

## **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, October 1, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

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### MEETING ATTENDANCE

#### Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair  
Trustee C. Bazinet  
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre  
Trustee L. Ferguson  
Trustee P. King  
Trustee G. Lane  
Trustee S. Taylor

#### Administration:

Ms. N. Johnson, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. D. Stevenson, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Ms. C. Faber, Superintendent, Learning Innovation  
Ms. D. Parsons, Superintendent, Learning Services  
Ms. A. Jain, Acting Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services  
Dr. C. Oishi, Superintendent, Human Resources  
Mr. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services  
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary  
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

#### Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. B. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40 (arrived at 3:26 p.m.)  
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association  
Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38  
Mr. B. Unterschultz, Elementary School Principals’ Association

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

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. O Canada was led by the following students and staff from Olympic Heights School: vocalists Suneeta and Sabryna, and violinists Fatima and Ms. B. Paul.

Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

## 2 | CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted that Item 8.3, Trustee Liaison Report – Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5, was removed from the Consent Agenda for consideration immediately following Item 9.1.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2013 be approved as submitted, subject to the revision noted above.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 3 | RESULTS FOCUS

### 3.1 School Presentation - Olympic Heights School

Mr. C. Davies, Area IV Director, provided a brief introduction of Olympic Heights School and noted that the school presentation is on Results 3: Citizenship. He called forward Ms. B. Bannon, Principal, to commence the presentation.

Ms. Bannon noted that the student presentations are reflective of their learning through an inquiry-based framework. She stated that an authentic disciplinary approach to learning allows for this seamless integration of the curriculum, it allows students to think critically and creatively, and make discoveries through exploration, collaboration and experimentation. The student presenters were Sabryna, Lindsay, Prem, Lily, James, and Lore. Throughout their individual presentations, an iMovie was shown depicting the many ways in which citizenship is learned and lived by students and staff at Olympic Heights School. The students spoke about the importance of collaboration and contribution by everyone towards a clean and healthy world, understanding how small actions can make big differences, the need for energy conservation, fundraising to help others in need, being mindful of one's own legacy, inspiration, compassion and respect.

Ms. Bannon concluded the presentation and thanked the Board for the opportunity to share their learning experience.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Lane thanked the presenters for sharing their stories, and for their musical talent demonstrated earlier in the meeting.

## 4 | AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

### 4.1 Intranet Innovation Award

Chief Superintendent Johnson introduced the award, noting that it is an international recognition for the innovation and design of Iris, which is a digital application for teaching and personalized learning. She pointed out that Iris is currently used in 50 CBE Schools, and she noted that the Board has heard a number of presentations by teachers and students about their enthusiastic learning and working in new ways with Iris. She

acknowledged and thanked a number of CBE staff and senior administration for their involvement in Iris. She called forward Mr. P.J. McFarlane and Ms. M. Armstrong, Habanero Consulting, to comment. Ms. Armstrong and Mr. McFarlane spoke about their involvement with the development of Iris, noting that the collaborative and engaging work and visualization of how Iris could be used in classrooms was passionate and inspiring. This work becomes a learning opportunity for other organizations and pushes best practices for the technology industry around the world.

In acceptance of the 2013 Intranet Innovation Gold Award, Chair Cochrane thanked Mr. McFarlane and Ms. Armstrong for their involvement with the CBE in the development of Iris and the support it provides to personalized learning across the CBE.

#### World Teachers' Day

Chair Cochrane noted that although this item was not on the agenda for this meeting, it is deserving of recognition. World Teachers' Day is held annually on October 5th to commemorate teachers' organizations worldwide. This recognition was established by UNESCO in 1994 as a token of the awareness, understanding and appreciation displayed for the vital contribution that teachers make to education and development.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Cochrane expressed appreciation to the many teachers who make a difference every day, for their tremendously valuable contribution to the society in which we live.

