

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, February 19, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

Present:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet (departed at 4:19 p.m.)
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee G. Lane
Trustee S. Taylor

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
Ms. E. Gouthro, on behalf of Ms. D. Lewis, Superintendent, Learning Services
Ms. D. Meyers, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Mr. K. Peterson, Acting Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. R. Peter, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. B. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Mr. S. Klukas, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. L. Lemay, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Ms. R. Morley Anderson, Elementary School Principals' Association
Ms. C. Reed, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. on the Link and O Canada was led by the Division II Choir from Deer Run School.

The meeting reconvened in the Multipurpose Room. Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted there were five public comments to be given under Agenda Item 6, and an in-camera item was proposed to the Agenda as new Item 10.

MOVED by Trustee Bowen-Eyre:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of February 19, 2013 be approved as submitted, subject to the above-noted additions.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

3.1 **Lighthouse Award**

Ms. M. Levy, System Principal, introduced and called forward Kacie, a grade 12 student of Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies, to give the presentation.

Kacie noted that Stantec Consulting is the recipient of this month's Lighthouse Award. Stantec has had a partnership with Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies since 2003, the year that the school opened. Stantec has supported the students in numerous ways, by providing educational and helpful life experience internships; sponsoring students on their Europe trip; inviting students to conduct a Remembrance Day ceremony for their employees; participating in and laying a wreath at the school's Remembrance Day ceremony; displaying student art; sharing the expertise of their engineers; and purchasing books for the school library. Kacie shared comments about her personal experience as a summer intern at Stantec. She pointed out that Stantec provides an incentive to complete high school, to explore post-secondary opportunities and, in some cases, it even helps students determine some direction in their lives.

On behalf of Stantec Consulting, Mr. R. Mackenzie, Vice-President, Alberta South and Mr. M. Stuart, Public Relations Lead for Canada West, came forward and expressed their appreciation for the recognition. On behalf of the Board, Chair Cochrane thanked Stantec for the partnership in support of past, present and future students of Juno Beach Academy of Canadian Studies, and for their belief in and support of education. She also shared accolades to Kacie for her comments.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **Alex Ferguson School Presentation**

Mr. C. Davies, Area IV Director, introduced Ms. H. Bensler, Principal, and Ms. R. Graham, Assistant Principal, and he noted that they would provide commentary and that a student-generated movie would be shown that demonstrates Character in and through learning at Alex Ferguson School.

Ms. Graham stated that although they do not have an official learning through the arts program, everything they do is learned through an arts focus at Alex Ferguson School, and this is supported very generously by their parent council. She noted that the school has Artists in Residence working with students, and that Character is embedded in all teaching and learning.

A video was shown of students in their learning environment and commentary was provided by individual students about their learning of Character. Students sang a rap song that they wrote the lyrics for, reflecting on the need to take responsibility for one's actions and decisions. A student shared a poem about courage and conviction in raising awareness. Students shared their definitions of Character, which included responsibility, respect, co-operation, encouragement, compassion, patience and kindness. Two of the students shared aspects of their life while living in Ethiopia, and in response to the poor water quality in Ethiopia the entire school participated in Calgary's "Run for Water" and over a two-year period raised \$125,000 for the provision of clean water for Ethiopians.

Ms. Bensler provided concluding remarks and thanked the Board for allowing them to share their story of Character education as it is taught, learned and lived at Alex Ferguson School. Chair Cochrane, as Ward Trustee, expressed appreciation for the school presentation.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

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

Chief Superintendent Johnson provided brief remarks about the annual monitoring of OE-9 and noted that Administration is reporting compliance in all areas of this policy.

Chair Cochrane noted that Trustees are to determine whether the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with OE-9: Communicating With the Public, based on the Board's previously approved interpretation and indicators. She pointed out that any decision or comment of the Board of Trustees around non-compliance of the operational expectations, or any part of it, is in no way intended to be a vote of non-confidence for the Chief Superintendent.

Administration responded to trustee questions. It was noted that the audio overview of the Community Report is a short summary and it is part of the ongoing efforts to improve communications to families whose first language may not be English. The audio summary will be made available on the CBE website in Arabic, Chinese Mandarin, Punjabi, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese. The notice for the audio summary will be communicated to families through school newsletters, through the CBE *staff insite*, and through CBE interpreters and multicultural workers.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of policy OE-9: Communicating with the Public.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising:

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for embracing the diversity in our community and offering alternative opportunities for our publics to learn more about the organization through various means.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6 | PUBLIC COMMENT

6.1 Ms. A. Lonsberry, Parent and President of Lakeview Community Association

Ms. Lonsberry noted that she has a child attending Jennie Elliott School. She expressed concern with the engagement process that took place with respect to the French Immersion program and the Spanish Bilingual program at Westgate School. Ms. Lonsberry stated that Jennie Elliott School serves the communities of Lakeview and Discovery Ridge, and the parents have concerns about not being invited to participate in the engagement process.

Ms. Lonsberry noted that the CBE recently sent a note home with students of Jennie Elliott School saying that the CBE's planning department maintains a system-wide perspective when addressing student accommodation issues and that in the Westgate issue, A.E. Cross School, Rosscarrock School and Jennie Elliott School were identified as possible locations. Three scenarios have been presented, one of which involves opening a Spanish Bilingual site at Jennie Elliott School, which may require the eventual relocation of system classes from Jennie Elliott School. Ms. Lonsberry shared that her main concern today is with the seemingly harmless phrase "may require the eventual relocation of system classes". She is advocating on behalf of special needs families and noted that Jennie Elliott School is home to a system class which accommodates nine children with serious special needs.

