

## **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, June 21, 2016 at 12:00 noon

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### 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. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Ms. J. Everett, Superintendent, Learning  
Mr. G. Francis, Superintendent, Human Resources/General Counsel  
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services  
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer  
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary  
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

#### Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38  
Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40  
Ms. C. Mallette, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners  
Ms. S. O'Dwyer, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners  
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association

### **1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME**

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. and the singing of O Canada was led by students from Forest Lawn High School by way of a DVD recording.

The Chair acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. She also acknowledged the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. She acknowledged and welcomed staff, the public and representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

## 2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted that a verbal update would be provided by the Chief Superintendent of Schools under Item 3.0, and that a public comment was requested and added under Item 4.0.

MOVED by Trustee King:

**THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of June 21, 2016 be approved, as submitted, subject to the above-noted changes.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Chief Superintendent Stevenson noted that June 21<sup>st</sup> is *National Aboriginal Day*, and this week is *Aboriginal Awareness Week* in Calgary. He informed that our aboriginal education staff, including learning leaders, advisors, specialists, principals, assistant principals, coaches and directors work with the CBE Elder Advisory Council and community organizations throughout the year to support student success. He stated that the CBE is committed to continuing to build on this important work. He shared examples of the ways in which many of our school communities are engaging in significant learning opportunities to celebrate and honour the rich history, contributions and ways of knowing of aboriginal peoples on whose traditional lands we make our home.

A video was shown highlighting the work that takes place across the CBE in support of our aboriginal students.

## 4 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### 4.1 **Mr. F. Bruseker, on his retirement**

Mr. Bruseker shared that his career as a teacher, principal and ATA representative has evolved over 37 years and he is moving on to retirement. He thanked the CBE for fulfilling his career goals and paths. He shared his belief that the relationship between the CBE and ATA has improved over the years and he was confident that it would continue in a collaborative way. He stated that the CBE is a strong educational leader in this province, the country and around the world. He noted his partiality towards the CBE's core values: *Students come first; Learning is our central purpose; and Public education serves the common good.*

On behalf of the Board, Chair Bowen-Eyre shared appreciation for the work and dedication that Mr. Bruseker gave to public education throughout his career and wished him all the best in his future endeavours.

## 5 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

### 5.1 **School Presentation – Sir Winston Churchill High School**

Mr. B. Parker, Director, Area I, provided introductory remarks about Sir Winston Churchill High School. He called forward Mr. A. Rajan, Principal, to commence the presentation.

Mr. Rajan introduced the following student presenters from Sir Winston Churchill High School: Sam, Sophie, Monica, Noah, Kevin and Deborah. Students came forward and individually commented on their diverse learning experience, how it has shaped who they are now, and their plans for continued learning and reaching for their goals. Students expressed appreciation for the motivation and positive learning experience they received from their instructors at Sir Winston Churchill High School.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Hurdman thanked the students for their presentation. She noted that a common theme she heard from each student was the importance to them of the teachers and staff at Sir Winston Churchill High School and how very encouraging they are about student success. Trustee Hurdman wished the students the very best in their future endeavours.

## 5.2 Results 2: Academic Success – Annual Monitoring

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that the annual monitoring report for Results 2: Academic Success was presented at the June 14, 2016 Board meeting, at which time trustees posed questions and received clarification from Administration. She noted that additional information reports were provided to the Board over the past six months pertinent to academic success in each of the curriculum areas. The Board must now consider whether the report provides evidence of reasonable organizational progress in this Results area.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed the annual monitoring report on Results 2: Academic Success, and concludes that the Chief Superintendent is making reasonable progress toward the ultimate achievement of this Results policy.**

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

**THAT the motion be amended by the addition of “with the exception of student results in Mathematics”.**

Trustee comments in favour of the amendment included: the report card data in the Math information report presented earlier to the Board showed a steady decline in student results from Kindergarten through to Grade 9; the transitions from Grades 6 to 7 and Grades 9 to 10 are of concern, as are the low achievement levels in Grade 10 Math, as students require a 20 level Math course in order to graduate high school; the Provincial Achievement Test results are of concern, even where they were maintained, or were at or above the achievement in the province as a whole; Knowledge and Employability (KAE) results are of great concern; teachers need to feel confident in teaching Math in order for students to learn the program of study, and the CBE needs to ensure that appropriate supports are in place; the student survey response to sub-policy 8, for which the target was not met; Math is not isolated to a particular grade or area and should be given greater focus; Administration has indicated they will be developing strategies to work with challenging issues surrounding Math; and the Minister of Alberta Education has expressed concern on a number of occasions about declining results in Math across the province.

Trustee comments in opposition to the amendment included: the overall target was met in that the CBE's achievement rates on provincial tests were equal to or above those of the province as a whole; the data provided in the report substantiates that progress is being made; CBE students outperformed the province in both Math 30-1 and Math 30-2 in the last three years; the Math information report provided evidence through report card data of maintaining results and improved results in specific areas of student achievement; the Math information report showed that the percentage of students showing success has risen over four years, in a pattern of continuing improvement; and areas within the Math results that require attention, as well as areas showing trends of success and reasonable progress, should be specifically noted.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the amendment.

The amendment was  
DEFEATED.

