

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, April 1, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

In Attendance:

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

Absent:

Trustee J. Hehr
Trustee A. Stewart

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
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
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
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. J. Manfield, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. R. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40 (attended at 3:40 p.m.)
Mr. L. Frandle, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Ms. K. Lloyd, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
Mr. B. Unterschultz, Elementary School Principals' Association
Mr. R. Petrowitsch, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and O Canada was led by students from Battalion Park School by way of a video presentation.



Chair Taylor welcomed members of the public, senior administration, staff and representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2 | CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted that under Item 6.0, Public Comment there was one presenter, and the removal of Item 8.4, Proposed Amendment to GC-4: Officers' Roles from the Consent Agenda.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2014, be approved as submitted, subject to the revisions noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

3 | AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1 Recognition of Chief Superintendent of Schools

Chair Taylor commenced by stating that this is the last board meeting for Chief Superintendent Naomi Johnson, noting that her last day is April 8, 2014.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Ferguson, as the Board's longest standing trustee, stated that it is her privilege to say farewell and honour Chief Superintendent Johnson's outstanding career at the CBE. She stated that her 33 years has included many different roles, including Teacher, Principal, Director of Student Services, Areas IV and V Director, Acting Deputy Chief Superintendent, and Chief Superintendent of Schools. She noted that through Chief Superintendent Johnson's hard work and unwavering dedication to students the CBE continues to offer its students excellent opportunities for learning and has become a world recognized public school system.

Trustee Ferguson noted that in lieu of a personal gift, the Board of Trustees has set up a scholarship fund in Chief Superintendent Johnson's name through EducationMatters, and hoped that contributions will support the scholarship as a remembrance and a tribute to her. The award is open to a University of Calgary student whose parent or guardian is a current CBE employee, and whose intent is to pursue further education towards a teaching or education administration career. Donations to the award can be made online through EducationMatters and are tax deductible. The award is a way to honour Chief Superintendent Johnson's service and continue her commitment to inspire life-long learners. She added that the Board expresses many thanks for her years of



service to Calgary students and for her leadership focus on each student, every day, no exceptions.

Chief Superintendent Johnson expressed that she could not have managed without the amazing team of people the CBE has. She added that from her perspective, public education is the most important thing in the world. She thanked the trustees for their well wishes, noting that she intends to continue to work in public education.

4 | RESULTS FOCUS

4.1 School Presentation – Battalion Park School – Results 3

Mr. C. Davies, Area IV Director, welcomed staff and students from Battalion Park School, noting that they would share how Results 3, Citizenship is lived every day in their school community, and in their classrooms, activities, and relationships. He noted citizenship learning is advanced through the program of study, and enhanced by the school's citizenship initiatives that assist others on local, national, and global levels. The examples given today will not only demonstrate citizenship learning at the school, but recognize the close ties between citizenship, personal development, and character.

Principal J. Campbell came forward and stated after walking through the school hallway and seeing students wearing head-dresses and togas, he realized that this was an example of the creative elements of the Grade 6 teachers in bringing the curriculum to life with students through simulation. He noted other examples such as the Grade 3 students being involved with connecting across the world in Peru, and of their school council that is constructed in a creative way to look at embracing diversity to understand how societies in different parts of the world work and live. He introduced Teacher A. Gallagher and students Pierce, Ben, Brad, and Cassie to share in their learning.

The students came forward in costumes portraying various roles. Grade 6 student Brad stated that rather than learning from a textbook, they learn by simulating various cultures. He stated that he acted as a Supreme Court judge, and explained he is playing that role because democracy is about justice, equity, freedom, representation and making the correct decision on behalf of citizens for the best outcomes. Student Ben introduced himself in the role of Socrates from ancient Athenian times. Student Cassie introduced herself in the role of a clan mother from the Oneida Nation of the Turtle Clan from the Haudenosaunee, known as the Iroquois Confederacy. Student Pierce introduced himself in the role of a Hoyena from the Mohawh Nation of the Bear Clan. Each student shared their experiences of how these roles in action support their citizenship in learning.

The presentation continued with a video which introduced the Battalion Bloggers, an enthusiastic group of grade 3 students who are learning from and sharing with a global community; over the past four years, the grade 3 students have been helping to build a library in Q'enqo, Peru.



