

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, January 7, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

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

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. R. Armstrong, Superintendent, Human Resources
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement
Dr. D. Yee, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. M. Bester, Senior High School Principals’ Association
Mr. B. Cocking, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38
Ms. R. Harms, Elementary School Principals’ Association
Mr. L. Keister, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Ms. R. Royal, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. K. Weipert, Senior High School Principals’ Association

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Dennis called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. and Derek, a student from Cedarbrae School, led the singing of O Canada. On behalf of the Board, Trustee Hrdlicka expressed appreciation to Derek for his performance.

Chair Dennis 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 Dennis welcomed staff, public members and representatives from the aforementioned organizations. She also welcomed Grade 6 students from Senator Patrick Burns School.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted there were no changes to the agenda.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2020 as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

3.1 **Legacy Award**

Chair Dennis noted the Board of Trustees is recognizing and honouring Dr. Freda Miller for the CBE Legacy Award. The 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 inspiring life-long learning. The Chair shared that last September, the Board named the new K-4 elementary school in the community of Evergreen after Dr. Miller. The Chair then shared highlights of Dr. Miller's extinguished career as a cell and molecular developmental neurobiologist at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. Dr. Miller shared comments of appreciation for the CBE's tribute. The Board of Trustees presented Dr. Miller with a piece of artwork created by Kristen, a Grade 11 student from Queen Elizabeth High School.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

There were no items.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 **OE-3: Instructional Program – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the annual monitoring report for OE-3: Instructional Program. He noted the data collected for this report applies to the 2018-2019 school year. The evidence shows that compliance was met with 17 of the 18 indicators, with the exception being indicator 3.4.3.



Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: the delivery of dual credit and exploratory credit programs, fiscal components associated with the programs and the number of students accessing them; transportation funding and costs; definition of whole class off-site activities and where funds come from to cover waived fees; the number of routes that were re-assigned to other service providers in response to poor performance measures; student access to CTS courses not offered at home schools; enrolment levels in RAP courses; principal and teacher review of student learning plans; process of identifying students for specialized assessments; and what opportunity looks like in terms of offering quiet places for students in high schools that are over capacity.

The Chair asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-3: Instructional Program to the Corporate Secretary and all trustees by noon, January 9, 2020. If no motions are received, the item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2020 with a motion that the Board of Trustees approves the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of the policy.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **Annual Education Results Report 2018-2019 and Three-Year Education Plan 2019-2022**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the item, noting that the reports provide the provincial government and our community with an in-depth look at the CBE's performance on provincial accountability measures and plan for continued organizational growth. The Annual Education Results Report and Three-Year Education Plan summarize the CBE's past results from Alberta Education's accountability measures and outlines the strategies for this current school year; the reports also provide a summary of the CBE's financial information for 2018-19. The reports are a part of Alberta Education's accountability framework for the Kindergarten to Grade 12 system. He noted that CBE schools are also currently documenting annual results reports and school development plans, copies of which will be available on the respective school websites.

Superintendents Pitman and Yee shared highlights of the Annual Education Results Report and Three-Year Education Plan.

Administration responded to numerous questions posed by trustees on matters including: the number of students who annually self identify as Indigenous; examples of the work to build and respond to data sets to inform future years' actions for the Literacy strategy; the utilization of running records for monitoring levels of progress in reading; the high school completion rate within four and five years, how completion rates are tracked and whether or not a breakdown in gender is available; how the Indigenous education strategy may differ from the previous year and when the strategy will be finalized; clarification that this is the third year for each of the four strategies; the increased instructional time for Math; the replacement of Math coaches with 13 Math strategists; examples of enhancement of



student voice in learning, assessment and decision-making; clarification of Discovering Choices Outreach at four locations and student enrolment in Outreach Programs; educators provided to CBE-Supported Community-Based Programming; CBE disclosures not acted on; the status of class size reporting, which the provincial government has not given direction on to date; the development of assessment resources as part of the Math strategy and how those are shared; ongoing work for student wellness and resiliency, diversity and relationship building; succession planning, coaching and mentoring; employee awareness of mental health and well-being supports; organizational effectiveness and service transformation; high impact instructional strategies – how they are determined and effectively implemented; the commissioning costs for three new schools in 2020-21 to come from capital reserves; a detailed breakdown of the cohort responses to the three areas that declined significantly in the Accountability Pillar overall summary; promotion of system-wide approaches to environmental sustainability moving forward; and system work to promote Indigenous student and parent voice.

Chair Dennis called for a brief recess.

Recessed: 2:32 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:48 p.m.

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Annual Education Results Report 2018-2019 and the Three-Year Education Plan 2019-2022, and authorizes its submission to Alberta Education.

Trustee comments in debate of the motion included: the two reports form a cornerstone document for the CBE; it is evident that students overall are doing extremely well and it also evident that some students are struggling and that changes are required to address this; and the reports provide good direction for moving forward.

Chair Dennis called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.2 Fall 2019 Update to the 2019-20 Budget and First Quarter Budget Variance Report

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, noting that the Board of Trustees approved the 2019-20 Budget on June 25, 2019, and this fall Budget update incorporates the strategies set out in the Budget Assumptions report presented to the Board on December 10, 2019. Chief Usih reviewed the timeline of events, reports provided to the Board through the 2019-20 budget cycle, in part presented on page 7-50 of the report, and details of the fall update to the 2019-20 Budget.

