

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, March 17, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee G. Dirks (arrived at 5:10 p.m.)
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee K. Kryczka
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Ms. N. Johnson, Acting Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Mr. D. Dart, Superintendent, Corporate Services – Secretary Treasurer
Mr. D. Stevenson, Acting Superintendent, Learning Enhancement
Mr. C. Davies, 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. Wasylshyn, Executive Assistant to the Trustees
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. J. F. Belanger, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Dr. M. Christison, Senior High School Principals' Association
Ms. M. Clerkson, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. L. Newton, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
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 5:00 p.m. and the singing of the national anthem took place on the plaza, led by the Western Canada High School Jazz Singers. This group of students also gave a short performance on the plaza prior to the start of the meeting. The meeting reconvened in the Board Room and Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations and schools.

Action By

2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Barkway noted that two stakeholder reports would be added to the Agenda as Items 5.4.1 and 5.4.2; a trustee inquiry would be addressed under Item 5.5; and a new circulation was made of pages 6-4 and 6-5 of the attachment to Item 6.1 Trustee Remuneration.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Agenda for the Regular Meeting held March 17, 2009, as submitted, subject to the above-noted revisions.

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent:

Trustee Dirks

3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

4.1 Lighthouse Award

Ms. M. Levy, System Principal, Corporate Partnerships, introduced Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids as the recipient of the Lighthouse Award this month. Since the inception of this partnership, fresh and healthy lunches have been provided daily for more than 450 students in over 35 schools. The *Food for Thought* program provides students in need with a substantial lunch that gives them the energy they need to stay focused in the classroom. Adequate nutrition not only fills stomachs, but also has a proven track record of boosting school attendance and academic performance.

Ms. C. Fisher, Community Outreach Coordinator for Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids, shared comments in acceptance of the Lighthouse Award. She noted they truly appreciate the support of the CBE to reach students in need. Brown Bagging to CBE schools has been ongoing since 2005. Ms. Fisher noted that being the recipient of the Lighthouse Award is a healthy dose of inspiration to their group. She pointed out their partnerships are widely spread throughout various agencies and communities, all of whom help out with feeding the kids in their community. Yesterday, they made 1,698 lunches and provided them to over 70 schools, both Catholic and Public, throughout Calgary. She pointed out that Brown Bagging has formed a "lighthouse vision" to eradicate child hunger in Calgary schools within 5 years.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Cochrane congratulated Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids on their new 5-year vision. She reiterated and concurred with comments by Ms. Fisher that it is not up to an individual or a group to look after our kids – but it is a job for all of us together. She thanked them for making a significant difference in the lives and healthy well-being of our kids.

5:10 p.m. - Trustee Dirks arrived at the meeting.

4.2 2009 Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Edwin Parr Teacher Award – Calgary Board of Education Nominee

Superintendent Dart introduced the item and called forward Dr. M. Christison, Principal, Ernest Manning High School, to provide some background information about Ms. S. Ng, the CBE's nominee for the 2009 ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Award. Ms. Ng teaches students with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities at Georges P. Vanier School. She graduated with a Bachelor of Sciences degree with Honours, followed by a Bachelor of Education with Distinction. Dr. Christison stated that Ms. Ng's superior skills in assessing, understanding and supporting the development of each of her students and creating optimal learning experiences for each one is testimony to the appropriateness of her nomination for this award. The Edwin Parr Award is awarded to a selected candidate for outstanding service potential exemplified by superior scholarship, student teaching and their initial teaching efficiency. Dr. Christison remarked there is absolutely no doubt that Ms. Ng meets and exceeds each of these characteristics.

Ms. Ng thanked Ms. L. Lytle, Principal, Georges P. Vanier School, for nominating her for this award. She also thanked and acknowledged a number of her mentors, all of whom helped her to see the importance of teaching special education students. She noted that the biggest lesson she has learned within her first year of teaching is to be bold and unafraid of change. She shared that as 21st century learners, her students can't afford to be stagnant while the rest of the world rushes by – change is inevitable, and as she herself embraces change, her students will have more opportunities to participate in the life of the school and in society. She stated that should she be the lucky recipient of the Edwin Parr Teacher Award, it is really the students who this award is for.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

1. **THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report entitled *2009 Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Edwin Parr Teacher Award* for information.**
2. **THAT Sing Ng be named the 2009 teacher nominee of the Calgary Board of Education for the 2009 Alberta School Boards Association Edwin Parr Teacher Award.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Cochrane presented Ms. Ng with a gift of appreciation and shared encouraging and commending remarks.

