

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, November 3, 2015 at 12 noon

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre, Chair
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee J. Hehr
Trustee J. Hrdlicka
Trustee T. Hurdman
Trustee P. King
Trustee A. Stewart

Administration:

Mr. D. Stevenson, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. S. Church, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. J. Everett, Superintendent, Learning Services
Mr. G. Francis, Superintendent, Human Resources/General Counsel
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Acting Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38
Ms. P. Kaiserseder, Principals’ Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. B. McPherson, Elementary School Principals’ Association
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. P. Thalheimer, Senior High School Principals’ Association

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and O Canada was led by Faith, Kennedy, Nicolas and Shivek, students from Lester B. Pearson High School.

Chair Bowen-Eyre acknowledged and welcomed staff, the public and representatives from the aforementioned organizations. She also introduced and welcomed Ms. Bedard and her grade 5/6 students from Alex Munro School, who have moved their classroom to the CBE and the community of Connaught for the week. Their week will guide their learning throughout the year. They will be exploring and collecting data to support their idea of “How do we make informed decisions?” They will be interviewing about 12 CBE employees and touring their work space. They have an exciting morning planned working with NUREVA and Span technology.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that trustees have requested a brief verbal update on the impact the provincial budget may have on the Calgary Board of Education, which will be added to the agenda as Item 4.2.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 3, 2015 be approved, as submitted, with the above-noted addition.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

3.1 Lighthouse Award

Superintendent Everett introduced this month's Lighthouse Award recipient as The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth, which has had a long-standing relationship with the Calgary Board of Education. It started with the Afterschool Program over 20 years ago and led to the development of programs that support youth in acquiring academic tutoring, language proficiency, leadership confidence, exposure to Canadian culture through field trips, and promoting lifelong learning to enhance their social integration. Those programs include the In-School Settlement Program, the Mentorship Program, the Afterschool Program and the RBC Youth Empowerment Program. In addition, The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth has awarded scholarships to 25 youth from both the Calgary Catholic School Division and the Calgary Board of Education.

Lian, a Grade 12 student from Lester B. Pearson High School, and Loyan, a Grade 8 student from Sir John A. Macdonald School, shared their experiences and impacts that the programs have had on their academic and personal success.

Ms. Reddy, Executive Director with The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth, shared words in appreciation of the recognition, noting that it not only recognizes the partnership with the CBE over the past 20 years, but it recognizes the collective impact that the partnership has had on newcomer youth and their families. On behalf of the Board, Chair Bowen-Eyre presented the award to The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

Chief Stevenson introduced and welcomed Mr. D. Breton as the Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services, commencing the end of December.

4.1 Science Information Report

Chief Superintendent Stevenson shared opening remarks and Superintendent Everett provided highlights of the contents of the report. Dr. R. Mosher, Director, Learning, provided a PowerPoint presentation and shared in-depth information on the Science Program of Study for students in the Kindergarten program, Kindergarten through Grade 6, Grades 7 through 9, Grades 8 and 9 Knowledge and Employability, and high school

Science courses. The detailed information included the interpretation of the data from report cards, the Grade 6 and 9 provincial achievement test results and the diploma examination results. Videos were shown of teachers commenting on their assessment work and the design of concepts for improvement of assessment tools and practices, and students in the learning environment applying their understanding of scientific reasoning and making connections between concepts.

Administration responded to trustee questions on numerous issues, including: the aging Science programs of study for Grades 1 through 6; the correlations that are made at the school level between the report card marks and the provincial achievement tests or the diploma examination results; how the conversations are changing, where there used to be more emphasis on the provincial achievement tests, they are now much more on individual assessments, group assessments and report card data; the tracking of students who are not achieving success over multiple levels, and students who transition from one school to another; the conversations that should and do take place between teachers and parents and students in relation to the student's learning pathway and choice of particular courses in the programs of study; and the increase in the number of students taking the Science 30 course, which is now an acceptance requirement of universities.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the work of Chief Superintendent Stevenson and staff in this informative presentation.

