair

Ms. McIlvride provided a written handout that contained information she compiled related to the consideration of closure of Windsor Park School, which was circulated to Trustees and for the corporate record. Ms. McIlvride expressed concern about the capacity of Elboya School, sharing her analysis of the residential growth within the communities of Windsor Park and Elboya and of the current enrolment figures of the three affected schools and their programs. She questioned whether the CBE would ensure that a safe crosswalk and lights on 5th Street and 50th Avenue is put into place prior to September 2008. She commented on the CBE's 10-year Facility Plan and the Community Engagement service unit quoting different numbers for capacity of Elboya School. She raised other questions, including whether Awo Taan Healing Lodge was given an opportunity to speak with Community Engagement, and why leased space is not recognized in the utilization ratio.

5.4.2 Ms. L. Howie, Representative, Windsor Park Community Association

Ms. Howie noted she is a volunteer operator of the "Mums & Tots" community program, which she explained supports the community values and vitality. She pointed out that the Windsor Park Community is disappointed to once again be facing the potential closure of Windsor Park School. She commented that the community does not feel that they've seen much initiative on behalf of the school board to revitalize the school in the past four years. Ms. Howie noted that Windsor Park School is a valued part of their community and that the closure of this inner-city school is not acceptable to them; that the school playground is the main meeting place for children of all ages in the neighbourhood, as well as for parents; that the school has been relied upon as a place to form social connections, and it is felt that the loss of this would be profound for everyone in the neighbourhood, especially for the elderly residents. Ms. Howie shared the belief that the closure of the school would hinder future movement of families into and staying in the community, and that property values would fall.

5.4.3 Mr. O. Fech, Concerned Citizen

Mr. Fech shared a concern about the number of closures of inner-city schools. He noted his belief that it is affordable by this government to keep schools open and that the school board should insist on its need for more facilities. Mr. Fech remarked that existing schools should be kept open and expanded. He felt that common sense was required in regards to these school-related issues and that the control of power should stay with the respective authority.

5.5 Trustee Inquiries

There were no Trustee inquiries.

6.0 **ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 Student Accommodation Plan for Elboya, William Reid and Windsor Park Schools

Deputy Chief Superintendent Hubert provided opening comments, noting that the recommendations in these types of reports are often very contentious and it is often difficult for Administration to have to bring them forward. She noted the report represents the culmination of a number of months' work and consultation on behalf of many people in the CBE and for this work she extended thanks to Mr. P. Carlton, Director of Community

Engagement & Operational Planning and his staff, the Area IV office staff, and others throughout the system.

Mr. Carlton came forward and as a supplement to the report he provided a PowerPoint presentation of the accommodation challenge for Windsor Park, of which hard copies were circulated to Trustees and for the corporate record. The information presented included the historical enrolment, current enrolment, pre-school census, projected 5-year and 10-year enrolment, a breakdown of where the students from the community attend other CBE schools and programs, the current and proposed modified attendance areas of Windsor Park and Elboya Schools, and the walk limits.

Director Carlton pointed out that all information that was presented this evening was presented to each school community individually and that it was available for the focus group meetings; that the information was also presented in chart form at the Open House held at Elboya School on December 10, 2007; and that the meeting notes, PowerPoint presentations and feedback have been posted on the Windsor Park School website since December 21, 2007. Director Carlton shared the process that was followed by Community Engagement & Operational Planning to inform the public about the opportunities available to them to provide future input or questions to either Administration or the Board of Trustees.

Trustees gave consideration to the report and posed a number of questions, which were addressed by Administration and are summarized as follows:

- Students who graduate from grade 6 at Windsor Park School are designated to the junior high program at Elboya School.
- Attachment I of the report, showing a map of attendance area for William Reid and Elboya Schools, is in fact the attendance area for the French Immersion programs at the two schools.
- Administration has reviewed the future development proposals for the area and the estimated number of students that may be coming out of the affected schools. Director Carlton noted that a French Immersion program was initiated at Harold Panabaker School for Area V students, which will result in a continual decrease in the number of students attending the junior high French Immersion program at Elboya School.
- With respect to the number of instructional spaces, Elboya School can accommodate 650 students and the CBE projections over the next five years show a stabilization around the 500 mark, taking into account the French Immersion grade 7-9 students that have moved over to Harold Panabaker School, and the inclusion of the grade 5 and 6 French Immersion students from William Reid in 2010.

