

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, December 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Bolger (Chair)
Trustee N. Close
Trustee L. Hack
Trustee C. May
Trustee S. Vukadinovic

Absent:

Trustee M. Dennis

Administration:

J. Pitman, Chief Superintendent of Schools
D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
K. Fenney, General Counsel
B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services
M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
M. Nelson, Superintendent, School Improvement
J. Turner, Superintendent, School Improvement
P. Minor, Corporate Secretary
M. Graham, Board Administrator

Stakeholder Representatives:

C. Gordon, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Local 40
J. George, Elementary School Principals' Association
S. Clements, Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), Local 38

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Bolger called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and students from McKenzie Lake School led the national anthem through a video recording.

Chair Bolger acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Treaty 7 Nations, including the Siksikaitsitapi, comprised of the Siksika, the Kainai, the Piikani, and the Amskapi Piikani Nations. We acknowledge the Tsuut'ina Nation, the Îyârhe Nakoda, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney Nations, the Métis Nation within Alberta, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of southern Alberta. This land on which we gather is traditionally known as Moh'kinstsis, Guts'ists'i, Wîchîspa, and otôskwanihk.



**Calgary Board
of Education**

As a learning organization, we are committed to advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action focused on Education for ReconciliACTION.

Oki, Dādánast'áda, Âba Wathtec, Tânisî, Taanishi, bonjour, hello, and welcome, from Chair Bolger, to all staff, union representatives, and members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/ APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

P. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted that requests were received to remove items 9.2.2. 2024-2025 School Enrolment Report and 9.2.3 Construction Project Status Report from the Consent Agenda and add them as items 7.1 and 7.2 under Matters Reserved for Board Information, and that third reading of the Bylaw to Require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations, as discussed at the Special Meeting of the Board on December 16, 2024, be added as item 8.4 under Matters Reserved for Board Decision.

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2024, subject to the changes noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Bolger
Trustee Close
Trustee Hack
Trustee May

Opposed: Trustee Vukadinovic

Absent: Trustee Dennis

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no presentations.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

There were no reports or presentations.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no reports or presentations.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

C. Gordon, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40, made comments on requirements for Police Information Checks, stating opposition to the



proposed Bylaw to Require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations due to privacy concerns, and the opinion that Vulnerable Sector Checks should be required for any persons, including elected trustees and contractors, who enter CBE property.

7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD INFORMATION

7.1 2024-2025 School Enrolment Report

Chief Superintendent Pitman introduced the report, highlighting that it reports on enrolment as at the end of September 2024; continued high enrolment growth; and work of the CBE to support high enrolment and school utilization pressures.

Superintendent Breton provided further highlights from the report, including City of Calgary population growth statistics; details of enrolment growth; record non-Canadian citizen registration; high school utilization rates; the need for new school construction and additional modular classrooms; and anticipated impacts on the 2025-2028 Three-Year School Plan.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters from the report, including the impact of funding based on a three-year weighted moving average and school overflow designations.

A trustee commented on the formula used to calculate school utilization and how utilization rates are applied by Alberta Education to inform funding.

7.2 Construction Project Status Report

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters from the report, including the modernizations of John G. Diefenbaker high school and Sir John A. Macdonald high school.

8 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD DECISION

8.1 Recommendation to Commence Public Input for Closure of Home Education Program for the Purpose of Relocation

Chief Superintendent Pitman introduced the report, stating that the public input process is to consider relocating the Home Education Program from Windsor Park school to Bel-Aire school for home educated students; the benefit of educational partnership between Home Education and the CBE; maximizing use of CBE property; overview of the Home Education Program; system-wide high utilization rates; and the return of the Bel-Aire property into the CBE inventory from previous charter school lease.

Superintendent Breton provided further highlights from the report, including the mandate and history of the Home Education Program; the School Closure for the Purpose of Relocation procedure; City of Calgary community population projections; and the opportunity to increase the availability of learning spaces in the community.



Administration responded to trustee questions on matters from the report including City of Calgary community population growth projections; accommodation for the parent-led library and family flex room in the Bel-Aire school; and gymnasium space at the Bel-Aire school.

