

## 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 9, 2019 at 12:00 noon

---

### MEETING ATTENDANCE

#### Board of Trustees:

Trustee T. Hurdman, Chair  
Trustee A. Adams  
Trustee M. Bradshaw  
Trustee L. Davis  
Trustee M. Dennis  
Trustee R. Hehr  
Trustee J. Hrdlicka

#### Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. T. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary

Chair Hurdman noted the Board agreed to meet in-camera prior to the public portion of the Regular Meeting to discuss one governance matter and called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

#### Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

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 9, 2019, 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 Hehr:

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

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 11:17 a.m.



**Calgary Board  
of Education**

Reconvened: 12:03 p.m.  
MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee T. Hurdman, Chair  
Trustee A. Adams  
Trustee M. Bradshaw  
Trustee L. Davis  
Trustee M. Dennis  
Trustee R. Hehr  
Trustee J. Hrdlicka

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Mr. E. Sutlic on behalf of Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services and  
Acting Superintendent, Human Resources  
Ms. S. Smith, Acting Superintendent, Learning  
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer  
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary  
Ms. T. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary  
Ms. M. Broda, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40  
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association  
Mr. B. Cocking, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38  
Ms. L. Bettsworth, Elementary School Principals' Association  
Ms. M. Krickhan, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)  
Mr. W. Mailandt, Senior High School Principals' Association

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

Chair Hurdman called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. and O Canada was led by the Fish Creek School students by way of a pre-recorded DVD.

Chair Hurdman 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.

Chair Hurdman welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations and staff, students and parents in the public gallery. She acknowledged and welcomed Grade 1 students from Ron Southern School and their teacher Ms. Tennis, noting they have moved their classroom to the historical Beltline district and downtown. Their week



has them investigating the question “How does change and innovation affect me, my family, my community, my world?” Students will explore spaces in Calgary that demonstrate care, respect, and love for our city. From examining the public spaces of the new Central Library, Olympic Plaza, and parks in the downtown, to experiencing the Beltline Urban Murals Project, students will see the places and people who have come together to make this city amazing. They met with Acting Superintendent of Learning Sydney Smith today and will meet with Trustee Hrdlicka on Thursday.

## 2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

**THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 9, 2019 be approved as submitted.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### 3.1 Lighthouse Award

Acting Superintendent Smith introduced the Lighthouse Award recipient for April, the University of Calgary Dual Credit Program. The University worked alongside the CBE and developed a number of dual credit courses, which allow students to earn university and high school credits simultaneously while they also work toward successfully completing their high school diploma. This year, over 400 CBE students will graduate with dual credits. The program has expanded over the last 5 years, increasing the number of students enrolled to participate as well as the variety of courses available.

Julia, a graduate of Centennial High School and currently attending the University of Calgary, spoke about her participation and experiences while in the Dual Credit Program. She took Psychology as her dual credit course, and though she was apprehensive about going to the University that first day, she soon looked forward to the weekly train ride to class. The program has helped her to improve skills that she would use once she started University. The Dual Credit Program helped Julia feel more prepared and more confident on her first day of University.

Dr. D. Marshall spoke on behalf of the University. Dr. Marshall was involved in the creation of the Dual Credit Program at the University and originally looked at it as a way of keeping high performing students engaged in learning. The program has since been expanded and broadened to benefit more students. The University has really enjoyed this partnership and thanked the CBE for their collaboration.

Chair Hurdman thanked the University and Julia for sharing their experiences.



## 4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

### 4.1 **Results Policies: Reasonable Interpretations**

Chair Hurdman noted that this report was presented at the February 5, 2019 Regular meeting where trustees asked questions and received clarification on various issues. She stated that the Board must now formally act on the report.

Administration responded to a trustee's question on why the Technology summary measure was included as part of Results 5 and not Results 4.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the student survey indicators for Results 4: Personal Development; and**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the student survey indicators for Results 5: Character.**

Trustee comments in debate of the motion included: the importance of understanding the indicators and clearly knowing the data that makes up the results; and the survey questions are helpful in knowing the background data.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### 4.2 **Results 4: Personal Development – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Usih made opening remarks about the report, stating it is reporting on the 2017/2018 school year. The report combines results from report cards, the student survey and student stories in order to illustrate the outcomes. Over 96% of students have reported an overall level of success in personal development.