Trustee Hurdman thanked the school for their presentation and stated that citizenship is very dear to her and that she was happy to see that students are learning different ways to come together throughout the world. She also thanked the grade 3 bloggers, and stated she would subscribe to their blog to follow the work they are doing.

4.2 Results 4: Personal Development – Annual Monitoring

Chief Superintendent Johnson provided an introduction to the report stating that the report is for the 2012-13 school year. She noted that this is an area of student success closely tied to the processes of personalized learning and one which the CBE is leading. The CBE has met or shown progress towards 15 of the 18 targets established. There were two indicators identified where specific plans of action are required in order to improve the results which are included in the attachment to the report. She introduced Grade 12 students Ally and Skye from the National Sport School to speak to the ways in which they have experienced success consistent with the vision and values of the Board expressed in Results 4.

The students provided details on their trip to Beijing, China to attend the International Youth Leadership Summit. The trip provided opportunity for the students for self-discovery and new experiences which were out of their comfort zone. A challenge was the diverse and unfamiliar environment they were submerged in; a different country, continent, and society. Some complexities encountered were the food, the language barrier, and the pollution level. Dealing with these issues demonstrated the utmost resilience; many students found situations they were good at handling, and others found their weaknesses but did not hesitate to learn from them. They noted opportunities like this promote youth to grow into mature citizens, turning a new light on their previous perspectives. The students were able to demonstrate resilience and perseverance while having the competence to embrace ambiguity and the complexity of an international destination.

Chair Taylor noted that trustees are to determine whether or not the report provides sufficient evidence that the CBE has made reasonable progress towards achieving the Results, and to build a portfolio of the Chief Superintendent's performance in the Results side of the Chief Superintendent's job expectations. The emphasis for monitoring Results is not on compliance, but rather on reasonable progress.

Trustees posed questions, which were addressed by Administration and are summarized as follows:

- The Annual Return Rate only measures students who returned within certain jurisdictions, therefore they are not all identified. It was noted that due to budget constraints, there are currently limited resources to support those students as they require someone working very closely with them. There are other resources to support those students which include *CBe-learn* and *Discovering Choices*. Another initiative to support students is through the *United Way* in partnership with other organizations. Administration will be submitting four proposals in April for dual credit programs which support high school completion.



- There have been 11 new apprenticeship programs identified through Alberta Education. Administration will be challenged with school modernizations and new high schools to ensure that we have facilities for those programs.
- Grade 12 survey results will be included next year for indicator 1 on page 4-16.
- The reason the target was not met for indicator 1 on page 4-20 may be due to the fact that information for this indicator was gathered from report cards and not student surveys. Report card measures have the option for teachers to indicate if a student's specific goals or learning needs on an individual program plan would make assessing them on that aspect of personal development not appropriate for that student.
- Administration has strategies in place to support success for some indicators where they found they need to be more specific, as in indicator 3 on page 4-15 for whether students feel *comfortable learning about things that don't have a single right answer*. Through Area meetings and System Leadership meetings, principals are engaged in processes to help teachers understand task design. Administration recognizes that in the analysis of tasks, they need to consider how the task supports students in working with questions that don't have a single right answer.
- More work is required to align diploma exams with competencies; going forward with curriculum prototyping and design, competencies will need to inform diploma exams and it will be a conversation taken up on many levels across the province.
- It was noted that data sources across the province are changing and Administration will be challenged with fluctuating circumstances over the next few years.
- Some schools are sharing the results from the *Tell Them From Me* survey with parents and students. Once we have three years of data Administration will be in a better position to see trending information and understand how that information can be shared in a more specific way across all schools.
- Administration regularly meets with high school principals regarding high school success.
- There has been increased attention to the transition component to improve the support for students as they transition through individualized program plans. More attention is being given to mid-year transitions rather than at the end of year. Many high schools have programs in place to ensure that we keep grade 10 students as they merge into high school. Administration has hosted open houses to inform parents of the information they need to support students making transition program plans.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board has reviewed the monitoring report on Results 4: Personal Development and concludes that reasonable progress is being made toward the ultimate achievement of this Results policy.