A Point of Order was called regarding the relevance of a trustee question to the decision being considered by the Board. The trustee withdrew her question.

Administration continued to respond to trustee questions on matters from the report including how long the Home Education Program has been facilitated at Windsor Park school; funding of the CBE Home Education program; enrolment in the Home Education Program; impact on school utilization balancing in the community; costs to re-open the Bel-Aire school for CBE use; crosswalk safety; before-and-after school care; inclusion of the CBE Home Education program in the System Student Accommodation Plan; operational and maintenance funding for the school building hosting the CBE Home Education program; and parking availability at the Bel-Aire school site.

MOVED by Trustee May:

THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to commence the public input process to consider the closure of CBE Home Education at Windsor Park School for the purpose of relocation in accordance with GC-3E(2) Closure of Schools Procedure.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on their confidence in the report and the information provided to evidence sufficient cause to commence the public input process; the value of receiving additional perspectives and input from the public; the opportunity to optimize learning spaces; and consideration of the impact of change on students and families.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee May:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the public input period to consider the closure of CBE Home Education for the purpose of relocation to be shortened from 60 calendar days to 57 calendar days in accordance with GC-3E(2) Closure of Schools Procedure.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on aligning the public input process timeline with the February 11, 2025 regularly scheduled Board meeting while still allowing sufficient time to hear from the public and ensuring sufficient time for planning for the 2025-2026 school year based on the decision of the Board.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Recessed: 12:15 p.m.
Reconvened: 12:33 p.m.

8.2 Consideration of Closure of All Boys Program

Chief Superintendent Pitman introduced the report. Superintendent Breton provided an overview of the CBE's compliance with the *Education Act* and the Board of Trustees' Governance Policy 3E: Closure of Schools Procedure.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters in the report, including the impact of operational and maintenance costs on the financial impact of closure of the All Boys Program; the impact of financial savings by closing the All Boys Program; alternative opportunities for specialized classes for neuro-diverse learners; student demographics specific to student transfers from regular program schools; the difference between programs of choice and placements of students on the continuum of supports; the availability of support services; impact on transportation; anticipated enrolment should Sir James Lougheed School return to regular programming; eligibility criteria for placement in specialized classes or unique setting schools; the potential for and barriers to opening a unique setting school for neuro-diverse learners; and universal supports available in CBE schools.

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Public Input Meeting for All Boys Program held on October 22, 2024, provided in Attachment I to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Trustee Vukadinovic provided an overview of the public written submissions received from October 22, 2024 to December 10, 2024 in the Area Seven office and the Board of Trustees' Office. Themes included the mandate of the All Boys Program, the success of students in the All Boys Program; the support needs of neuro-diverse learners; the low enrolment in the All Boys Program; the benefits of single-gendered education; financial implications; and the desire for a regular program community school.

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the closure of the All Boys Program effective June 30, 2025.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on the information and public input received by the Board of Trustees in consideration of closure of the All Boys Program; the difficulty of the decision and the impact it will have on students and families; the



values that students come first, learning is our central purpose, and public education serves the common good, and the value of choice and equity in education; fiscal responsibility and financial equity; system enrolment, utilization pressures, and the need to increase available learning spaces; the mandate of the All Boys Program as a single-gender program of choice; benefits of inclusive learning; support needs of neurodivergent learners; prioritization of wellbeing; and transition planning.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Recessed: 1:31 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:39 p.m.

8.3 CBE Ward System Bylaw – First Second and Third Reading

Chair Bolger provided an overview of the bylaw adoption process as per section 76(1) of the *Education Act* and the Board of Trustees' Ward Boundary Review policy. The CBE Ward System Bylaw is required for the 2025 municipal election.

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes Bylaw Number 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards ("Bylaw 2 of 2024") be given first reading.

A trustee asked a question regarding the order of agenda items. The Corporate Secretary clarified the order of items as per the adoption of the agenda.