Chair Cochrane clarified that the decision the Board of Trustees is being asked to make this evening is whether it has received enough information to move forward through the regulatory process to consider the recommended closure of the regular program at Windsor Park School.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report *Student Accommodation Plan for Elboya, William Reid and Windsor Park Schools* and the PowerPoint handout distributed at the meeting, for information and for the record.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to proceed with a consideration of closure of the Regular Program at Windsor Park School in accordance with the *Closure of Schools Regulation* and the Board of Trustees' *Governance Process Policy 5E: Board of Trustees' Procedure – Consideration of School Closure*, sections 4 to 7.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

There were no items.

8.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

There were no items.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

There were two items removed from the Consent Agenda and Chair Cochrane declared the following remaining items to be adopted as follows:

9.1 Board Consent Agenda

9.1.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held January 29, 2008

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 29, 2008, as submitted.

9.1.2 Correspondence

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

- **Letter dated January 7, 2008 to the Honourable Ron Liepert, Minister of Education, from Board Chair Pat Cochrane, regarding a proposal to increase funding to private schools in Alberta.**

9.2 Chief Superintendent's Consent Agenda

9.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Chief Superintendent's Update dated February 5, 2008, for information.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 22, 2008

Ms. Barkway noted a revision to the Minutes under Item 9.2.2 on page 6, second paragraph of the first bullet, to insert before the last sentence, the following:

“He noted that the modified budget includes the sustainable revisions/transfers, but the non-sustainable (one-time funding) revisions/transfers are not included in the modified budget.”

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 22, 2008, as submitted, subject to the above-noted revision.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Capital Budget Status Report as at November 30, 2007

Chair Cochrane pointed out that the third recommendation in the report, requesting approval of the budget for the construction of the CBE Primary Data Centre, does not require action because the Board of Trustees gave approval for this at its Regular Meeting of September 25, 2007.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

- 1. THAT information regarding all budget revisions and transfers, as outlined in the report dated February 5, 2008, for the period September 1 to November 30, 2007 inclusive, be received for information and for the record.**
- 2. THAT attachments I to IV, reflecting actual capital expenditures for the period September 1 to November 30, 2007 and forecast expenditures for the year ending August 31, 2008, be received for monitoring information and for the record.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Trustee notices of motion.

Recessed: 5:52 p.m.
Reconvened: 6:10 p.m.

11.0 IN-CAMERA ISSUES

11.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

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 Lane:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the private report dated February 5, 2008, regarding the proposed relocation of Chinook Learning Services, for information.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Kryczka:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Construction Projects Status Report dated February 5, 2008, for information and for the record; and**
- 2. THAT the information in Attachment I and the map titled *CBE New Schools Approved and Under Development* be authorized for public release.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT, subject to appropriate Ministerial approval, the Board of Trustees approves:

- 1. Demolition of 15 portable classrooms at: Valley View School (2), Coventry Hills School (1), Louis Riel School (2), Simon Fraser School (2), Robert Warren School (5) and Branton School (3).**
- 2. Addition of 10 replacement relocatable classrooms at: Robert Warren School (4) and Branton School (6).**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes release of information to the public relative to the approved plan for the partial modernization of Western Canada High School.

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Kryczka:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approves an aggregate 5.76% base salary increase for Superintendents to be allocated by the Chief Superintendent, incorporating internal and external market factors.**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees approves an aggregate 5.50% base salary increase for Directors to be allocated by the Superintendents' Team, incorporating internal and external market factors.**
- 3. THAT the following exempt salary grid changes be made effective January 1, 2008:**
 - a. General increase of 4.0% for Grades 1-4**
 - b. General increase of 4.0% plus 2% market adjustment for Grades 5-6**
- 4. THAT, in principle, a Performance Recognition Pay Plan be approved as a component of Director level total compensation. Details of such a plan would be finalized by the end of April 2008.**
- 5. THAT Superintendents and Directors be granted the option to have a payment for up to 10 days of unused vacation once a calendar year, beginning January 2008.**
- 6. THAT the Health Spending Account amount of \$750.00 per annum be pro rated for new eligible exempt employees based on start date.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.