

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, January 17, 2017 at 12:00 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. 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. K. Maxwell, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. K. Bauer, Elementary School Principals’ Association
Ms. H. Goodman, Principals’ Association for Adolescent Learners
Mr. K. Kempt, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38
Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Local 40
Ms. S. Reading, Principals’ Association for Adolescent Learners

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order on the link at 12 noon and O Canada was led by Mr. T. Cole’s Grade 3 students from Coventry Hills School. Trustee Ferguson, ward trustee, expressed appreciation on behalf of the board and the meeting resumed in the Multipurpose Room.

Chair Bowen-Eyre 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.

The Chair also welcomed Mr. S. Barg and his grade 8 students from Twelve Mile Coulee School who have moved their classroom to the historical classroom and the downtown community to investigate the idea of legacy and how it is a catalyst for change. The students have met with Deputy Chief Superintendent Church and will meet with Chair Bowen-Eyre; they will visit with Theatre Calgary; and will work with the Calgary Public Library staff looking at the historical library near the Calgary Board of Education, the central library and the anticipated opening of the new library in the downtown core.

The Chair also acknowledged the students of Coventry Hills School who sang O Canada.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted that agenda items 4.3 and 4.4 will be switched so that item 4.3 will be the Math Information Report and item 4.4 will be the Board Development Session – Math Information / Work In Progress..

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2017 be approved, as submitted, subject to the above-noted changes.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were none.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **School Presentation - Coventry Hills School**

Director D. Unruh, Area II, welcomed Coventry Hills School, a K-Grade 3 school from the NE with an enrollment of 625 students, to the boardroom. She then introduced Principal M. Pelling to share how the Coventry Hills students have been working on Results 3: Citizenship through learning.

Principal M. Melling explained that at Coventry Hills School the learning of citizenship takes place daily and is integrated into every subject. She introduced a video created by Assistant Principal M. Brinson which documents the interdisciplinary learning opportunities students have to learn about citizenship through the programs of studies. The video highlighted:

- Embracing and respecting diversity
- Appreciating individual and cultural differences
- Learning from unique and unfamiliar ways of living
- Becoming responsible citizens
- Contributing to the common good
- Participating in school and community service
- Helping to save the environment / Preserving natural habitats

On behalf of the board, Trustee Ferguson expressed appreciation for the presentation. She noted the critical importance of developing citizenship in students as society becomes increasingly diverse.

4.2 Result 3: Citizenship – Annual Monitoring

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that Administration presented the report to the board on January 10, 2017, and responded to trustee questions. She stated that it is the responsibility of the board to now consider whether the report is evidence of reasonable organizational progress in this Results area.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed the monitoring report and approves that the Chief Superintendent has made reasonable progress towards the ultimate achievement of Results 3: Citizenship, and

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for high overall achievement in Results 3: Citizenship, and in particular for five years of ongoing improvement in student outcomes related to:

- **Students exercising their democratic rights and responsibilities within the learning community;**
- **Respect for diversity; and**
- **Student contributions to responsible stewardship of the environment**

In debate of the motion, trustee comments in support included: the report from Administration shows all 13 indicators have been met; data from student surveys and report cards demonstrates students are exercising their democratic rights and responsibilities, showing respect and appreciation for diversity, and acting as stewards for the environment; the graphs indicate five years of ongoing improvement in the area of citizenship; the CBE has understood and successfully implemented the ministerial order on student learning which talks about ethical citizens engaging with many cultures, religions, languages, valuing diversity in all people, being committed to democratic ideals and acting as a steward of the earth; the high results for citizenship in the May 2016 accountability pillar which reflects the voice of teachers, students and parents; good citizenship occurs through intentional learning and the results are both positive and powerful; and in the current climate where people's values and diversity are being challenged developing citizenship is critical.

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.3 Math Information Report

Chief Superintendent Stevenson shared opening remarks noting this is the third in a series of information reports related to the subject areas identified in Results 2: Academic Success. Superintendent Everett introduced the presentation that accompanies the report noting it provides insight into how students experienced success in mathematics in

the 2015-16 school year via grade specific report card results, specific report card stem results, individual Provincial Achievement Test and Diploma exam results, comparing CBE and non-CBE provincial testing results for each standard and outlining next steps in student learning for the 2016-17 school year.

