

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Board Room, Education Centre, 515 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee G. Dirks
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee K. Kryczka
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Ms. N. Johnson, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. D. Stevenson, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. C. Faber, Superintendent, Learning Innovation
Mr. J. Johnston, Superintendent, Human Resources
Ms. D. Lewis, Superintendent, Learning Support
Mr. C. Davies, Sr. Executive Assistant to the Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. B. Kuester, Executive Director of Communications
Mr. R. Peden, Director and General Counsel, Legal Affairs
Ms. J. Barkway, Assistant Corporate Secretary
Ms. S. Wasylyshyn, Executive Assistant to the Trustees
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. B. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40 (arrived at 5:25 p.m.)
Ms. M. Clerkson, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. M. Leew, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Mr. G. Pedron, Elementary School Principals' Association
Ms. J. Regal, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and the singing of the national anthem took place, led by two students from Louise Dean School, Fallon and Korissa. Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

Action By

Action By:

2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Barkway noted that a stakeholder report would be given under Item 5.4.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 5, 2010, be approved as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Louise Dean School

Ms. Church provided opening remarks and introduced Ms. B. English, Principal, Louise Dean School. Ends 2: Academic Success and personalized learning was the focus of the presentation, including the impact that this teaching and learning has had on success for Louise Dean School students.

Ms. English provided details about their student profiles, noting that they are young women who are either pregnant or parenting; a large percentage of them have gaps in their education and have not received formal assessments; and 90% of them report that they will be the first in their family to graduate from high school. The common factor for these students is a history of a lack of academic and social success in past schools and most proclaim that they dislike school immensely. Many of the students have been identified as at-risk for not completing as early as elementary and at the junior high level. The strategic focus at Louise Dean School is grounded in G. Bottoms' *High Schools That Work* as well as *The Seven Cornerstones for Success* from The National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Ms. English pointed out that key to making a significant difference in each of their student's success is their gain of trust and self-esteem through the daily connections that occur between students and their teachers, advisors and teams, and the personalized learning that they receive. The students begin to believe in themselves and their educational goals. They are engaged in their own school plan and identifying their future educational needs and goal plan. They are taught about how to advocate for themselves. The first and most essential course that students must take is Life Skills. Students at Louise Dean School are completing high school within 3 to 4 years; 98% of the grade 10 and 11 students complete; on average over a four-year period, 92% of the diploma exams written have been passed; 72% of the students were accepted into post secondary or training programs. The school offers a summer program that runs for six weeks, to allow those students who are interested to continue their studies and to graduate sooner. Ms. English noted that they now offer an educational program for students up to 19 years of age.

Action By:

Korissa came forward and shared her personal and academic achievements, noting that her success came with the help of staff and supports at Louise Dean School. She is now attending SAIT in a legal assistant program and her intention is to gain additional knowledge in other professional fields through post secondary learning in the coming years.

On behalf of the Board, Trustee Lane thanked the presenters for sharing their story. He noted that he has heard much about personalized learning and he believes that it is also much about personalized teaching.

4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Report from the Chair and Trustees

Trustee Kryczka shared remarks about her visits to Western Canada High School, Emily Follensbee School and Elbow Park School for seasonal concerts and celebrations.

Trustee King noted that she visited Jack James High School on a day that the staff served breakfast to their students. Leadership students and staff put together 35 hampers, which they delivered before school closing to families in need.

5.2 Report from the Chief Superintendent

Chief Superintendent Johnson expressed a *Happy New Year* to all and noted that in 2010, attention in the Calgary Board of Education will be focused on continuous improvement through personalized learning. Strategic work with Apple Canada will be undertaken in the following areas: to enhance teaching and learning through mobile technologies which will shift our learning model to engage students in tasks around problem solving, critical thinking and creative thinking; to enhance our distributed learning strategy to the community and to post secondary learning; and to support our e-Learning strategies in our high schools.

Chief Superintendent Johnson introduced Ms. Merla Bolender who was recently recruited as System Principal, Learning Innovation. Ms. Bolender previously held the position of Director of Curriculum with Alberta Education.

She shared that approximately 7,000 kindergarten students have enrolled in our system for classes starting in the fall, 2010.

5.3 Public Question Period

There were no public questions.

5.4 Stakeholder Reports

5.4.1. Ms. H. Mowat, Member of the Public

Action By:

Ms. Mowat shared comments that she attributed to Margaret Thatcher, that there are generations growing up now that will not work in their lifetime, and that people must get used to that idea, as well as the comment that "the worst thing we ever gave the poor was education". Ms. Mowat suggested that everyone should look into the writings by Canadian Allan Watt, at www.cuttingthroughthematrix.com. She also referred to several books that she has read that she felt others should read. She suggested that the whole paradigm and the structure is systemically wrong.

5.5 Trustee Inquiries

There were no Trustee inquiries.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

7.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

7.1 Annual Monitoring Report for Executive Limitations 1: General Executive Constraint

Chair Cochrane noted that this is a dated report, but it is important to get the monitoring report on the corporate record. She reviewed the criteria against which the Trustees are to judge the report, that being reasonable interpretation of the policy, compliance with the provisions of the policy and whether sufficient information has been provided. She noted that the particular discussion and vote with regard to compliance should in no way be considered as a vote of non-confidence of the Chief Superintendent.

In response to questioning by a Trustee, Chair Cochrane noted the monitoring timeframe for this report is June 2008 to June 2009.

Trustee Bazinet left the room at 5:41 p.m.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Chief Superintendent has reasonably interpreted the provisions of Executive Limitations 1: General Executive Constraint, and that the Board of Trustees finds the Chief Superintendent to be in compliance.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

In favour:	Trustee Cochrane Trustee Dirks Trustee Ferguson Trustee King Trustee Kryczka Trustee Lane
Absent:	Trustee Bazinet

Action By:

8.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

There were no items.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Cochrane declared the following items to be adopted as submitted:

9.1 Board Consent Agenda

There were no items.

9.2 Chief Superintendent Consent Agenda

9.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Monthly Update

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Chief Superintendent's Monthly Update for information.

10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Trustee notices of motion.

5:42 p.m. Recessed.

5:56 p.m. Reconvened. Trustee Bazinet returned to the meeting.

11.0 IN-CAMERA ISSUES

11.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee King:

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 5, 2010 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.

11.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Action By:

11.3 Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendation

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to communicate with the Mayor of The City of Calgary, as discussed at the in-camera session of the meeting.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.4 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee King:

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 5, 2010 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.

The remainder of the meeting took place with only the following people in attendance: Chief Superintendent N. Johnson, Superintendent J. Johnston, Mr. J. Benjamin of Total Compensation, and the Board of Trustees.

At 7:58 p.m., during the in-camera session of the meeting, Chair Cochrane received the consent of the Board to continue the meeting to the completion of the Agenda.

11.5 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Chair

Assistant Corporate Secretary
January 5, 2010