In debate of the motion trustees made comments on the technicality and necessity of authorizing the Ward System Bylaw to allow for the nomination and election of trustees by wards, as required prior to December 31, 2025.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

In accordance with Section 6(3) of the Board Procedures Regulation AR 82/2019 under the *Education Act*, Corporate Secretary, P. Minor read The Calgary Board of Education Bylaw 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of the Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards (Bylaw 2 of 2024), in its entirety for the record.

Recessed: 1:53 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:55 p.m.



MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves first reading of Bylaw 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards.

A trustee asked a question about potential ward boundary changes that have not yet been adopted and that may impact these ward boundaries prior to election.

In debate of the motion trustees made comments on the complexity of the boundaries for each ward and the helpfulness of the map provided as part of the report.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes Bylaw 2 of 2024 be given second reading.

In debate of the motion trustees made comments on the straight-forward nature of the motion.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Corporate Secretary, P. Minor, restated for the record The Calgary Board of Education Bylaw Number 1 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards (Bylaw 2 of 2024).

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves second reading of Bylaw 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards.

In debate of the motion trustees made further comments on boundary complexity and the clarity the report provides for the purposes of Municipal Elections in 2025.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:

THAT, in accordance with Section 6(2) of the Board Procedure Regulation (AR 82/2019) under the *Education Act*, the Board of Trustees authorizes Bylaw 2 of 2024 be given third reading.

In debate of the motion trustees made comments on time for consideration of decisions; the small changes to boundaries that do not cause significant impact on individual trustee responsibilities or workload; the technicality of the bylaw; and support for the ward system.

Recessed: 2:21 p.m.
Reconvened: 2:27 p.m.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Corporate Secretary, P. Minor, restated for the record The Calgary Board of Education Bylaw Number 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards (Bylaw 2 of 2024).

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves third reading of Bylaw 2 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards.

A trustee asked for clarification on the numbering of bylaws. Clarification was provided by the Corporate Secretary, noting that bylaws are numbered in the order they are floored regardless of whether the bylaw passes or is defeated.

Trustees had no further comments to make in debate of the motion.

Chair Bolger called for a vote.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis



8.4 Bylaw to Require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations

Chair Bolger introduced the item, noting the first and second reading of Bylaw Number 1 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations ("Bylaw 1 of 2024") occurred on December 16, 2024, and that the matter is on today's agenda to consider third reading.

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:

THAT the Board of Trustees postpone third reading of Bylaw Number 1 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations ("Bylaw 1 of 2024") indefinitely.

Recessed: 2:33 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:34 p.m.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on the controversial nature of the issue; privacy concerns; evaluation of further research and analysis on this matter; and time already given for consideration and debate on the matter.

The motion was:
DEFEATED.

In Favour: Trustee Vukadinovic

Opposed: Trustee Bolger
Trustee Close
Trustee Hack
Trustee May

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:

THAT pursuant to Section N(10)(J) of the Board Meeting Procedures, the Board of Trustees authorizes that no trustee shall speak more than twice for five minutes on the motions to be considered on The Calgary Board of Education Bylaw to require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations ("Bylaw 1 of 2024").

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on providing time to ensure all trustees are able to exercise the right to speak and be heard and on the purpose of debate.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Hack:



THAT, in accordance with Section 6(2) of the Board Procedure Regulation (AR 82/2019) under the *Education Act*, the Board of Trustees authorizes Bylaw 1 of 2024 be given third reading.

A trustee called a Point of Order and asked about further opportunity to ask questions of administration about Bylaw 1 of 2024. The Chair ruled against the Point of Order, noting that trustees had the opportunity to ask questions about the proposed bylaw at the December 16, 2024 Special Meeting.

Recessed: 2:48 p.m.
Reconvened: 2:54 p.m.

A trustee called a Point of Information and asked a question about the timeline for receiving requested Police Information Check and potential impact on filing of nomination papers with the City of Calgary. Information was provided by General Counsel.

In debate on the motion, trustees made comments on previous debate on the matter of Bylaw 1 of 2024.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Bolger
Trustee Close
Trustee Hack
Trustee May

Opposed: Trustee Vukadinovic

Absent: Trustee Dennis

In accordance with Section 6(3) of the Board Procedures Regulation AR 82/2019 under the *Education Act*, Corporate Secretary, P. Minor read The Calgary Board of Education Bylaw 1 of 2024, being a Bylaw of the Calgary Board of Education to require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations (Bylaw 1 of 2024), in its entirety for the record.