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



- The information in the report is broad and informing and it was believed that reasonable progress has been made. 15 of the 18 indicators have been met and progress has been made towards the other targets as noted. It was noted that the flood impacted the collection of some grade 12 data.
- Trustees noted that the student-contributed examples of personal development included in the report help to understand not just what the indicators and targets are but what the students are actually feeling and what they have learned from it.
- It was noted that there are processes in place to address areas of weakness or where targets have not been met.
- We need to be aware that assessing progress on personal development is ambitious. It is important for students to achieve these outcomes in order to be successful as they move forward in life.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 4:24 p.m.
Reconvened: 4:44 p.m.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 Budget Assumptions Report and

5.2 Use of Operating Reserves

Chief Superintendent Johnson stated that we are at a crucial point in the process for developing the 2014-15 budget. The gap between the funding we will receive and the funding needed to maintain status quo operations is \$27.7 million. The 2014-15 budget is over \$1.2 billion and we face the task of how to best allocate those funds across schools and services in the best interest of the system as a whole. She stated that Administration is seeking the Board's direction on the strategies and choices that will drive the development of the budget. We are guided by the *Ministerial Order* for student learning and *Inspiring Education*, and as a system we are driven by our mission, our vision, and our values. We are in a world of rapid change and the CBE is managing that change through our strategic imperatives. These imperatives are the actions that we need to focus on as a system to ensure that we continue to support student success into the future. She stated that Administration is presenting two reports that are intended to support a strategic conversation about the CBE's values and how they will inform and shape the development of the budget.

Through OE-5, Financial Planning, the Board has directed that the Chief Superintendent develop and present a budget assumptions report as the first part of the budget development process, and lays the ground work for the creation of the budget by identifying the strategic assumptions that will be the framework and criteria for the allocation of funds and the development of the final budget document.



The assumptions report reflects financial, economic and other relevant factors where uncertainty exists and provides a view into how the resulting budget will allocate resources and related impacts. Current Board practice is that the assumptions report is presented for information, which precludes a debate and approval of the report's content. This presents a procedural challenge in terms of Administration receiving direction from the Board. To address this challenge Administration is providing a companion report requesting approval to draw from reserves to balance the 2014-15 budget. The use of reserves is an important strategic decision for the CBE. Administration is seeking agreement in principle for the use of reserves to balance the budget and believes it is the best approach for resolving the 2014-15 budget challenge while continuing to support student success. Superintendent Grundy noted that the report does not recommend a specific number, but rather seeks agreement to use reserves which include Board direction to maintain a reserve of 1% of operating expenditures and to avoid fiscal jeopardy. Based on the Board's decision related to the use of reserves, Administration will develop the 2014-15 budget that aligns with that direction and will be presented at the May 6, 2014 Board meeting. He suggested it would be beneficial to first focus on the reserves report considering the assumptions set out in the Budget Assumptions Report.

Chair Taylor received the consent of the Board to consider Items 5.1 and 5.2 together.

Trustees posed questions, which were addressed by Administration and are summarized as follows:

- The determination of what will roll out through the resource allocation method (RAM) is dependent on what the decision is around the use of reserves; a 5.1% increase would maintain the RAM at status quo. No decisions have been made to date and whether or not we use reserves will have a big impact on RAM. Without the use of reserves, the entire system will be impacted.
- Reserves at the beginning of fiscal 2014-15 are estimated to be near \$21 million. Maintaining a 1% operating reserve would be approximately \$12 million and approximately \$8-9 million would be available for use. The use of reserves will reduce the impact on fees, RAM, and various programs and services across the system.
- The use of the Operating Lease Reserve for general operational expenditures is a primary contributing factor in the amount of reserves available. The Operating Lease Reserve was created at the Board's direction and the Board has the ability to vary the terms of reference.
- Transportation fees will be supported by government revenue and/or parent fees with no subsidies from the core budget for noon supervision, transportation and instructional supplies and materials.
- If we change the assumption related to fees, it will impact how much the gap is between cost and subsidies. The 2013-14 core budget subsidized the various fees by approximately \$5.2 million; the assumption eliminates \$5.2 million of pressure on the core budget.