Recessed: 2:11 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:30 p.m.

4.2 Verbal Update re Provincial Budget – Assessment of Effects

Superintendent Grundy provided highlights, noting that an update was provided from the provincial government in May 2015, and the budget announcement on October 27, 2015 was very much in alignment with their announcement in May. Based on restored funding to 2014-15 levels, the CBE will be able to add approximately 114 full-time equivalent positions to school-based teaching staff, and will also be adding 79 full-time equivalents to non-teaching school-based staff. There has been an addition of approximately \$31.2 million to the funds that are allocated through the Resource Allocation Method (RAM) to schools; the funds directed to schools have been allocated to maintain the student to staff ratios equivalent to the 2014-15 year. Previously, the transportation fee was reduced by \$30 and the noon supervision fee was increased by \$5 across all of the categories, and instructional supplies and material fees were maintained at the previous level. This budget allows for an investment up to \$27.8 million on non-facility capital projects. In terms of process, a detailed budget report to the Board is anticipated in early December.

In conclusion, Superintendent Grundy noted that the CBE continues to be a strong educational system with world class results. We are a well-managed organization and we account for every dollar that we receive in aid of students and their learning. We will continue to work with the province to meet the educational needs of Calgary public students and thank the government for its continued support for stable and predictable funding for public education.

5 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

5.1 OE-4: Treatment of Employees – Annual Monitoring

Chief Superintendent Stevenson provided a brief introduction of the annual monitoring report for OE-4: Treatment of Employees. He noted that the data was tracked over the past three years and there have been significant improvements in specific areas. Administration strives to do better and revisions of the reasonable interpretation, including the indicators is currently underway and anticipated to be presented to the Board in December. He pointed out an error on page 5-15, to the summative statement for policy subsection 4.12, which should read “Evidence demonstrates compliance with 4.12.2 and 4.12.3”. Chief Stevenson stated that this correction will be made and the report resubmitted to trustees. Superintendent Francis provided highlights of the contents of the report and shared further details about the areas of improvement. An additional correction was noted to the report, on page 5-8, the summative statement for policy subsection 4.4 should read “Evidence demonstrates the indicators in subsection 4.4 are in compliance”.

At 2:58 p.m. Chair Bowen-Eyre received the consent of the Board to continue the meeting to the completion of the agenda.

Administration responded to trustee questions on a number of issues, including: the strategies in place to reduce the possibility of re-occurrence of bargaining commencing without an approved mandate; the rationale behind the Chief’s reporting overall compliance in certain policy subsections when the evidence points to non-compliance with some of the indicators; the ways in which succession planning is occurring within the system; the recruitment of positions, both in-house and outside of the organization; the categories and volume of inquiries made to the Employee Information Centre.

Chair Bowen-Eyre asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-4: Treatment of Employees. Trustee Hurdman expressed her intention to bring forward motions of exceptions pertaining to policy subsections 4.1, 4.7, 4.10, 4.12 and 4.13. The Chair noted that the item will be placed on the agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2015, for the Board’s consideration.

6 | PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

There were no items.

8 | CONSENT AGENDA

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

8.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held October 6, 2015

- Regular Meeting held October 13, 2015
- Regular Meeting held October 27, 2015

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held October 6, 13 and 27, 2015, as submitted.

8.2 Revised Meeting Time – Regular Board Meeting Scheduled for November 10, 2015

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the regular Board of Trustees' meeting of November 10, 2015, be scheduled from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., to be held in the Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221-8th Street SW, Calgary, AB.

8.3 Trustee Appointment to Alberta School Boards Association Board of Directors

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Trustee Ferguson as the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) alternate representative to the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors, effective immediately.

8.4 Items Provided for Board Information

8.4.1 Correspondence

Chair Bowen-Eyre pointed out that the Regular Meeting of the Board scheduled for November 10, 2015 will commence at 1:00 p.m.

9 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.