4.3 EcoLogo Environmental Stewardship Award

Superintendent Coppinger introduced the item, noting that three years ago our Facilities and Operations staff introduced a new “Clean for Health” campaign. The objective of this program was to improve indoor environmental quality in our schools, to reduce the impact of custodial activities on the environment, and to improve the health, safety and well-being of facility operators and cleaners. The EcoLogo Environmental Stewardship Award recognizes the reduction of the number of cleaning chemicals in our schools from 12 down to 4. These green cleaning products have made a difference - independent laboratory testing has shown a significant decrease of bacteria levels in our schools today. This success has been due to a number of factors, including the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40, who offered advice and encouragement to both management and their memberships throughout the implementation of the program, and school-based staff together with Administration, were fully involved in establishing “Clean for Health”. It is this work, pride and commitment to students that makes this program successful today.

Superintendent Coppinger introduced Ms. M. Peneycad, Consultant and Research Manager, TerraChoice Environmental Marketing Inc., who came forward and gave a short PowerPoint presentation about EcoLogo, its cleaning products and how CBE’s use of the products contributes to human health and sustainability. She congratulated the CBE on being the first school board in North America to receive the EcoLogo Environmental Stewardship Award, for which they were nominated by Avmor Ltd.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Cochrane accepted the award that was presented by Ms. Peneycad, along with Mr. M. Tubb and Mr. P. Goldin, representatives of Avmor Inc.

Superintendent Coppinger noted a number of Facilities and Environmental Services staff members were in the public gallery and they were asked to stand and be recognized for their diligent work in this successful program.

5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Report from the Chair and Trustees

Trustee Kryczka reported on her attendance at the following events:

- Bishop Pinkham School Council meeting;
- Louis Riel School fund raising event, organized by grade 9 leadership students, for the Red Cross, to benefit children affected by war; and
- Alberta School Boards Association’s Summit on public involvement in public education, held in Edmonton on March 13-14. Also in attendance were Trustee Bazinet and two CBE Administrators, and over 300 people from around the province.

Trustee King reported on her attendance at the following events:

- a Citizenship Ceremony held at Forest Lawn High School, at which 76 people from 30 countries became Canadian citizens. Deputy Chief Superintendent Johnson also attended the ceremony;
- the Entry Academy Conference, which was organized by the Leadership Centre and facilitated by Community Engagement and Operational Planning; and
- the Calgary Booster Club Senior High School Athletic Awards celebration, which was hosted by Jack James High School. Superintendent Stevenson was also in attendance.

Trustee King informed that Dr. Gordon Higgins School has been chosen as an Alberta recipient of the Canadian Association for Community Living's *National Inclusive Education Award* for 2009.

Trustee Ferguson reported on her attendance at the following events:

- the Immigrants of Distinction Awards, also attended by Trustee Lane and a number of CBE Administration, where three of the five scholarship awards were presented to CBE students. In addition, the partnership between the CBE, the Calgary Catholic School District and the Bridges Foundation (In-School Settlement Workers program) was nominated for the Organizational Diversity Award.
- Crossing Park School hosted the provincial announcement of the final phase of funding needed for the Genesis Centre of Community Wellness. This is a joint three-community initiative to raise \$120 million to build a large-scale northeast recreation centre with a number of corporate partners, The City of Calgary and the provincial and federal governments. The CBE has partnered in this venture by accommodating community meetings for this project within our Northeast High School site.

Trustee Bazinet noted that she and Trustee Ferguson attended the Distributed Learning Conference, which was also well attended by a number of our school principals.

5.2 Report from the Chief Superintendent

In the absence of Chief Superintendent Hubert, Deputy Chief Superintendent Johnson provided the report, highlighting the following issues and events:

- The Minister of Education, Dave Hancock, congratulates the staff of Collingwood School for being one of four finalists in the *Premio Cristobal Villalon* competition, which recognizes educational innovation in teaching Spanish as a second language. The University in Valladolid in Spain received 38 project entries from around the world, and being identified as being in the top four is a significant accomplishment.
- March 6 was International Women's Day and Chief Superintendent Hubert brought greetings to the event held at the W.R. Castell Central Library in downtown Calgary. It was an inspirational speaker's session that included several influential women from Calgary.
- On March 10th Chief Superintendent Hubert attended the Calgary Child's Magazine Parents' Choice Awards for 2009, held at the Calgary Zoo, Safari

Lodge. EducationMatters won Calgary Child's Magazine *Publishers Award of Distinction*.