6.2 Ms. T. Derhak Morden, Parent

Ms. Morden stated that she has children attending Westgate School in the Spanish Bilingual program. She commented on her dissatisfaction with the stakeholder engagement process and with the proposal to relocate the Grade 5-9 Spanish Bilingual program from Westgate School to A.E. Cross School. She shared her belief that children in Grades 5 and 6 are too young to be in the same environment with Grade 7-9 students. She felt that a blended program at A.E. Cross School would not be successful in the promotion of higher learning for all students, due to the differences in student learning needs and the different pedagogies. She expressed her concern about the potential move of the program. Ms. Derhak Morden noted that the Spanish Bilingual program is growing city-wide and there is a need for long-term stability for the program. She felt it would be ideal to have the program accommodated within its own facility and she requested that Dr. Oakley School be considered in this regard. She shared her belief that the voice of parents has not been adequately heard on this matter.

6.3 Mr. J. Johnson, Parent

With respect to the stakeholder engagement process, Mr. Johnson shared his belief that the meetings had been presented as a fairly open discussion, but any comments that were directed from the community did not seem to make it to the next list of choices. He noted that he recognizes the issue of overcrowding and having classrooms that don't offer daylight, which are not great for optimal learning conditions, however, he has concerns with the social environment and the proposal to move Grade 5 and 6 students into a school with a population of much older students. Mr. Johnson remarked that it may be more helpful if parents were to see in advance the facilities that are being considered for this kind of integration, and to hold stakeholder engagement meetings at the schools being proposed for relocation, and to have conversations around the facilities themselves.

6.4 Ms. L. Davis, Parent and Vice-Chair of Westgate School Parent Council

Ms. Davis noted that she has a child attending Westgate School and a child enrolled for next year. She addressed the options that have been proposed for Westgate School. She shared that a few years ago, when Westgate School reached an overcrowded capacity, it had been proposed by the CBE to move the Grade 5 and 6 students to Bishop Pinkham School and this met with resistance of the parents. The Board made the decision to only relocate the Grade 6 students at that time. She felt that following the engagement process, the option presented to parents was the least liked by the majority of parents, and yet that is the only option that has been presented. Ms. Davis commented that A.E. Cross School has its own unique challenges. She shared that there is quite a large contingent of parents who are fairly upset with the options being presented and they have not seen any plans as to how or if these children are going to be integrated into a junior high school environment. She noted that parents feel very passionate about the quality program they are getting at Westgate School and as they look to the future they don't see how that standard will be maintained.

6.5 Mr. M. Morden, Parent

Mr. Morden shared his belief that proper engagement and transparency were not offered in this process, and that it heavily favoured the French Immersion community. He noted that the alternative of Dr. Oakley School housing the Spanish Bilingual program was not considered. He shared his understanding that the students attending Dr. Oakley School come from across the city and are bused in. He noted that the school can accommodate 800 students and it currently accommodates approximately 100 students. He suggested that Colonel Walker School could accommodate the students of Dr. Oakley School, and it is more centrally located. Mr. Morden felt that Dr. Oakley School could accommodate the Kindergarten to Grade 6 Spanish Bilingual program, and he noted that it is situated between Westgate School and Bishop Pinkham School. He felt this scenario would enable the French Immersion Kindergarten to Grade 6 program to be sufficiently accommodated at Westgate School. This solution would remove the need for middle schools in the community and it allows for a Grades 7-9 French, Spanish and English program at Bishop Pinkham School to continue.

Mr. Morden requested that the Board of Trustees intervenes in this administrative work, for a reconsideration of the scenarios that are proposed.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

There were no items.

8 | **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Trustee Liaison Report – Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors

THAT the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) liaison report containing the ASBA Board of Directors' Meeting Highlights dated January 2013 be received for information.

8.2 Summative Evaluation of the Chief Superintendent

THAT the report and Attachment I be received as information and for the record.

9 | **CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no items.

Recessed: 4:00 p.m.

Reconvened: 4:18 p.m.

10 | **IN-CAMERA ISSUES**

10.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

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, Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 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.

Trustee Bazinet declared a pecuniary interest with the private agenda item and left the meeting. Mr. C. Hosfield, Consultant, joined the meeting.

10.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee King:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Bazinet

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT when the Board adjourns, it adjourns to meet at the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Bazinet

11 | ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Chair Cochrane reconvened the February 19, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 2:03 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2013, in Room T224 of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

Present:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee G. Lane
Trustee S. Taylor

Absent:

Trustee C. Bazinet (Due to a declared pecuniary interest in the agenda item, Trustee Bazinet did not attend the meeting.)

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
Ms. E. Gouthro, on behalf of Ms. D. Lewis, Superintendent, Learning Services
Ms. D. Meyers, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Mr. K. Peterson, Acting Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. R. Peter, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary

MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

MOVED by Trustee Taylor:

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, Tuesday, February 19, 2013 and reconvened February 21, 2013, 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 King:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT when the Board adjourns, it adjourns to meet at the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Chair Cochrane reconvened the February 19, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:44 a.m. on Monday, February 25, 2013, in Room T224 of the Education Centre, 1221 – 8 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

Present:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee G. Lane
Trustee S. Taylor

Absent:

Trustee C. Bazinet (Due to a declared pecuniary interest in the agenda item, Trustee Bazinet did not attend the meeting.)

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. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services
Ms. D. Meyers, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Mr. K. Peterson, Acting Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. R. Peter, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary

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 the Board of Trustees, Tuesday, February 19, 2013 and reconvened February 25, 2013, 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 King:

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 King:

THAT the Board of Trustees is in agreement with the Alberta School Boards Association's (ASBA) Analysis of the Minister's Proposal, and, therefore,

THAT the Board supports the option of the ASBA Board of Directors not recommending the Minister's proposal to the ASBA membership.

The motion was
CARRIED

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Cochrane
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King
Trustee Lane

Opposed: Trustee Taylor

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.