In favour: Trustee Hrdlicka  
Trustee Hurdman  
Trustee Stewart

Opposed: Trustee Bowen-Eyre  
Trustee Ferguson  
Trustee Hehr  
Trustee King

In debate of the main motion, trustees expressed comments of support including: the CBE student completion rates have increased steadily for more than five years; the results for R-2: Academic Success show that targets were met, partially met or showing improvement; and there have been numerous success stories shared by students, through presentations at Board meetings, as well as through student-contributed examples that were provided as part of the monitoring reports.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees identifies concerns with overall student results in Mathematics, in the following areas: Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Test results at the standard of excellence; Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Test results at the acceptable standard; and Grade 9 Knowledge and Employability Provincial Achievement Test results at the acceptable standard.**

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

**THAT the motion be amended to include the Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Test results at the acceptable standard.**

Trustee comments in support of the amendment included the opinions that the results show a declining trend over the past few years, and that concern with the actual levels of Math achievement is something that should be expressed. A trustee questioned what is

more important – being above the provincial average or maintaining or improving our student results?

Trustee comments in opposition to the motion included the opinions that sufficient evidence has been provided to indicate that those results are being maintained; and Administration is undertaking the development of strategies in this area.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the amendment.

The amendment was  
DEFEATED.

In favour: Trustee Hehr  
Trustee Hrdlicka  
Trustee Hurdman

Opposed: Trustee Bowen-Eyre  
Trustee Ferguson  
Trustee King  
Trustee Stewart

In debate of the main motion trustees offered expressions of support; references were made to sections of the report where it was recognized by Administration that improvements are required; and, it was noted that Administration will continue with the development of specific strategies surrounding Math.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

**THAT the Board of Trustees identifies a continuing concern with First Nations, Métis and Inuit student achievement in all academic disciplines.**

In debate of the motion trustees offered comments of support; appreciation was extended to Administration for the work that has been undertaken in support of our First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, and it was noted that there is a great deal of work that remains to be done for those students.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

**THAT the Board of Trustees identifies concern with Grade 1 to 9 report card results with respect to the English Language Arts stem “reads to explore, construct and extend understanding”.**

Trustee comments in support of the motion included: the data provided in the English Language Arts information report on student achievement in this area shows that 11%

are not achieving this specific stem, which is a concern; a trustee calculated that 15% of our Grade 2 and Grade 3 students are not yet reading; this particular stem is a foundational aspect of student understanding in all academics from their early years and on through Grade 12; and this brings the issue into focus for our Administration as they undertake the development of strategies surrounding literacy.

Trustee comments in opposition to the motion included: the pace of learning between students is diverse; the complexities of our students are diverse; and there is an upward rise in the four-year trend of student achievement in English Language Arts, as shown in the report card indicators.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Hrdlicka Trustee Hehr Trustee Hurdman Trustee Stewart
Opposed:	Trustee Ferguson Trustee King

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for continued outstanding student success at the standard of excellence in Biology 30, Physics 30 and Chemistry 30 Diploma Exam results.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT that the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for high and continuous improvement in the success of students with learning outcomes, as demonstrated by Kindergarten to Grade 12 report card results in the Results 2 academic disciplines.**

Trustee comments in support of the motion included: reference to the data in the report of the percentage of students meeting learning expectations within each discipline, as measured by student report cards; and it is important to look at the overall roll-up of the outcomes.

Trustee comments in opposition to the motion included: a trustee shared her understanding that commendations are to be made for extraordinary performance, and with regards to report card indicators, she was uncertain where the line is between extraordinary performance and reasonable progress; and a need has been identified for better assessment and reporting across the system.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre  
Trustee Ferguson  
Trustee King  
Trustee Stewart

Opposed: Trustee Hehr  
Trustee Hrdlicka  
Trustee Hurdman

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

**THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to provide additional information, including strategies, revised targets and the assessment of the strategies for each of the areas identified as a concern, by November 2016.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 2:06 p.m.  
Reconvened: 2:19 p.m.

## 6 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no items.

## 7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

### 7.1 **Budget 2016-2019**

Chair Bowen-Eyre stated that the Budget 2016-2019 was presented at the June 14, 2016 Board meeting, at which time trustees' questions were addressed by Administration.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

**THAT the 2016-2017 Budget be approved as presented and submitted to Alberta Education as required.**

Trustee comments in support of the motion included: the budget fits with the Board's values; the budget is balanced with the use of reserves; it adds staff to keep pace with growth; it highlights the CBE's priorities; it has held the line on Administrative spending; it is presented as a clear and concise document; it is important that the budget focuses on continuing to personalize learning for all students, improving results for our First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, helping our students to continue to experience high school success, and building the capacity of CBE leaders and teachers to support our students.

Some concerns were expressed around issues, including: building, modernizing and operationalizing 31 new schools, while maintaining more than 200 existing schools, and being required to utilize a large portion of our reserves in order to ensure that those schools will open with the resources and supports that are necessary for our students;

there will be no reserves left for future budgets; there will be no revenues from charter school leases; and there will be the added expense of the carbon tax.

Chair Bowen-Eyre called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 8 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

### 8.1 OE-1: Global Operational Expectation - Annual Monitoring

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of this policy.**

### 8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

8.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

8.2.2 Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan 2016-2019

8.2.3 Ten-Year System Student Accommodation and Facilities Strategy

8.2.4 Trustee Liaison Report – Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5

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

Chair Bowen-Eyre informed the public that the Board meeting would go in camera to discuss one land issue and one legal issue.

The Chair stated that the Organizational Meeting will take place at 3:00 p.m., following this Regular Board meeting.

Recessed: 2:33 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:42 p.m.

## 9 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

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 June 21, 2016 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.



Recessed: 2:56 p.m.  
Reconvened: 3:43 p.m.

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 Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves that “Aboriginal Learning Centre” be the temporary name for the new Aboriginal Learning Centre to be located at Harold W. Riley School building (temporarily located at Valley View School).**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.