- On March 11th a CBE Leadership meeting was held at the Radisson Hotel, where the focus of the meeting was to gain traction in supporting and actioning our three-year Education Plan.
- On March 12th Chief Superintendent Hubert attended the media launch and demonstration of the latest innovation of SMART Technologies - the "SMART Table", which was held at Killarney School. The SMART Table is the first multi-touch, multi-user interactive learning centre that allows groups of primary students to work simultaneously on its surface. Appreciation is extended to Mr. M. MacDonald, Principal, Killarney School, and his staff and students for hosting the event.
- March 12th – 14th the Entry Academy Conference was held in Kananaskis, and was attended in part by Chief Superintendent Hubert; she also brought opening remarks on behalf of the CBE. The Conference focused on change, the urgency to address change and establishing future directions; it was attended by many, bringing together assistant principals and staff in non-school work units who are in administrative roles that supervise and evaluate staff. Appreciation was expressed to Mr. Jeff Jones, the Leadership Centre and the 2009 planning committee for coordinating and hosting this valuable and successful conference.

5.3 Public Question Period

There were no public questions.

5.4 Stakeholder Reports

5.4.1 Ms. H. Mowat, Member of the Public

Ms. Mowat expressed the belief that education has to change and it cannot be changed by the same minds that created it. She commented that in the 1970s it was believed that most people used less than 10 percent of their mind and, according to a doctor she has conversed with recently, some people today use less than 3 percent of their mind. She expressed it is sad that few people are capable of expressing with equanimity, opinions which differ from the prejudice of the social environment and that many are incapable of formalizing an opinion. Ms. Mowat stated that the world is a dangerous place to live, not because of people who are evil, but because of people who don't do anything about it.

5.4.1 Ms. K. Anderson, on behalf of the CBE Retired Employees Association (REA)

Ms. Anderson introduced a number of the executive members of the Association that were in the public gallery. She stated her purpose in presenting to the Board was to raise the awareness of their organization and to reinforce their association with the CBE. REA has been connected to the CBE right from the beginning - all of their retirees and former employees come from all areas of the CBE, including former trustees, caretakers, trades people, professional staff, teachers, exempt and support staff.

Ms. Anderson gave a PowerPoint presentation, providing background information. The organization was established in 1990 and was supported by the Board of Trustees with the provision of space and money for its start-up. The purpose of the organization is to maintain association among colleagues, which is done through various activities. Liaison is maintained with the CBE through participation at various conventions, attendance at special events, and volunteering. They provide a bi-monthly newsletter to keep their members informed. The organization has an archive group that is looking for space to store and to display a lot of their hard work, and it is hoped this might be achieved at the new Education Centre. Ms. Anderson shared information about the varied assortment of activities their members take part in.

Ms. Anderson thanked Ms. B. Spilker for assisting their organization in contacting new retirees of the CBE. She also thanked former Chief Superintendent, Dr. B. Croskery, Superintendent Coppinger and Mr. B. Solomchuk, Leasing/Property Specialist, who were instrumental in helping REA find their new office location, which is at Montgomery School. She thanked the Board of Trustees for their continued support and they look forward to continuing a positive relationship with the CBE.

5.5 Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Kryczka submitted an inquiry related to the existence of drugs and alcohol in CBE schools and measures existing to minimize the influence on students, as follows:

- a) *What are the key challenges facing students, staff, teachers and administrators in the CBE schools around drugs and alcohol? How prevalent/extensive is the existence of drugs and alcohol in CBE schools? How do you monitor this prevalence? What are the trends related to this issue in our schools over the past 5 years, and what is the predicted future prevalence?*
- b) *What measures (programs and policies) are in place to prevent, control, and/or correct the issues related to the existence of drugs and alcohol? How do we evaluate the effectiveness of these programs? Do you anticipate new or revised programs being implemented in the future?*

Mr. C. Davies provided the following response on behalf of Administration and noted that he would provide a written submission for the corporate record.