#### **4.2** Thank You and Recognition: 2010-2013 Trustees

Chief Superintendent Johnson stated that the Calgary Board of Education has been governed by a Board of Trustees since its inception in 1885. She noted that in 2010 we welcomed Trustee Bowen-Eyre and Trustee Taylor, and in a few short weeks we will be saying goodbye to retiring trustees, Trustee Bazinet and Chair Cochrane. On October 22, 2013 the Calgary Board of Education will see newly elected trustees and, possibly, returning trustees for a four-year term. The role that trustees play in developing our youngest citizens in to well-rounded adults and life-long learners will continue. Each trustee has made a unique contribution to our system.

The members of Superintendents' Team shared comments and gave accolades to each of the Trustees as follows:

- Chief Superintendent Johnson paid tribute to Trustee Cochrane;
- Deputy Chief Superintendent Stevenson paid tribute to Trustee King;
- Superintendent Coppinger paid tribute to Trustee Lane;
- Superintendent Faber paid tribute to Trustee Ferguson;
- Chief Superintendent Johnson paid tribute to Trustee Taylor;
- General Counsel Francis paid tribute to Trustee Bazinet; and
- Superintendent Oishi paid tribute to Trustee Bowen-Eyre.

Chief Superintendent Johnson expressed appreciation to all trustees on behalf of the Calgary Board of Education administration and staff.

A short break was taken at this point for congratulatory cake and coffee on the Link.

Recessed: 3:37 p.m.

Reconvened: 4:08 p.m.

**5 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no items.

**6 | PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

**7.1 Proposal for a Board of Trustees' Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee**

MOVED by Trustee King:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees amends policy GC-5E Board Committees to add a Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee as described in this report; and**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Terms of Reference for the Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee as attached.**

Trustee King responded to questions posed by Trustees. She noted that the motion proposes the establishment of a Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee to continue the work that this Board has started. The intent of the motion does not propose work to be undertaken by the current Board, and it does not propose that appointments to the Committee be made at this time.

Trustees' comments and debate of the motion is summarized as follows:

- There are processes within the CBE for engagement, but this is more to take the work of the Board out to communities through engagement and to look at how the Board might handle this work in the future.
- For a number of years the conversation has been ongoing about student voice and ways to implement that engagement with the Board. A Committee of this nature would be helpful to assist the Board in this initiative, to research best practices and to provide the Board with feedback.
- This is important work to ensure engagement with our students, parents, communities and thought leaders; and if it is specifically focussed on keeping all of those stakeholders in mind then the work is more purposeful.
- The belief of a trustee was that the Board should also dialogue with post-secondary institutions.

- The report is well written and appreciated. Importantly, it also suggests that appropriate learning opportunities be provided to Trustees for enhancement and development of skills, where necessary, in relation to this work.
- A trustee commented that it is important to engage, but it is equally important that the information that is gathered from engagement sessions be brought forward in an authentic way that impacts the Board's policies and leadership.
- It is hoped that the student voice initiative brings a structured framework for leveraging diversity.
- The establishment of this Committee is a positive step towards assisting the new Board to continue the work that has been accomplished and to improve on it to build better opportunities in the area of community engagement.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Cochrane declared the items on the Consent Agenda to be approved as presented, as follows:

## 8 | **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

### 8.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held September 17, 2013

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 17, 2013, as submitted.**

### 8.2 Correspondence

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

- **Letter dated September 17, 2013 from Heather Rogers, Director of Finance, Alberta School Boards Association to Board Chairs, Superintendents and Secretary Treasurers regarding the Local Authorities Pension Plan changes.**

### 8.4 Trustee Liaison Report – Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors

**THAT the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) liaison report containing the ASBA Board of Directors' Meeting Highlights dated September 12-13, 2013 be received for information.**

### 8.5 EducationMatters Financial Statements as at July 31, 2013

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the financial report for EducationMatters for information and for the record, in the form as submitted.**

**9 | CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA**

**9.1 Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) Changes**

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report for information.**

The following item was removed from the Consent Agenda, for the Board's discussion and consideration.