- Other metro boards have very different amounts of reserves, and decisions made around reserves depend on their individual contexts. There has been direction from Alberta Education to utilize reserves with no specific direction on withholding a certain level; the direction encouraged school boards to use reserves to support programs.
- In the past the Auditor General recommended that Alberta Education should provide guidance to school districts on what reasonable reserves should be. The ASBA has maintained a general rule that reserves should be 2-2½%. In the reasonable interpretation of OE-5, Financial Planning, Administration specified that we should maintain a minimum reserve of 1%.
- In response to a comment that as a public sector organization we should have reserves, it was stated that some would argue that as a public sector organization we should spend the money that we receive to deliver services. It is Administration's recommendation to not go below the 1% reserves threshold.
- In the 2010-11 budget Administration anticipated using operating reserves of \$18 million and used \$11 million. In 2011-12 they planned to use \$11.3 million of reserves but actually contributed \$5.7 million into the reserves. In 2012-13 there were plans to use \$12 million but then ended up making a small contribution.
- A trustee recalled that there were times when we had no reserves in the past. In 1998 the CBE borrowed \$26 million from the province to offer an early retirement incentive to teachers. At that time all available surpluses were used to pay down the loan.
- There are no specific opportunities at present to grow non-Alberta Education revenue; the assumption was included to keep options open as we go forward.
- There is a tripartite agreement between the Calgary Catholic School Board, ourselves, and the City that agree on a rate each year to be applied for the use and rental of facilities. It is a cost recovery rate that is agreed to by the three parties.
- There are currently no vacant CBE properties available for sale.
- The budget assumption is that we will not put the organization in jeopardy; the assumption highlights that we will take measures to ensure that we will balance the budget but also preserve the ability of the organization to operate; there were significant reductions in both schools and service units last year.
- There are many programs that are enhancements from basic education and we have to look at reductions in those programs.
- There has been public feedback on the CBE website on the proposed budget. The information will be summarized in the budget when it is presented. There has been a wide range of suggestions. Principals are seeing feedback from the public around issues related to class sizes, funding for programs, noon supervision, and technology; this information will also be summarized in the budget.
- Administration does not anticipate surpluses; we have been cutting and reducing over the last four years.



- Some reductions that were administered in last year's budget reduced the instructional block; therefore it did not reduce the administrative block to the place that was anticipated.
- There have not been discussions to date around whether RAM will be distributed in different amounts for different divisions as in last year's budget. Research shows that RAM makes the most difference at the K-3 level. Administration anticipates a more equal distribution of funds across the grades.
- The cost of covering collective agreements will be drawn from reserves. There may be some other flexibility in the budget that may minimize the draw on reserves. The costs for grid movement would come out of the core budget.
- Administration confirmed that superintendents, senior management and exempt staff will see no salary increases in the 2014-15 budget; there will be some increases in the grid ranges but it will not result in increases.
- Increases in transportation fees are dependent on the direction from the Board on whether the assumptions and the use of reserves are supported.
- In considering the use of reserves, consideration should be given to other options available; without the use of reserves, there will need to be other choices made which will likely have an impact on class size. The Board's decision around reserves will determine the RAM allocation.
- The areas of potential impact listed on page 5-21 will all be impacted to some degree regardless of the Board's decision regarding the level of reserves used.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the use of operating reserves to balance the 2014-15 budget, subject to maintaining a reserve balance of approximately 1% of the annual operating budget revenues.

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

- It is prudent to maintain a 1% reserve balance. It was believed that drawing down reserves any further would create a deficit for next year.
- The province has directed school boards to utilize reserves. The CBE has lived without reserves before and if we diminish the reserves we can then have a conversation with the province about appropriate funding to meet the needs of students.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

THAT the motion be amended by inserting the word "all" prior to "operating reserves" and by deleting "subject to maintaining a reserve balance of approximately 1% of the annual operating budget".

Trustees debated the amendment, and their comments are summarized as follows:



- The province has stated that it believes school boards have savings for a rainy day and have asked school boards to make every effort to maintain the level of services to students. A \$27.7 million shortfall is a large cut which will impact every part of the school system.
- We have lived without reserves before, and it was believed that schools cannot take any further cuts.
- It was believed that this situation is different from using surpluses to pay down a debt; having a zero reserve balance would mean cuts to services and cause an even bigger problem into the future. Administration has recommended that we maintain reserves of 1% to avoid fiscal jeopardy.
- It was stated that responsible financial planning means that you have funds available for unforeseen circumstances such as for the heavy snowfalls this winter and the flood last year which caused insurance rates to rise.
- It was noted that the province rescued two other school boards and one charter school last year, and it was believed that the province would be there to assist the CBE as the largest school board in the province. We need to support schools and service units in order to provide the best possible learning opportunities, and to advocate to the province that the formulas are not adequate to meet the needs and the expectations of Calgarians for their public education system.
- Confidence was expressed that Administration would make reasonable decisions to support student learning with the use of reserves and would come up with the best possible solutions to ensure student success.
- We need more clarity around what the consequences and impacts would be on the organization as there would be differing impacts dependent on the amount of reserves utilized.