“Challenges and Trends

The challenges faced by school jurisdictions parallel those of parents and society in general as we strive to educate tomorrow’s citizens about the impact of alcohol and drugs.

Statistical data provided by the Student Response Team, Special Education, indicate that over the last five years the number of student suspensions related to drugs has markedly decreased. Although the numbers for the current school year 2008-2009 end with February, the trend of fewer student suspensions related to drugs continues

to hold. The decrease is due in part to direct interventions on the part of education, health and government institutions to educate young people. The decrease can also be attributed to the CBE's clearly communicated expectations for student behaviour.

CBE Drug Related Student Suspensions
Five Year Period September 2004 to February 2009

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Jr. High Division 3</u>	<u>Sr. High Division 4</u>	<u>Total per Year</u>
Sept. 2008 – Feb. 2009	8	25	33
Sept. 2007 – June 2008	29	33	62
Sept. 2006 – June 2007	49	70	119
Sept. 2005 – June 2006	23	52	75
Sept. 2004 – June 2005	49	51	100

Programs, Policies and Measures

Section 45(8) of the School Act requires a school board to provide a safe and caring environment for students that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours. The Calgary Board of Education addresses this requirement through several administrative regulations.

AR 6001 - Student Discipline prohibits the use of alcohol or drugs by students. Specifically, Administrative Regulation 6001 - Student Discipline states,

“7(1) The Calgary Board of Education is committed to creating a safe and caring environment for learning and teaching. The illegal possession, sale or trafficking of illicit substances and/or the use of alcohol and illicit drugs compromises the safety and security of our schools. Students must not have active contact with, sell, store or have possession of, and/or make use of alcohol or illicit substances in the context of any school-related activity. Any such contact is unacceptable student behaviour and may result in disciplinary intervention. The principal or designate must ensure that students and parents are aware that community activities with inappropriate use of illicit substances that impact the climate of the school are also subject to disciplinary intervention.”

This prohibition against drug and alcohol use is emphasized in section 8 of AR 6001 on unacceptable student behaviour. Sections 8(4)(k) and 8(4)(l) gives examples of unacceptable student behaviour which include but are not limited to:

“(k) use, possession of, distribution of, or active contact with, or collection of money for illicit drugs, alcohol, or inhalants in school, on school board property or in the context of any school-related activity;

(l) attending school or any school-related activity under the influence of illicit drugs, alcohol or inhalants;”

A principal or their Calgary Board of Education employee designate may conduct a search of a student when there are reasonable grounds to believe that there has been

a breach of school rules or discipline and that the search will reveal evidence of the violation; or in an investigation of a violation of school discipline; or as a matter of school welfare or safety (AR 6014 - Student Searches). If a student is found in possession of alcohol, drugs or tobacco during a search of a student, the principal must immediately contact Calgary Police Services for the management of alcohol/drug possession and legally authorized disposal. As well the principal must ensure that appropriate provisions are made for student discipline under AR 6001 - Student Discipline.

In alignment with the intent of these regulations, the strategies we engage to support a safe environment and care for students focus primarily on proactive measures and encompass clear expectations. When necessary, the CBE is prepared to use approved standards to address unacceptable student behaviour.

There are two related CBE Administrative Regulations that also speak to alcohol and drug issues. Administrative Regulation 3027 – Off-Site Activities 16 (1), (2) strictly prohibit the use of alcohol or illegal drugs by students, volunteers, teachers or other CBE staff members participating in the activity regardless of the circumstances, the age of the CBE participants or local laws, customs and culture. Administrative Regulation 8004 – Use of Schools Outside of Instructional Hours speaks clearly to the CBE expectation that outside groups must not use alcohol on school board property. These regulations are in place to clearly communicate the Calgary Board of Education's position on drugs and alcohol and also models for students and the public our commitment to safe and caring environments.

School-based personnel (teachers, administrators and support staff) utilize both formal and informal strategies to give students the knowledge and life skills that will empower them to make healthy choices about substance use. School staff are in a unique position to influence students' lives, both as educators and as mentors.

Our secondary school students are provided opportunities to participate in programs such as Safe Grad Seminars, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, The Party Program, John Howard Society in-services, Non-Abusive Futures program through the Calgary Women's Shelter, and Calgary Police Service programs connected to drug and alcohol awareness.

