

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 20, 2017 at 12:00 noon

The Board of Trustees held an in-camera session prior to the public session, which commenced at 11:02 a.m. in Room T224 of the Education Centre, to discuss one strategic planning item.

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. K. Fenney, Assistant General Counsel/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 June 20, 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 Stewart:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 11:45 a.m.

PUBLIC 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:

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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. K. Fenney, Assistant General Counsel/Corporate Secretary
Ms. K. Maxwell, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. K. Kempt, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Local 40
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 12:05 p.m. and O Canada was led by Stephanie, a student from Western Canada High School. Trustee Hehr, ward trustee, expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board.

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.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. K. Fenney, Corporate Secretary, noted that there were no changes to the agenda.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2017 be approved, as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were none.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **School Presentation – Tuscany School**

Director B. Parker, Area 1, provided background information about Tuscany School noting it is located on the western edge of the city and until January 2017 it also housed students from Eric Harvie School. He introduced Principal C. White to share how Tuscany School has been working on Results 5: Character.

Principal White likened the school's work around Results 5: Character as a tapestry noting it is difficult to separate the threads that are interwoven with personal development and citizenship. She explained having Tuscany School host Eric Harvie School demonstrated the character of the staff, students and their families, with everyone working together respectfully and collaboratively, sharing space and activities. She also noted the successful collaboration between the Grade 4 students and Twelve Mile Coulee School on a joint mapping project. The presentation ended with a video of 75 Grade 1 students singing a song titled *Together We Can Change the World*.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Bowen-Eyre expressed appreciation for the presentation noting that hosting a school within a school truly demonstrates the building of character.

4.2 **Results 2: Academic Success – Annual Monitoring**

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that this report was introduced at the June 13, 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 Ferguson:

THAT the Board has reviewed the monitoring report on Results 2: Academic Success and concludes that reasonable progress is being made toward the ultimate achievement of this results policy.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT the motion be amended by the addition of “with the exception of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students’ achievement in all academic disciplines”.

In debate of the exception motion trustee comments included: there are concerns related to First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students’ high school completion rates, transition

rates and Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) scores; there are initiatives in place to support FNMI students such as the Aboriginal Centre and the Aboriginal Education Strategy Graduation Coaches; the CBE has a positive relationship with the Elders through the Elders Advisory Council; and there has been significant improvement in FNMI drop-out rates.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

In debate of the main motion as amended trustee comments included: the report shows an improvement in report card results and test scores despite challenges such as declining resources and increased enrolment, diversity, needs, and transitions; 9 of the 10 targets monitored were attained; high school completion rates have increased; student survey comments point to increased confidence in achievement; the desire for a common assessment tool was noted; and concern was expressed related to Grade 1 to Grade 9 report card results for the English Language Arts stem *reads to explore, construct and extend understanding*.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees identifies concern with overall student results in Mathematics.

The Chair clarified the difference between a *concern* and an *exception*. An *exception* relates to the overall finding of the Board of Trustees in terms of the main motion, whereas a *concern* flags for Administration what the Board of Trustees are concerned about.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: numeracy is foundational to thrive in life, work and continued learning; Alberta's results in the 2015 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) are declining and this is concerning as the CBE is the largest Board in the province; CBE results for Math 30-1, Grade 9 Knowledge & Employability (K&E) Math, and Junior High Math are concerning; Math results are always the lowest when compared to the other subjects; to flag Math as a concern, rather than an exception, acknowledges the strategies Administration has put in place and gives continued support and priority to this work; Math 30-1 is a relatively new program of study and it takes time to achieve results; the change in weighting for the Diploma Exams from 50% to 30% may have impacted Math results; CBE Math Diploma results, although declining, are still higher than other Boards in the province; Math results are a concern province-wide, not just within the CBE; today's students don't experience Math in a tactile manner such as handling money or playing board games and this may contribute to declining results; and it is important to flag Math results as a concern for information for the next Board.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees recognizes the evidence and efforts of the Grade 1 to 9 report card results with respect to the English Language Arts stem “reads to explore, construct and extend meaning” and that continued growth be reported on.

Trustee questions related to the motion included: how is this different from regular monitoring and whether the intent of this motion is to commend the work of the Literacy Strategy or to note a concern.

Trustee Ferguson raised a Point of Order. She noted on page 4-11 of the June 13, 2017 Results 2: Academic Success report under the English Language Arts (ELA) section the last bullet identifies a previously set target to show improvement in relation to a previous three year average by 2018 which would cover the motion Trustee Hehr is putting forward.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees lay the pending motion on the table.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for significant and continuous improvement on the three and five year high school completion rate.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: it important to recognize success and acknowledge it can look different for every student; the variety of alternative programs and supports for student engagement builds success; and a 5.4% increase in the completion rate since 2011 is noteworthy.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

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

The above motion incorporates a friendly amendment accepted by Trustee Hehr to correctly reflect the wording of the stem.

