

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 4, 2017 at 12:00 noon

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre, Chair
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee J. Hehr
Trustee J. Hrdlicka
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. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. J. Everett, Superintendent, Learning
Mr. G. Francis, Superintendent, Human Resources/General Counsel
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. K. Fenney, Assistant General Counsel/Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. D. Melnychuk, Principals’ Association for Adolescent Learners
Mr. K. Kempt, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38
Ms. K. Turner, Elementary School Principals’ Association

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

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. By way of a video recording, students from Queen Elizabeth School’s Deaf and Hard of Hearing class sang and signed O Canada. On behalf of the Board, Trustee Hurdman expressed appreciation for the performance by students.

Chair Bowen-Eyre acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. She also acknowledged the Tsuut’ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. She acknowledged and welcomed staff, the public and representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

The Chair also welcomed Ms. M. Cornier and her Grade 5 students from Westgate School who have moved their classroom to the historical CBE school and the downtown community. They are investigating the idea of “How will we leave our mark?” Students

will work with Mr. R. Ashley, a CBE architect, to learn how structures have changed over time, and they will investigate the various heritage buildings in the community.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. K. Fenney, Corporate Secretary, noted an addition to the in-camera session agenda, being a labour relations item.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2017 be approved, as submitted, subject to the above-noted change.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

3.1 Legacy Award

Chair Bowen-Eyre shared that the CBE Legacy Award celebrates public education in Calgary and individuals who have contributed to our communities. Legacy Award recipients embody the work of the public education system and represent the legacy of the CBE, preparing students for life, work and continued learning, and inspiring life-long learning. She noted that it is an honour to present the Legacy Award to Ms. Catherine McLeod.

Ms. McLeod was born and educated in Calgary. She attended John Ware School and Dr. E.P. Scarlett High School. She was the first profoundly deaf student to attend CBE in a fully integrated program, which was uncharted and uncomfortable territory for the CBE, or any school district, at the time. Subsequent to Ms. McLeod's graduation from Gallaudet University, the only deaf university in the world, she worked in a number of positions of advocacy for the deaf and she is considered a strong role model within the deaf and hearing community. Her most recent position as Director at the National Centre on Deafness at California State University is a high profile position that has significant impact in both the hearing and deaf worlds.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Bowen-Eyre commended Ms. McLeod on her accomplishments and stated that she is an excellent example of the type of graduate we want our students to be – one who exemplifies the results of not only academic success, but of character and personal development.

Ms. McLeod expressed that she felt honored and inspired to be recognized with the Board's Legacy Award. She shared remarks about her experiences and challenges as a deaf student. She expressed appreciation for the tremendous support she received from her family and from the CBE staff.

Ms. J. Manchul, CBE Alberta Sign Language Interpreter, assisted in the presentation.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

There were no items.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 **OE-9: Communicating With the Public – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Stevenson provided opening remarks. Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer, summarized the contents of the annual monitoring report for OE-9: Communicating With the Public. She noted that compliance was met in all sections of this operations policy with the exception of the indicator for policy subsection 9.2, as noted on page 5-6 of the report.

Trustees posed questions, which were addressed by Administration, on issues including: the use of surveys to parents and whether that data aligns with the reporting provided on pages 5-6 through 5-8; and relevance of the current indicators, which are Board approved.

Chair Bowen-Eyre asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-9: Communicating With the Public. She requested that trustees send their proposed motions to the Corporate Secretary and to all trustees by the end of day, April 5, 2017, and noted that if no motions come forward the item will be placed on the April 11, 2017 consent agenda.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **Consideration of Closure of Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies**

Superintendent Breton provided a summary of the contents of the report and noted that Administration has complied with the *Closure of Schools Regulation* and the *School Act*.

Administration responded to trustee questions on issues, including: in the event the Board decides to close the program, what the potential is for re-use of the name and what the process is for undertaking such consideration; the discussions surrounding disposition of the artifacts; and the plans for future use of the school space.

Chair Bowen-Eyre indicated that the Board would consider approval of the February 9 and February 27, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes separately to allow trustees who were absent from a meeting to abstain from the vote on the respective meeting Minutes.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Minutes of the Public Meeting of February 9, 2017, attached to the report as Attachment I, be approved by the Board of Trustees.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

In Favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Stewart

Abstained: Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Minutes of the Public Meeting of February 27, 2017, attached to the report as Attachment I, be approved by the Board of Trustees.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Abstained: Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Stewart

Trustee Hehr provided a synopsis of the public submissions received by trustees in relation to the consideration of closure of Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies, noted as follows.

Summary of Written Submissions:

- One community member acknowledged that given the low enrolment the recommendation from CBE Administration to consider closure is supportable.
- Two submissions expressed appreciation for the program and for the good intentions and hard work of the CBE to support the program over the years. Specific acknowledgement was made of past principals and administrative staff and their efforts to make the program work.
- Two members of the public expressed that while they believe the CBE supported the program, the number of program moves (3) meant that the program could not find its place, and that the moves contributed to the proposed consideration of closure.
- Both the City of Calgary and the Acadia Community Association requested that CBE collaborate on the creative use of public schools.

Summary of public comments shared at the February 9 and February 27, 2017 Public Meetings:

- The program provided students with valuable lessons on Canadian History and Canadian Military History and that should be retained through course offerings at other schools.

- The program is unique and offered students a small setting. Concern was shared about the transition from a small setting to a large setting like Lord Beaverbrook High School.
- Supporting students as they transition to other schools/programs is important.
- The vision and initial support by the CBE was strong but there was no long term vision for development of the program. One member of the public felt that this contributed to the decline in enrolment for the program.
- With respect to the artifacts, it was questioned what will happen to them if the Board decides to close the program.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT all grades at the Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies be closed effective June 30, 2017.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: the lack of students enrolled in the program in the last few years has had an impact on how the programming has been delivered - the principles of the program were not met in the years prior to the 2015/16 school year, and core components of the Canadian Military Studies and History were not offered and Canadian History and Geography were optional courses; when considering the closure of a school the Board needs to take many factors into account, including student enrolment levels, the CBE's ability to resource instructional programming, the health and safety of our students, and accessibility to programs.

Trustees also expressed a deep appreciation for the people who diligently advocated for the existence and early success of this unique program. They recognized the close connections that were made within the community of Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies and the challenges they encountered over the years. Trustees also commented on the importance of keeping in mind the characteristics and philosophy of this particular program, and encouraged that if an opportunity arises to provide those kinds of programming in support of students, that Administration take that under review.

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Chair noted that items on the consent agenda are approved with the agenda as follows:

8.1 **Approval of Minutes**

- Regular Meeting held February 28, 2017
- Regular Meeting held March 7, 2017
- Regular Meeting held March 21, 2017

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meetings held February 28, March 7 and March 21, 2017 as submitted.

8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

8.2.1 Correspondence

8.2.2 Chief Superintendent's Update

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that the Board would meet in camera to discuss two labour issues, one legal issue and one strategic planning issue.

Recessed: 1:22 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:50 p.m.

9 | IN-CAMERA SESSION

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 April 4, 2017 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.

Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of KPMG LLP to serve as the external auditors for the Calgary Board of Education, for the provision of external audit services; and**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to proceed with the preparation of a contract pursuant to the Terms and Conditions as previously agreed upon.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to correspond with the Minister of Education, as per the letter attached to the private report dated April 4, 2017.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.