Teacher advisor programs in secondary schools provide opportunities for students to discuss issues related to drugs and alcohol and for school personnel to share school expectations and codes of conduct with students. The High School Career and Life Management and the Junior High Health Programs of Study provide curricular opportunities to formally address issues of drugs and alcohol.

Through the monitoring of the Board of Trustees' End statements, particularly Ends-4 Personal Development and Ends 5 Character, Trustees have been provided with illustrative examples of the foundational work done at the elementary school level to assist students in making healthy and safe lifestyle choices. In particular Teaming Up 4 Healthy Learners and Participation Nation are both initiatives that aide in personal and character development.

Schools utilize School Council meetings to bring in guest speakers and engage the parent community in discussions around drugs and alcohol. These sessions are often facilitated by ADDAC, the School Resource Officer and the schools' learning team. Research has shown a correlation between parental monitoring and substance use in youth. Therefore, prevention programming directed toward parental monitoring of alcohol and drug usage is important.

When students experience difficulty, Special Education department personnel work closely with school learning teams to support student access to ADDAC programming, the Adolescent Day Treatment program through Woods Homes and the Young Adolescent Program through the Foothills Hospital. A number of our high schools have developed in-house student wellness centres that provide an array of specific counseling, health and career guidance services. ADDAC counseling services are accessible to students and their families and referrals are made on an as needed basis.

In conjunction with AADAC Youth Services, the Calgary Board of Education provides students and their families the opportunity to enroll in the Action program. This is a 12 week voluntary school program where students are provided with academic learning support with two CBE teachers. Students are also engaged in treatment and counseling on a daily basis. Students transition from the program back to their home schools or to other AADAC programs depending on individual student need.

The research is compelling that the use of drugs and alcohol by our youth may adversely affect not only their physical and emotional health but also their chances of maintaining a current and life-long connection with education, achieving their full potential academically and living fulfilled and well adjusted lives.

As educators we acknowledge, both in principle and in practice, our partnership role in addressing a number of societal issues, through the provision of a safe school environment and the implementation of curriculum, policy and programs. As new programs emerge curriculum and learning technology specialists provide opportunities for schools to pilot programs and bring in newly developed resources. For example the Fourth R is a junior high school based program focusing on relationships. The program focuses on the triad of risk behaviors associated with drugs, alcohol and violence. Research has shown that increasing youth relationship skills and targeting risk behaviour with a harm reduction approach empowers adolescents to make healthier decisions about relationships, substance use and sexual behaviour. We are currently training several junior high schools in the Fourth R and are looking to expand this program upon successful evaluation.

While it can not be expected that we can work in isolation, we are clearly a critical place for drug and alcohol education and, ideally, the messages delivered in schools will be reinforced and supported by parents and the wider community.

Schools, parents, related agencies, and community organizations need to be informed and supported in this endeavor as the issue cannot be addressed alone by any one party."

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Trustee Remuneration

A corrected attachment to the report, noted as page 6-4 and 6-5, GP-12E: Trustee Remuneration policy, dated October 21, 2008, was distributed and made available on the table of public reports. Trustee Lane provided some background information on the issue, noting that two years ago the Trustee Remuneration Committee developed a new remuneration policy that was approved by the Board, and that was intended to serve for the 3-year term to which Trustees were elected – October 2007 to October 2010. Provision was made in that policy for remuneration to rise or fall in accordance with Alberta Average Weekly Earnings. The Trustee Remuneration Committee is recommending no change to the current Trustee Remuneration policy.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

1. **THAT the Minutes of the Trustee Remuneration Committee meeting held Tuesday, March 2, 2009 be received for information.**
2. **THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the current policy on Trustee Remuneration be continued for one more year.**

In response to a question about earnings rising or decreasing with the Alberta Average Weekly Earnings, it was noted not to be the norm in the workplace to make that strictly applicable in either instance. Trustee Lane pointed out that in approving the policy two years ago, Trustees committed themselves to sharing the pain or the gain of their constituents.

Trustee Dirks expressed appreciation to the three public members, Mr. E. Miller, Ms. L. Shutlak and Ms. J. Bateson, for serving on the Trustee Remuneration Committee. He noted that as the policy dictates, a thorough review of Trustee remuneration would commence sometime in the latter part of 2009.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2 Proposed Amendment of Board Meeting Procedures

Trustee Dirks highlighted the revisions proposed to the Board Meeting Procedures, which included the date of the Organizational Meeting being changed to October; gender reference throughout the report has been removed; and templates in the report have been updated with the name of the new Chief Superintendent.