**8.3 Trustee Liaison Report – Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5**

The discussion by Trustees, including questions and responses, is summarized as follows:

- There are three CBE trustees who currently work with the Alberta School Boards Association. Trustee Bazinet serves as the Chair of ASBA Zone 5; Trustee Taylor serves as the Board's representative on ASBA Zone 5, as appointed by the Board, and Trustee Ferguson serves as the representative on ASBA Board of Directors, as appointed by the Board. The bylaws, as noted in the ASBA Zone 5 Handbook, are unclear in terms of what position is responsible for communications between the Zone and the school board and the ASBA. In response, a trustee noted her belief that the Board appointed trustee representatives are the positions responsible for reporting to the Board.
- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for Zone 5 is to be held on October 4, 2013, and it was questioned why this meeting is being held before the election date. This was discussed by the Zone representatives and it was felt that the alternative date of November 1<sup>st</sup> was too close to the election date. There are provisions in place to change the memberships on committees and on the leadership at the Zone at any time.
- With respect to the \$23,000 in reserve, as noted in the ASBA Zone 5 financial statements, the plan of Zone 5 is to draw that down over a period of time.
- A trustee questioned if discussions have occurred about deferring member fees of school boards and utilizing the reserve, in this time when school board budgets are stretched to meet the needs of students. This specific suggestion has not come forward at a Zone 5 meeting, to the recollection of the trustee representative. She noted that the floor is open to any suggestion that any Board would like to make with respect to the structure of the Zone 5 budget.
- A lengthy discussion ensued about the Zone 5 Handbook and bylaws, which is scheduled for consideration of adoption on October 4, 2013 at the Zone 5 AGM. Concerns were expressed by a number of trustees that the Board's suggestions and recommendations of last spring were not addressed anywhere in the Handbook and the bylaws.

Chair Cochrane called for a short recess in the meeting for copies to be made of the ASBA Zone 5 Handbook, for distribution to all trustees.

Recessed: 4:45 p.m.

Reconvened: 4:55 p.m.

- Trustees commented at length on their concerns over inconsistencies and the need for clarity of wording in the Zone 5 Handbook and bylaws. Reference was made a number of times to the Board's consideration of the bylaws and motion of May 7, 2013, and clarification of where the matter rests at this point in time. A trustee shared her belief that the Board's document prepared in May 2013 was a compilation of individual trustee concerns, and it was good for a consideration document, but it was not complete enough to form specific motions in all areas. Comments shared by two trustees were that revisions to bylaws must be proposed by motion, but not all trustees held this same belief.

Chair Cochrane commented on the date that the Zone 5 Handbook and bylaws are to be considered, noting that there is insufficient time for the Board to propose specific motions for revisions to the Handbook and bylaws. She suggested that the Board could consider the preparation of a document for October 8, 2013 that speaks to the changes that the Board requests to be made to the Zone 5 bylaws, to get the information on the record. The document should highlight the concerns raised by our Board with respect to contradictions and inconsistencies that the Board feels should be addressed by the Zone.

- In regards to the ASBA Zone 5 financial statements, a trustee noted that the expense reported for the Zone Chair Leadership Academy in the amount of \$1,835.11 is for an event that had taken place but it was not paid out in the previous year's budget.
- In response to a question of why the Board does not approve this proposed budget, a trustee noted that the records show that the Board has always received the reports for information. She shared her belief that it is a matter of whether it should be a rigid expectation or whether the representatives should be allowed some flexibility.

MOVED by Trustee Taylor:

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5 meeting minutes dated April 5, 2013 and May 17, 2013, and the ASBA Zone 5 Financial Statements for the period ending August 31, 2013 and the proposed 2013-14 Budget for information.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee King:

**THAT the Board of Trustees refers to the Board Chair and the Corporate Secretary the review of the ASBA Zone 5 handbook as discussed, and report back to the Board of Trustees on October 8, 2013.**

The motion was  
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Bazinet Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Cochrane Trustee Ferguson Trustee King Trustee Lane
Opposed:	Trustee Taylor

**10 | ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.