Learning Specialists Ms. T. Rand and Ms. R. Vijairaghavan provided a PowerPoint presentation and shared in-depth information on the math program of study for students K through 12. They noted the goals of the Alberta Education math program of study are achieved via the 3 dimensions of mathematical understanding: problem solving, conceptual understanding and procedural fluency. Starting in Grade 8 Knowledge and Employability courses are offered. In High School students have multiple pathways and are able to navigate between courses depending on their learning needs and goals. Data was presented related to results from Provincial Achievement tests, Diploma exams and report cards. Two corrections related to results were noted: on the PowerPoint slide titled *Mathematics Report Card Data* the 2014-15 student success should read 90.6% and on page 3 of the report in the first chart the box titled 2015-16 the result should read 91.5%. A video was shown that demonstrated how students learn math. The presentation ended noting future actions will include a renewed focus on: Knowledge & Employability (K&E) courses, leveraging existing networks and building new networks, K-12 teacher leader task design sessions and the CBE Mathematics Strategy. It was noted that the CBE Mathematics Strategy will be detailed in the next agenda item, 4.4 *Board Development Session – Math Information / Work in Progress*.

Administration responded to trustee questions on issues including: impact on achievement levels when the participation rate increases; impact on baseline when the PATs and Diploma exams change; timing of changes for PATs and Diploma exams; participation rate goals for Diploma exams; implication of an increase in participation rates for Diploma exams; process for communicating to students and parents regarding the different math pathways in high school; numbers and consistency of enrollment related to Knowledge & Employability classes; student success in Math 10-4 and 20-4; curriculum re-design; transitions and student success; consistency of assessment at the high school level; percentages used at the high school level; strategies for narrowing the gap between Diploma exam results and report card results; math and the drop-out rate; collaboration with universities; frequency of meetings and number of individuals involved with networks supporting math instruction such as the K & E community of practice; examples of a low, moderate and high complexity question on the PATs; and cut scores for the PATs.

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that this report is being received as information as part of the Results 2: Academic Monitoring and as such will not be individually monitored, but rolled up with other information reports and monitored later in the year.

4.4 Board Development Session – Math Strategy

Chief Superintendent Stevenson provided opening comments. He noted that the development of a K-12 mathematics strategy was identified as a priority in the CBE's 3 year education plan and that today they are sharing the engagement process and the progress related to the development of the math strategy.

Superintendent Everett introduced the presentation noting the importance of students developing a foundation in mathematics for a successful future. She explained Alberta Education is currently re-designing the curriculum and that the CBE's math strategy will be adjusted as needed. Superintendent Everett then introduced the presenters Learning Specialists Mr. D. Rattee and Ms. T. Kang who shared comments and PowerPoint slides in relation to the following:

- Purpose of the Mathematics Strategy
- The research that informs the strategy
- An update on the engagement process which began in October 2016 and is planned for completion in December 2017
- Preliminary themes that have emerged from the teacher and administration dialogue sessions
- Actions for moving forward

Administration responded to trustee questions on issues including: the increase in schools focusing on math in their school development plans; eligibility for participation in the professional development associated with the math strategy; engaging math teachers who need support; strategies to address students who disengage with math; strategies to support parents with any concerns they may have regarding the math program of studies; construction of online resources to support the math strategy; highlighting connections between math units, topics and grades; calculator use; and themes from the engagement process thus far.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, expressed appreciation for the work of Chief Superintendent Stevenson and staff in this informative presentation.

5 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

5.1 OE-6: Financial Administration – Annual Monitoring

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that this report was introduced at the January 10, 2017 meeting where trustees posed questions and received clarification on various issues. The board must now formally act on the monitoring report to determine compliance with this policy.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees finds that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-6: Financial Administration, with the exception of policy subsection 6.1.

Comments in support of the motion included: all board approved indicators, with the exception of 6.1, show compliance; external auditors have consistently found that CBE is a well-managed organization; budget efficiencies have been found throughout the year; there may need to be a discussion regarding the indicators within 6.1 to allow for human error in an organization as large and fluid as the CBE; for indicator 6.1.1 staff need to be given support to hold service providers accountable.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6 | PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

7.1 Bylaw to Provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards (the Ward System Bylaw)

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that this report was presented at the January 10, 2017 meeting where the first and second reading of the proposed bylaw occurred. Also during the second reading the bylaw was amended.

The board then proceeded with the third reading and final approval of the amended bylaw. The Chair noted the bylaw is not amendable, nor debateable, at this stage in the process.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves Bylaw Number 1 of 2017, being a Bylaw of the Calgary Board of Education to Provide for the Nomination and Election of Trustees by Wards and to Determine the Boundaries of the Wards, as amended, as read for the third time.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee Stewart

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees seeks Ministerial approval for the nomination and election of trustees by wards and the boundaries of the wards, as described in Bylaw 1 of 2017, as amended.

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-7: Asset Protection – Annual Monitoring

THAT the Board approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-7.

8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

8.2.1 Correspondence

8.2.3 Chief Superintendent's Update

8.2.4 Construction Projects Status Update

Recessed: 2:40 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:55 p.m.

9 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

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 January 17, 2017 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.

10 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 4:11p.m.