Some minor typographical and formatting errors in the report were recognized and it was noted those corrections would be made prior to final printing and posting of the document on the CBE website.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the changes to the Board Meeting Procedures, as submitted in the attachment to the report dated March 17, 2009, subject to minor corrections as discussed.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

7.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

7.1 Annual Monitoring of Executive Limitation 6: Instructional Program

Superintendent Stevenson introduced the item, sharing his belief that the CBE is seen as a leader throughout the province of Alberta in regards to our instructional programming. He noted as an example, the CBE has signed a contract with Alberta Education to provide our English as a Second Language benchmarks to all school districts throughout Alberta, subsequent to our update of them.

Superintendent Stevenson stated there is still work to be done, particularly in the area of evaluating and monitoring programs. He shared that ongoing monitoring of instructional programs is occurring in our system, including by teachers in their everyday work in schools, as well as through the development of Individualized Program Plans for students with special needs. External reviews are also conducted and recently Alberta Education did a review of our blended program offered through CBe-learn. Additional internal monitoring and evaluation occurs, such as our Special Education and Diversity audit, which is being piloted in 5 junior high schools this year. A school analysis that was first introduced by Alberta Education has been adapted for our own use in terms of self assessment. Recently, a framework was developed for the evaluation of alternative programs and this is being piloted in Balmoral School's Traditional Learning Centre program. It is believed that this evaluation framework could be extended and applied to any and all instructional programs. A number of other examples of program monitoring and evaluation were shared by Superintendent Stevenson.

Chair Cochrane reviewed the criteria against which the Trustees are to judge the monitoring report, including that of reasonable interpretation of the policy, compliance with the provisions of the policy or disclosure of how compliance would be met, and whether sufficient information has been provided. She noted further that the particular vote with regard to compliance should in no way be considered as a vote of non-confidence.

Trustees asked numerous questions and a lengthy discussion ensued with responses and information shared by various CBE senior administrators. A summary of the issues discussed is as follows:

- We expect and are confident that principals consult with their community parents on all decisions regarding professional learning time, related to the purpose of it and the scheduling of it. A newer model of professional development has been adopted for our staff and attempts are made to not compromise student instructional time. Learning leaders are funded through our AISI projects. Over the last few years a great deal of work has gone into lining up the start and end times of schools and this also allows for more common time for parents. It was suggested that more communication around this issue might be beneficial to some parents.
- Further details were shared about the program monitoring and evaluation template for the Traditional Learning Centre program at Balmoral School and its current use as a pilot. An online template would be developed early in the process for use by the principal and staff to share their reflections or assessment of this pilot. It is anticipated that the data from this evaluation process would be incorporated into school development planning.
- Information was shared about the processes that are used to determine where full-day Kindergarten programs should be established. Transitional funding was provided for those schools that no longer qualified for full-day kindergarten; some of those eight schools likely had demographic changes that changed their profile. At some schools the principal makes the decision to fund a full-day kindergarten program with their resource allocation funds.
- With respect to third party service providers, it is believed to be the Chief Superintendent's responsibility to ensure the regular review of courses and instruction.
- A response was provided about how transitions are planned and occur for students who are in specialized programs and move on to high school. It was noted that the Learning and Literacy programming is in a new delivery model and those students are moving into any transitional programming out of specialized Learning and Literacy support with a whole different kind of technology and support going with them.
- The International Certificate was locally developed about two years ago and Alberta Education is now implementing it. We are piloting this right now in Western Canada High School; because it is self-directed and individualized, students from anywhere can join this certificate program. It is hoped by next year that we should have nearly 1,000 students registered. It is expected to be up and running in every high school. The job opportunities that could come from this experience appear to be very positive.