Katie, a grade 11 student from Queen Elizabeth High School spoke about her success in personal development. With the addition of flex time in her school schedule, she was able to overcome her test anxiety by using the extra time to study more, do practice questions and learn how to become better prepared for test taking.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: the physical health summary measure decreasing consistently after grade 5; quantifying what is too much screen time; the ability of staff to only measure areas that they have control over during school hours; observations of students that have too much screen time; the collection of other data on screen time and potential to make policy; how sharing feelings presents itself in the classroom and its effects on mental health in the classroom; what stress relief strategies are being referred to; the gap between the target and the result for



overall agreement measure on emotional health; calculation of the annual returning rates; and community engagement on mental health.

Chair Hurdman asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to reasonable progress being made towards achievement of this Results policy, exceptions or commendations. She asked that if any motions are to be proposed, that notification be given to the Corporate Secretary and to all trustees by noon, April 11, 2019. The Chair noted that this item will be placed on the Board meeting agenda for April 16, 2019, for consideration.

## 5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

### 5.1 **OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating that the data came from the 2017/2018 school year. The CBE is in compliance with 5 of 7 indicators. Noncompliance of indicator 4 was caught early on and was remedied and noncompliance of indicator 2 has been addressed through the capacity section of the report.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: security clearance costs and potential for being a deterrent; meaning of clearly defined student code of conduct; reviews done of the code of conduct; monitoring being done on the implementation of the student code of conduct and whether it is working; whether or not schools are given guidelines on how to communicate the code of conduct; number of student responses to the survey; the position taken by the CBE to practice emergency plans, even though lockdown procedures are not mandated through legislation; staff awareness of drills scheduled; potential of prior trauma to impact or trigger emotional reaction in the classroom when doing drills; notification of parents when a lockdown is planned; structure of referral when referencing indicator 5; percentage considered low for compliance of indicator 5; legal requirement of monitoring absenteeism, expulsions, and suspensions; compliance of fire drills in schools; cancellation of a fire drill due to weather or other circumstances; costs incurred from Fire Department responses to fire drills; Gay Straight Alliance numbers; and policy or regulation about parental permission in clubs.

Chair Hurdman asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students – Annual Monitoring to the Corporate Secretary and to trustees by noon, April 11, 2019. She stated that if no motions come forward, the item will be placed on the April 16, 2019 Consent Agenda.

### 5.2 **High School Utilization by 2023**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, which is in response to a directive by the Board at the March 12, 2019 Regular meeting. There is a short term concern of having enough space for all CBE students, but further into the future, the projected enrolment declines. There is a fine line between building enough to meet system needs and over building.



Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: Cornerstone and Livingston sites readiness; projected enrolment numbers from previous capital reports not aligning to projections in this report; source of increase in projected enrolment rates only for high school; is capital plan 88% based on weighted enrolment; severe complex learning needs student numbers remaining consistent, yet the data shows an increase of 66% in last 5 years; capacity calculation at high school level; length of time from Ministerial approval for a school build to the school opening; who controls the building of the schools; in 2025 it appears 9000 more spaces will be required than CBE would have, even with the north high school; more high schools required on the capital plan – approximately 5; options to meet additional capacity requirements and identification of sites for high schools; higher utilization rates in high schools due to more flexible use of space, is this the same for other new schools at other grade levels; what is 1-2 year until readiness at the Northeast site dependent on and at what stage is the process currently at; when is Northeast site going to Joint Use Coordinating Committee for purchase; and other possibilities for the Southeast planning sector to allow space for a high school.

Recessed: 1:56 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:11 p.m.

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

**That the Board of Trustees receives information by June 30, 2019 on potential options to increase high school spaces in light of the lack of serviced high school sites.**

The Chair ruled the motion out of order as this is work Administration is already undertaking and it is in contravention of policies GC-2, GC-7 and B/CSR-4.

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

**THAT the decision of the Chair be over-ruled.**

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion to over-rule.

The motion was  
DEFEATED.

In favour:	Trustee Adams Trustee Davis
Opposed:	Trustee Bradshaw Trustee Dennis Trustee Hehr Trustee Hrdlicka Trustee Hurdman

## 6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### 6.1 Ms. C. Reynolds, Owner of Creative Discoveries Preschool



Ms. Reynolds spoke about running the Rosscarrock preschool for 16 years. Some concerns expressed by the parents are the kids crossing major roadways to get to other designated schools and the loss of relationships made at school and within the community.

## 7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

### 7.1 **Consideration of Closure of Rosscarrock School**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report recommending the closure of Rosscarrock School. There has been dwindling enrolment over the years. The *School Act, Closure of Schools Regulation* has been followed. CBE staff have done their work over the last few months in compliance with the Act and Regulation.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: percentage of students attending that are English Language Learners; discussions happening with the City of Calgary's planning group in light of the letter received from the City; how geocoding and city census numbers are taken into account with the number of rentals in the area and people moving in and out; projected increases in preschool aged children for next 3 years; 5 year enrolment projections for Glendale and Wildwood Schools.

