

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, March 17, 2015 at 12 noon

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre, Chair
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. B. Brunton, Chief Communications Officer
Mr. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. R. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 41
Mr. E. Clayton, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and O Canada was led by students from Christine Meikle School by way of a DVD recording.

Chair Bowen-Eyre acknowledged and welcomed staff, public and representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2 | CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2015 be approved as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

3.1 **Three-Year School Capital Plan, 2016-2019**

Administration addressed a number of questions posed by Trustees on March 10, 2015. Superintendent Coppinger noted that a replacement page 14 of the Capital Plan had been distributed. The figures in the tables on page 14 reflect the Kindergarten to Grade 12 population only – they do not include the CBe-learn, Chinook Learning, Outreach unique settings, or Home Schooling, so these figures do not match the overall system utilization as shown on page 102 of the Capital Plan.

In the event that none of the 20 schools requested in the 2016-2019 School Capital Plan are approved, the system utilization will be higher than what is shown on page 102 of the plan. The consequences include more bus transportation, more lotteries and capping of student enrolment in schools.

Superintendent Coppinger provided a map on overhead showing the Area V high school designations, including the southeast high school in the community of Seton and the proposed future high school sites. He noted that the CBE typically receives consideration for a high school site for every 70,000 residents. He noted that the demand for high school spaces will be less in the immediate future, but will be more in the longer term. He pointed out that the sector boundaries are not as relevant for high school students, especially given the CBE's career and technology strategy (CTS) which is area based rather than sector focused.

Superintendent Coppinger shared figures for Centennial High School, with respect to the provincial capacity, the core building size for 1800 students, the weighted student capacity, the student enrolment on September 30, 2014, and the current student enrolment. He also shared details surrounding the potential increase of 300 and 600 student spaces to the southeast high school and the costs associated with the potential increase of 300 additional spaces to Centennial High School.

Administration addressed additional questions posed by trustees including: what the effects may be on students who transition between high schools for CTS, including the future challenges of transportation; the draw of students to Centennial High School for the Environmental and Outdoor Science courses; and the expected timelines for adding new high schools to future capital plans. The north high school was noted to be the first high school need after the southeast high school, and the southwest high school the second need. It was noted that work has commenced on the design of the southeast high school, but it is at the early stages and can be designed to accommodate future expansion.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Three-Year School Capital Plan (2016-2019) as provided in the report, and refers the plan to Alberta Education.

In debate of the motion trustees commented that the Capital Plan provides great detail and rationale for the school priority needs across the CBE.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the motion be amended to strike “as provided in the report” and insert “subject to amendment by the addition of 300 high school student spaces in the southeast high school” and refers the “amended” plan to Alberta Education.

Trustees debated the amendment and comments in support are summarized as follows

- Our high school utilization rate is currently 89%. It would cost just 10% more to increase the student capacity of the school by 17%. On a per student basis, it is much cheaper to provide for additional student spaces than it is to get approval to build a complete new high school.
- The growth trends for the southeast sector of the city are indicative of the need for schools and student spaces. The proposed size of the high school for 2100 student spaces is not a concern, as we have demonstrated that we can meet the individual needs of students in a large environment.
- The Capital Plan is a reflection of our system needs, and it could be much more difficult for trustees to advocate for an expansion to an existing school.
- The request for additional student spaces while the southeast high school is in the design planning stages makes it more optimal. In regards to the two future southwest high school sites, and in relation to the crossing of the Bow River, the road infrastructure and transit options are lacking.

Trustee comments in opposition to the amendment included:

- If the southeast high school is approved for an additional 300 spaces it may delay approval to build another high school and trustees have heard the need for a north high school and a southwest high school in the near future.
- Trustees have heard that future growth on the west side of the Bow River is expected to be higher than on the east side, that the new southeast high school will be able to accommodate students in the southeast at this time, that high school flexibility and offering of the new CTS curriculum is moving forward, as are a number of modernization projects for some of our high schools.

Chair Bowen- Eyre called for the vote on the amendment.

The amendment was
DEFEATED.

In favour:	Trustee Hehr Trustee Hurdman Trustee Stewart
Opposed:	Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Ferguson Trustee King

Trustees debated the main motion as follows:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Three-Year School Capital Plan (2016-2019), as provided in the report, and refers the plan to Alberta Education.

Trustee comments in debate of the motion included appreciation for the work that went into the development of the Capital Plan. The Plan speaks to the population growth and school construction needs going forward and it is thorough and concise in following the ranking criteria that was approved by the Board.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the ranking criteria and methodology used in the development of the Three-Year School Capital Plan be reviewed prior to November 30, 2015.

Trustee Hurdman clarified that she does not expect a large public consultation to take place in this review, but would like Trustees and Administration to bring back for discussion the feedback received over this first year of the criteria changes. The Board should either reaffirm the current formula or request changes prior to November 30, 2015.

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

- It is believed to be good practice to review the effects of change to understand whether or not the new ranking criteria and methodology are bringing about the desired results and what the consequences are.
- The new ranking criteria and methodology has made differences, especially in the ranking of modernizations. In terms of new school construction, the ranking has some communities prioritized for a second elementary school while there are some communities that are not in the ranking for a first elementary school.
- Support for the motion was expressed in terms of a review to come forward before preparation of next year's Three-Year School Capital Plan, and in anticipation that the review will be in the form of a conversation and not an in-depth report.

Comments in opposition to the motion were as follows:

- The Board undertook community engagement to develop the new criteria and it would be preferable to see the Capital Plan roll out for several years before the criteria is reviewed again. What happens in one year may not necessarily prove to be what the trends are over a period of time. Administrative resources should be used in a more conservative way.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee Ferguson

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that the Board was holding an in camera session to discuss three labour and legal issues and two land issues.

Recessed: 1:48 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:14 p.m.

4 | **IN-CAMERA ISSUES**

4.1 **Motion to Move In Camera**

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

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, March 17, 2015, 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 UNANIMOUSLY.

4.2 **Motion to Revert to Public Meeting**

MOVED by Trustee King:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.3 **Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendations**

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees ratifies the memorandum of agreement dated February 17, 2015, with respect to collective bargaining between the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 40.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees ratifies the memorandum of agreement dated February 26, 2015, with respect to collective bargaining between the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and the Bargaining Council of the Calgary Board of Education Construction and Maintenance Skilled Trades Unions (Council).

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees ratifies the settlement agreement dated February 27, 2015, with respect to collective bargaining between the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and CBE Staff Association (Staff Association), which includes the Main Body and Professional Support Staff (PSS).

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.