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



Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: use of the \$18 million fee replacement grant during the 2018-19 school year; the growth of CBE students with complex needs and associated increase in transportation costs; the spring 2019-20 budget anticipating that revenue from Alberta Education would be based on maintained funding; an explanation of the figures reported for the schools and areas budget, involving rate and volume; clarity around people versus FTE reductions; leave costs for the past two years and comparisons for this year's budget; administrative planning over the next 60 to 90 days, in advance of the 2020-21 provincial budget; opportunities and challenges with using operating and capital reserves; and the large increase in the schools and areas expenses for utilities resulting from the move of cell phone costs from the central budget.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Fall 2019 Update to the 2019-20 Budget, reflecting total planned spending of \$1,380.5 million, a decrease of \$28.5 million from the 2019-20 Budget, and authorizes the Fall 2019 Update submission to Alberta Education; and**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees approves the planned 2019-20 use of reserves for a total of \$24.2 million.**

In debate of the motion, trustee comments included: CBE staff work diligently for student success; it is important for efficiencies to be found wherever possible and that is what Administration does, but this is a budget that will systemically damage the organization that trustees were elected to represent; these cuts to education are not right and matters are going to become even more difficult going forward; this has been extremely difficult work and it is gratefully appreciated; the loss of staff is concerning, as is the level of reserves that are dangerously low; the work going forward can not be done alone – the new funding framework, choice in education, the new budget/frozen provincial budget, new curriculum – is all huge work and requires the people who believe in public education to be a part of it; the organization has to move forward and it is necessary to give Administration permission to execute the budget; students are counting on the Board to ensure a smooth transition as we move past this budget; it will be important for trustees and Administration to work closely together as the landscape will change very quickly as will some of the priorities; had funding kept pace with growth and inflation since 2011, the CBE would have received more than \$170 million this year, which has essentially been cut from the budget over the past nine years; this government has been very clear that they have a strong mandate from Albertans to bring the books back into balance and that every ministry must play their part, and Education is one of the largest ministry's; the Board has made a very clear case in terms of what these shortfalls mean for public education and it is the Board's job to continue to do that; with regards to voting against the budget, the consequences are not only legal but about the system that the Board is responsible for and has an obligation to do its best within the constraints it is given; it is appreciated that the Minister allowed the CBE to use maintenance funding in order to buy a little more time in planning for next year; Administration has done a good job in sharing with the Board what the realities look like, and there were no surprises in this report; being honest with each other, with students, parents, staff, the public, and Alberta Education is important and valued; and this Board will continue to advocate for adequate funding for public education.



Chair Dennis called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee Bradshaw

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to report to the Board by March 10, 2020 on: a) any contractual changes to benefits in leave costs for all employee groups that will impact the CBE's 2020-21 budget; and b) the strategies used by Administration to manage employee leave costs.

Subsequent to trustees' questioning of the intent of the motion, Chair Dennis called for a five-minute recess to allow Trustee Davis time to consider rewording.

Recessed: 4:36 p.m.
Reconvened: 4:52 p.m.

Trustee Davis shared the reworded motion as follows:

THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to report to the Board by March 10, 2020 on: a) any increased costs to the 2019-20 budget related to benefits in leaves of certificated staff in connection with the ATA collective agreement; and b) strategies used by Administration to manage employee leave costs.

Subsequent to further questions by trustees, Trustee Davis withdrew the motion.

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to report to the Board by March 10, 2020 on any proposed or contemplated changes to educational programs or courses for the 2020-21 school year related to the Calgary Board of Education 2020-21 budget.

Subsequent to trustees' questioning of the intent of the motion; comments that this is an expectation through OE-7: Communication With and Support for the Board; and Administration's confirmation to engage the Board in conversations prior to the 2020-21 Budget Assumptions Report coming forward, Trustee Davis withdrew the motion.

7.3 Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 12, 2019

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 12, 2019 as submitted.

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Abstained: Trustee Hehr

7.4 Minutes of the Special Meeting held November 20, 2019

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Special Meeting held November 20, 2019 as submitted.

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Davis
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman

Abstained: Trustee Bradshaw
Trustee Hehr

8 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

8.1 Items Provided for Board Approval

8.1.1 Minutes of the Regular Meetings held:

- November 21, 2019
- November 26, 2019

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held November 21 and 26, 2019 as submitted.



Chair Dennis noted that the Board would meet in camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss two labour and three strategic governance matters. She noted the next public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Recessed: 5:11 p.m.
Reconvened: 5:23 p.m.

10 | IN-CAMERA SESSION

Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

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, January 7, 2020 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.

Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to communicate with the Minister of Education as discussed in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT on adjournment, the meeting adjourns to the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Dennis declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Chair Dennis reconvened the January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 1:05 p.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 in Room T224 of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

In Attendance:

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

Absent:

Trustee M. Bradshaw

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary

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, January 7, 2020 and reconvened on January 8, 2020, 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.



Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves recommendation a) as outlined in the private report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves recommendation b) as outlined in the private report.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman

Abstained: Trustee Davis

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves recommendation c) as outlined in the private report.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman

Opposed: Trustee Davis

Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT on adjournment, the meeting adjourns to the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Davis
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman



Opposed: Trustee Hehr

The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Chair Dennis reconvened the January 7, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 2:04 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in Room T224 of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

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

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary

Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

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, January 7, 2020 and reconvened on January 9, 2020, 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 Bradshaw:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT on adjournment, the meeting adjourns to the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