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

**THAT the Minutes of the Public Meeting of March 7, 2019 attached to the report as Attachment I, be approved by the Board of Trustees.**

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trustee Hehr provided a synopsis of the written and verbal submissions received from the public. Themes identified were: the adverse impact and loss of relationships within the community; lack of access to transportation; loss of vitality of community schools; families moved to the neighbourhood for proximity to school and worry that fewer families might choose this area if the school closes; impact on future developments; small school allowed for the creation of relationships; advantage of having preschool program in the building; question the accuracy of projection numbers; communications of potential closure have already caused some parents to withdraw their children from school; walkability safety when crossing busy roads to designated schools; concern about learning needs being met at the new schools; and support for the use of the school for alternative programming.

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the closure of Rosscarrock School and all programs contained therein, effective June 30, 2019.**



Chair Hurdman reminded the Board that this decision is for the closure of the regular program.

In debate of the motion, trustee comments included: the decision impacts citizens and students; importance of community schools; requirement to balance the amount of money spent on schools and managing capacity levels across the system; low enrolment impacts learning opportunities and resources available to students; conscious of fiscal conservatism; aware of the impacts to the system and the students who attend this school; need to consider both short and long term implications as well as other possibilities; new immigrants chose this area for walkability and proximity to the school as well as affordability; public education has made a difference in these students lives; learning is the CBE's central purpose and it is questionable if that is being done well for these students; over 50% of the Area Office's discretionary funds go towards maintaining this one school and there is no ability to offer any enrichment programs; having a class of Kindergarten to Grade 3 students is not serving those students well; question whether the CBE's limited resources are being used in the most effective and impactful ways possible for these students; reflected on planning principles; no long term sustainability with current and projected enrolment numbers; transition of moving students and the number of transitions students experience could impact them; and class sizes that are too small may not be conducive to quality learning.

At 3:03 p.m. the Chair received approval from the Board to continue the meeting to the completion of the agenda.

In continued debate, trustees reiterated many of their earlier comments. Additional comments included: the community was engaged and provided their input; finding more efficiencies and supporting students are main topics of concern heard from the public; responsibility of the Board to take in all the evidence and consider all students across the entire system; the desire is for all children to be able to walk to their local school; the Board decided on a goal of equity at the beginning of the year; have found ways to fund shortfalls in the past because it was the right thing to do; decision have to make today is legislated; this building offers hope for families and kids in the neighborhood; vulnerable community in Rosscarrock; this has been an overflow school for quite some time; students moving to other schools will allow them to take part in field trips and extra-curricular activities they would not get otherwise; affordability has an impact in the area; closure does not align with our long term interests; safety was a concern and that was clear by public comments made; connection with community is vital; distance needed to travel to school doesn't matter, it's the community as soon as you walk in the school doors; excited about possibility of the students going to new schools and being welcomed; other funding shortfall decisions were based on meeting needs and not on geography; the need is so great across the whole system and there are many areas of need and this one school has so few students and requires so much allocation in resources; there are 2 other schools within walking distance and 5 alternative programs in this area; the CBE can't keep every one of the low enrolment schools open; resources are being taken away from all schools in order to keep this one open for very few students; and other communities do not have as much access to programs and schools as this one.



Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
DEFEATED.

In favour:	Trustee Bradshaw Trustee Dennis Trustee Hurdman
Opposed:	Trustee Adams Trustee Davis Trustee Hehr Trustee Hrdlicka

## 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 January 8, 2019
- Regular Meeting held January 15, 2019
- Regular Meeting held January 29, 2019
- Regular Meeting held February 5, 2019
- Regular Meeting held February 12, 2019
- Regular Meeting held February 26, 2019
- Regular Meeting held March 5, 2019

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings as noted above, as submitted.**

### 8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

8.2.1 Correspondence

8.2.2 Annual Summative Evaluation of the Chief Superintendent

Chair Hurdman noted that the Board would meet in-camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss three land and two governance matters. She noted the next public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Recessed: 3:39 p.m.  
Reconvened: 3:58 p.m.

## 9 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:



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 9, 2019, 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 Adams:

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

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendation

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the reappointment of Mr. Hanif Ladha as Governor of EducationMatters for an additional three-year term effective April 14, 2019, ending April 14, 2022.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hurdman declared the meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