- We have recently participated with Alberta Education in the development of an online master index for locally developed courses across the province. This process has brought to our attention that the CBE is a leader in the number of resources it shares with other institutions across the province.
- Trustee concerns were raised with the question asked of how the Board would know that every program in the CBE is being regularly evaluated, aside from that which is being done at a particular Traditional Learning Centre (TLC) site, which is noted to be an ongoing embedded evaluation of what's going on at that school. This does not give confidence that the elementary kindergarten to grade 6 TLC program or the Spanish bilingual program is being regularly evaluated in the CBE as a program. Administration noted that the regularity piece that goes on at the school level is the analysis of data on an ongoing basis, but there are times in the year where that data is incorporated into the revised school development plan and this occurs each fall. In addition, Alberta Education regularly reviews certain programs within our Board i.e., outreach programs. Administration recognizes the need to have an internal process that is much better defined than it currently is and this is being worked on. The Balmoral TLC program is an example of the development towards an overall framework and process that can be used for all programs in our system. Standards for internal monitoring and evaluation are also being worked on; part of the framework is to create and develop capacity at both the Administrative and Area Director level to ensure that we have integrity of programs within the schools and across the areas and system.
- The integrity document for the regular program is the Alberta Program of Studies, which is the standard to which we hold ourselves. This also applies to our alternative programs. We don't have a consistent process or timeline per se for reviewing our integrity documents, but that mostly comes from our schools, communities and parents. The integrity document for our TLC programs has just been completed, and the process is currently underway with our principals to review our integrity document for our Montessori programs.
- With respect to a question of continued funding for the Pharmacy Technician (Retail) Certificate, it was noted that this pilot has served as a useful model in terms of other initiatives, i.e., Career & Technology Centre strategy, of how we can continue to support students in broad ways to integrate programs and connect them through to post secondary. Our hope is that these pilots will become a mainstay in the work of Career and Technology Centres in our system.
- Administration expanded further, as requested, on the new Interpreter Training initiative; the Middle Years Integrated initiative, which was noted to be a reframing of the Career and Technology program of studies at the junior high school level, will be piloted in four of our schools this year; and the Aboriginal Head Start program is a pre-school program that will open April 1 at Abbeydale School.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Chief Superintendent has reasonably interpreted the provisions of Executive Limitations 6: Instructional Program, and that the Board of Trustees finds the Chief Superintendent to be in compliance with the policy.

In debate of the motion, expressions of support were provided overall. It was noted by a Trustee that a high level of confidence would be assured if some kind of calendar or matrix for monitoring and evaluating was attached to each program offered in the CBE. A comment was made that it is hopeful much more progress will be made on the monitoring and the evaluation process, not just for the sake of evaluating, but also for the spirit and pride it brings to students and teachers with the achievement of success.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Kryczka :

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for the continuing development, monitoring and evaluation of innovative instructional programs that address the different learning styles and needs of students of various backgrounds and abilities.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for initiating a program to train, assess and certify Interpreters.

In debate of the motion, the hope was shared that this could be taken a step further with these training services being provided on our website.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

There were no items.

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Board Consent Agenda

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

- 9.1.1 Approval of Minutes
- Regular Meeting held March 3, 2009

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 3, 2009, as submitted.

- 9.1.2 Correspondence

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the following correspondence for information and for the record, in the form as submitted:

- Correspondence dated February 23, 2009, to Chair Cochrane from Mr. O. Tobert, City Manager, City of Calgary, regarding Notice of Consideration of Closure of the K-6 Regular Program at Le Roi Daniels School, the Grade 7 to 9 Regular Program at Fairview School, and the National Sport Academy Program at Fairview School.
- Correspondence dated February 23, 2009, to Chair Cochrane from Mr. O. Tobert, City Manager, City of Calgary, regarding Notice of Consideration of Closure of the (discontinued) Integrated Occupational Program at Lord Shaughnessy High School.

10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION

There were none.

Recessed: 7:42 p.m.

Reconvened: 7:54 p.m. Trustees Bazinet and Kryczka did not immediately return to the meeting.

11.0 IN-CAMERA ISSUES

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

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

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent:

Trustee Bazinet
Trustee Kryczka

Trustees Bazinet and Kryczka returned to the meeting at 7:57 p.m., during the in-camera session.

At 7:58 p.m. Chair Cochrane received the consent of the Board to continue the meeting to the completion of the Agenda.

MOVED by Trustee King:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the correspondence containing the summary of proposed recommended amendments to the *Closure of Schools Regulation*, as amended, to be submitted to the Alberta Education consultant as the Calgary Board of Education's contribution to the review of the *Closure of Schools Regulation*.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.