At 6:12 p.m. Chair Taylor received the consent of the Board to continue the meeting to the completion of the agenda.

The amendment was
CARRIED.

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

Chair Taylor restated the motion, as amended:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the use of all operating reserves to balance the 2014-15 budget.



The amended motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King

Opposed: Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Taylor

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Budget Assumptions Report be received for information and for the record.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee Hurdman

In response to a question, Administration confirmed that the May 6 budget report would include a detailed explanation of revenues for each of the three fee categories, the related expenses, and how the fees are derived.

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT a detailed administrative breakdown of expenses as defined by Alberta Education for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 budgeted years be provided to the Board of Trustees by May 6, 2014.

The motion as stated contains a friendly amendment agreed to by Trustee Hurdman. Administration confirmed that the budget report would provide a detailed breakdown of expenses by service unit. Trustee Hurdman explained that she is looking for information related only to the Administrative block. Chair Taylor stated that Alberta Education's definition of Administration is different than what is included in the budget report, and that the information requested is related to the projected administrative costs of 3.1% noted on page 5-15 of the assumptions report.

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

- Although the Administration block may be small in the overall scheme of the CBE budget, we will be able to show the public that expenses within the Administration block are justified. More transparency in this area will satisfy the public.
- It was believed that the breakdown of the budget as described by Administration by service unit would be sufficient to make the appropriate decisions in the budget.



- The information would be in addition to the level of detail which Administration stated would be included in the report; it is an area that receives a lot of attention by the province and by the public in terms of monitoring our spending.
- It was stated that we do not need a motion to direct Administration to do the work that we monitor through policy as described in OE-5, Financial Planning.

The motion was
DEFEATED.

In favour: Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Taylor

Opposed: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT an impact assessment on class sizes and student learning as a result of the proposed 2014-2015 budget be provided in conjunction with the budget on May 6, 2014.

Administration informed that when the budget is presented on May 6, the RAM will have just been rolled out and we will not know what the impact on class sizes will be. The budget is prepared with projections only and we won't know the impact until the September 30 enrolment count. Administration confirmed they would provide overall projections by Area which would allow trustees to understand what the allocation to the school is in relation to the number of students projected. The information would provide trend data and the ability to compare the RAM to the previous year.

The motion was withdrawn.

Recessed: 6:46 p.m.

Reconvened: 7:04 p.m.

6 | PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. F. Bruseker, President, Alberta Teachers' Association Local 38

Mr. Bruseker stated that he represents the 7,000 members of the Calgary Public Teachers Local 38 that work across 227 schools, and that on behalf of the members he wished to say farewell to Chief Superintendent Johnson. He stated that she has been a colleague, a mentor and a leader for the teachers within the CBE. He made reference to a book called "*The Leadership Challenge*" which refers to five principles of exemplary leadership, one of which is that "*it takes broad shoulders to do the job*". He stated that he feels that we have seen those leadership essentials in Chief Superintendent Johnson's work over the years. He presented a small symbolic gift to her on behalf of all of the teachers in Local 38 to serve as a reminder of her various leadership roles. He expressed a heartfelt thank you and congratulated her on a well spent career.



7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **Board Meeting Procedures**

Trustee Bowen-Eyre stated that the Board has had conversations on the agenda planning process and the report recommends amending the Board Meeting Procedures to delegate agenda planning duties to an Agenda Planning Committee, the approval of the terms of reference and *Trustee Agenda Request* form. The report further recommends that the agenda and reports related to the regular public board meetings be made available to the public on the Friday prior to the meeting.