Trustee questions about the motion included: clarification regarding the goal of the motion.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: reading is foundational to future academic success; it is important to flag this as a concern to support the continuance of the Literacy Strategy; it is critical to keep a focus on this stem with the absence of Grade 3 PATs and Student Learning Assessments (SLAs); 25% of the student population are English Language Learners (ELL); concern was expressed that the motion focuses on an individual stem, however it will ensure the Literacy Strategy continues to be a priority and receive the necessary resources and supports for future success; and the English Language Arts results although high are still lower than some other subject areas.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee King

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 an exception or concern, by November 2017.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: the next step after identifying concerns is to create a mechanism for a report back to the Board; it provides accountability to the public and information to the new Board; the motion asks for *additional information* which is appropriate as the Board does not assess or approve strategies, but assesses the outcomes of the student results.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no items.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

Recess: 1:30 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:50 p.m.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **Students come first | Budget Report for 2017-18 and beyond**

Chair Bowen-Eyre stated that the Budget 2017-2018 was presented at the June 13, 2017 Board meeting, at which time trustees' questions were addressed by Administration.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves 2017-2018 Budget as reflected in Attachment 1 and authorizes its submission to Alberta Education.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT the motion be amended by the addition “and direct the use of reserves for a one year period to return yellow school bus service to the five schools who are moving onto the non-designated transit routes in the fall”.

Trustee questions about the motion included: the cost to return yellow bus service to the five schools; the gap between the current dollars available for transportation and the current costs in the 3rd quarter variance report; how the CBE would fund the additional cost for yellow bussing; and how much are we currently spending for yellow school buses.

Trustee Hrdlicka requested a point of information from Administration to answer the question regarding the estimated cost of returning the yellow school bus service to the five schools. Superintendent Breton responded a rough approximation of returning yellow school bus service to these schools would be \$3.5 million dollars.

Trustee Hrdlicka requested a point of information from Administration to answer the question regarding the gap between the current dollars available for transportation versus current costs. Superintendent Grundy responded the gap identified in the second quarter between revenues all sources for transportation and costs was about \$10 million dollars.

Trustee Hehr requested a point of information from Administration regarding the number of students who have already transitioned to using Calgary Transit for travelling to and from school. Superintendent Breton responded that system-wide there are approximately 17,000 students using Calgary Transit.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: the impact for students transitioning onto Calgary Transit, potential accessibility barriers to alternative programs, and the use of reserves money in light of feedback received from stakeholders that global funding should be used for learning in the classroom rather than to subsidize transportation services; the opportunity for a new board to continue to advocate for transportation funding for alternative programs; the impact of timelines for implementation of Bill 1 on CBE's ability to engage with parents.

It was noted that for the majority of CBE students the transportation service levels for the 2017-18 school year will be similar to those provided in 2016-17.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
DEFEATED.

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

In debate of the main motion trustee comments included: despite a shortfall and the need to use reserves, the budget demonstrates CBE's values and its core purpose of educating students; the budget supports such programs as full day kindergarten, English language learners, and resources for First Nations Metis Inuit students; the province's funding formula as it relates to enrolment growth and inflationary costs; the loss of hours and jobs for support staff; optimism regarding the Minister of Education's operational review which may lead to new ideas to stretch funding and also may encourage the province to assess the funding formula.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion Arising:

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to report on system-wide strategies that support alternative programs and report back to the Board by September 12, 2017.

Trustee questions about the motion included: what is meant by "strategies"; whether this is focused on activities currently occurring in our system or proposed changes; if the September deadline is reasonable; what policy this motion is tied to, the intent of the report and a suggestion to write a memo for the next public meeting to explain it.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees tables the main motion to the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2017.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees pulls the above-noted motion off the table, and

THAT the Board of Trustees postpones the main motion to the Regular Meeting of June 27, 2017.

The Chair called for a 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 OE-1: Global Operational Expectation.

8.2 Modified Monitoring of Results Survey Measures

THAT the Board of Trustees approves a modified monitoring schedule for survey measures within the Results policies.

8.3 Items Provided for Board Information

8.3.1 Correspondence

8.3.2 Chief Superintendent's Update

8.3.3 EducationMatters Financial Statements as at April 30, 2017

8.3.4 Three-Year System Student Accommodation Plan 2017-2020

8.3.5 Ten-Year Student Accommodation and Facilities Strategy

Recessed: 3:14 p.m.

Reconvened: 3:38 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 June 20, 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 Stewart

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 3:58 p.m.