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves third reading of Bylaw 1 of 2024, being a Bylaw of The Calgary Board of Education to require Police Information Checks for Trustee Candidate Nominations ("Bylaw 1 of 2024").

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on previous debate on the matter of Bylaw 1 of 2024; time that has been taken to consider information provided about Bylaw 1 of 2024; reasonable action to ensure trust in the governance of the Calgary Board of Education; and provision of information to the public for the purposes of election decisions.



A trustee called a Point of Order objecting to comments made in debate. The Chair ruled the Point of Order invalid, noting all trustees are free to exercise their right to speak freely.

In continued debate of the motion, trustees made comments on privacy concerns; risks and benefits of requiring candidates to provide Police Information Checks; the purpose of the Bylaw; concerns about barriers to running for election; opportunities provided to ask questions and debate prior to today; existing internal regulations that include police information checks for all CBE staff; and expectations of the public that trustees be held to the same standards and regulations.

A trustee called a Point of Order objecting to statements made in debate. The Chair ruled the Point of Order invalid.

In continued debate of the motion, trustees made comments on the Board of Trustees' policy Governance Culture 7: Trustee Code of Conduct.

A trustee called a Point of Order objecting to statements made in debate. The Chair ruled the Point of Order invalid.

In continued debate of the motion, trustees made comments on the expectation of value-led leadership and the creation of workplaces that are safe, positive, inclusive and welcoming; alignment with Calgary Catholic School District who have made the decision to require Police Record Checks for trustee candidates; provision of information about candidates to the electorate; and the mandate of the Calgary Board of Education to provide education for underage citizens.

A trustee called a Point of Order objecting to statements made in debate. The Chair ruled the Point of Order invalid.

In continued debate of the motion, trustees made comments on demonstrating leadership in ethical behaviour, transparency, and consistency; concern about characterizations of people who may have criminal records; the inability to speak effectively during this debate; the reasonableness of having high expectations for those seeking office in the Calgary Board of Education; ensuring trust and integrity in the Office of the Board of Trustees; and that having a criminal record does not automatically disqualify a candidate.

The motion is
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Bolger
Trustee Close
Trustee Hack
Trustee May

Opposed: Trustee Vukadinovic

Absent: Trustee Dennis



9 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

9.1 Items Provided for Board Decision

9.1.1 Revised Meeting Minutes

- Regular Meeting held October 29, 2024

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the revised minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 29, 2024.

9.1.2 Meeting Minutes

- Regular Meeting held November 5, 2024
- Regular Meeting held November 21, 2024
- Regular Meeting held November 26, 2024

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held November 5, 21, and 26, 2024.

9.2 Items Provided for Board Information

9.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

Chair Bolger noted the public portion of this meeting is now adjourned; and, that the Board would reconvene in private to discuss four land, four labour and five strategic planning matters. She stated the next public Board meeting is on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

Recessed: 3:24 p.m.

Reconvened: 3:57 p.m.

10 | **PRIVATE SESSION**

Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

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, December 17, 2024 be considered at a private session; therefore, be it

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

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent:

Trustee Dennis

Motion to Move Out of In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:



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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee May:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the bargaining mandate provided in Attachment I to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the process for the Chief Superintendent's Annual Summative Evaluation as outlined in Attachment I to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustee authorizes the Chair to communicate with EducationMatters as discussed in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the reappointment of Gerry Burger-Martindale to the Board of Governors for a three-year term effective January 1, 2025, ending January 1, 2028, and

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the reappointment of Tarjinder Bhullar to the Board of Governors for a three-year term effective January 1, 2025, ending January 1, 2028.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Dennis

MOVED by Trustee Hack:

THAT the Board of Trustee approves the amendment to the professional service agreement, as discussed in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Bolger
Trustee Close



Trustee Hack
Trustee May

Opposed: Trustee Vukadinovic

Absent: Trustee Dennis

11 | TERMINATION OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 6:38 p.m.