The following is a summary of responses to Trustees questions:

- There was discussion regarding the timing of the release of the information on the Friday prior to the Board meeting. There was an overall commitment that effort would be made to make the information available to the public by 10:00 a.m.; however, it was noted that there may be times when there are challenges in receiving the reports and meeting this deadline.
- The Chair of the Board would serve as the Chair of the committee and the presence of three members would be a quorum.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

- 1) **THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Terms of Reference for Agenda Planning Committee, and the attached Trustee Agenda Request form, as provided in Attachment I of the report.**
- 2) **THAT the Board approves the amendment of Board Meeting Procedures Sections F(1) and G(3) as provided in Attachment II of the report, to accommodate the delegation of agenda planning duties to the Agenda Planning Committee and the earlier availability of information related to public board meetings.**

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

- As a new Board, trustees have discussed different ways to enhance the work they do together. The Committee will ensure that the focus of Board meetings will continue to be student focused and that meetings will focus on the work of the Board. The earlier release of information to the public and the media would be helpful as some documents are lengthy and require more time to review.
- It was hoped that the purpose of this change is that trustees tie agenda items to the pertinent governance policy to ensure that the Board is doing the Board's work.
- The committee should be monitored to ensure there are no unintended consequences or implications for Communications staff. Having a process for trustees to bring agenda items forward will ensure there is a transparent process around trustees' advocacy efforts or policy changes.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.2 Trustee Remuneration Committee Report

Trustee Hurdman stated that the Committee met on March 14, 2014 to review the Terms of Reference using 2009 remuneration rates of honoraria, as directed by the Board. The committee agreed that there should be no change in the 2009 rates and should remain as stated in the policy.

The following is a summary of responses to Trustees' questions:

- The current policy states that for fiscal year 2014-15, the trustee remuneration review to commence by using the 2009 rates of honoraria. The committee did not feel that they should go against the wishes of the board; it would be a Board decision to remain at 2013-14 levels.
- It was stated that it is a function of the committee to make recommendations to the Board.
- Input will be sought from other trustees as to whether professional development for trustees is adequate.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the recommended changes to GC-2E: Trustee Remuneration, as provided in the attachment to the report.

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

- Due to the difficult fiscal environment, the committee thought it would be wise to continue freezing salaries; the committee could look at different ways to explore ways to benchmark honoraria in the future.
- The 2009 honoraria are higher than the 2013-14 rates and given the discussion around depleting reserves and the budget assumptions, trustees indicated that this would be a concern.
- It was noted that the policy would need to be revised if the motion was defeated.

The motion was
DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that effective for the 2014-15 year, the honoraria for trustees remain at 2013/2014 levels and that GC-2E be changed accordingly.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Taylor declared the following items on the consent agendas to be approved as presented, as follows:

8 | **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held February 25, 2014
- Regular Meeting held March 18, 2014

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held February 25 and March 18, 2014.

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 March 11, 2014, to Board Chair Sheila Taylor, from The Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister, Alberta Education, giving approval for mitigation funding for Elbow Park School and Rideau Park School.
- Email dated March 14, 2014, to Board Chairs and Superintendents of Alberta school boards, from The Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister, Alberta Education, regarding his message to parents about the ongoing improvement of Alberta's education system, including curriculum redesign.
- Letter dated March 14, 2014, to Board Chair Sheila Taylor, from The Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister, Alberta Education, regarding access to school facilities for charter schools.

8.3 Trustee Liaison Report – ASBA Board of Directors

THAT the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) liaison report containing the ASBA Board of Directors' Meeting Highlights dated March 2014 be received for information.

9 | **CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA**

9.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Chief Superintendent's Update for information.



9.2 Construction Projects Status Report

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report for information.

The following item was removed from the Consent Agenda:

8.4 Proposed Amendment to GC-4: Officers' Roles

Chair Taylor stated that given the discussion and approval of the recommendations for Item 7.1, it was not necessary to debate the recommendations for this item.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees gives first reading to the amendment of GC-4: Officers' Roles, as recommended in Attachment I to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees gives second reading to the amendment of GC-4: Officers' Roles, as recommended in Attachment I to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 7:40 p.m.
Reconvened: 7:55 p.m.

10 | **IN-CAMERA ISSUES**

10.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

Whereas the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that matters on the Private Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, April 1, 2014, be considered at an in-camera session; therefore, be it

Resolved, **THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves in-camera.**

The motion was
CARRIED.

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



10.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.3 Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Chief's Superintendent Update report for information.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the correspondence attached to the private report for information and for the record.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to correspond with the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure, as discussed.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.4 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee King:

Whereas the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that matters on the Private Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, April 1, 2014, be considered at an in-camera session; therefore, be it

Resolved, THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves in-camera.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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



Opposed: Trustee Ferguson

Recessed: 9:30 p.m.
Reconvened: 9:45 p.m.

10.5 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11 | ADJOURNMENT

Chair Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

