

## **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, April 16, 2019 at 12:00 noon

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### MEETING ATTENDANCE

#### Board of Trustees:

Trustee T. Hurdman, Chair  
Trustee A. Adams  
Trustee M. Bradshaw  
Trustee L. Davis  
Trustee M. Dennis  
Trustee R. Hehr  
Trustee J. Hrdlicka

#### Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. E. Sutlic on behalf of Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services and Acting Superintendent, Human Resources  
Mr. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Ms. S. Smith, Acting Superintendent, Learning  
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer  
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary  
Ms. T. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary  
Ms. M. Broda, Recording Secretary

#### Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. B. Cocking, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38  
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association  
Ms. C. Turner, Elementary School Principals’ Association  
Mr. K. Weipert, Senior High School Principals’ Association  
Mr. M. Christison, Senior High School Principals’ Association

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

Chair Hurdman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. on the Link and O Canada was led by the Bowcroft School German Bilingual Student Ambassadors. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Hurdman expressed appreciation to the group for their pre-meeting performance and leading the singing of our national anthem. The Chair called for a short recess for people to assemble in the Multipurpose Room.

Chair Hurdman 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. Chair Hurdman welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

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

Ms. T. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary, noted that the proposed changes to the agenda include:

- Item 8.1 – OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students – Annual Monitoring be removed from the consent agenda and considered as Item 5.1 to the agenda; and
- Item 8.2.1 – Chief Superintendent’s Update be removed from the consent agenda for discussion immediately following the consent agenda.

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

**THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of April 16, 2019, be approved as submitted, subject to the revisions noted above.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no awards or recognitions.

## 4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

### 4.1 **Bowcroft School Presentation**

Ms. C. Edwards, Area 1 Acting Director, introduced Bowcroft School. She stated that perseverance, high tolerance for frustration, and a willingness to make and learn from your mistakes, while embracing complexity and ambiguity are just some of the life skills required to achieve our personal best each day. Every experience and new learning opportunity builds our confidence as risk takers living in the global world. A strong understanding of self helps us to grow and improve over time and as we develop awareness of ourselves, we are better able to use our skills and talents in support of others. Personal development is about bringing out the individual best in each student.

Principal R. Stein thanked the students and teachers for singing O Canada, and commended Ms. C. Visscher for leading them. Principal Stein presented a PowerPoint on what personal development looks like at Bowcroft School, stating that personal development is about students identifying and actively growing their sense of self. The school uses a neurolinguistics approach in teaching German, which is supported by a research project and professional development from the University of Calgary.

Bowcroft School Grade 1 and 2 students Penelope, Finlay, Elizabeth, William, Emma, Brydan, Aubrey, Amanda, and Faris, along with their teacher Ms. S. Lohmann,



presented a conversation activity where the students spoke about what they like to eat using their German language skills and passing a ball around to the next speaker. Learning Leader Mr. H. Ludwigsen spoke about students with special needs and how they are often not thought of when speaking about second language learners. Students who are dyslexic do not transfer dyslexia to a second language. This can be a new start when learning a new language such as German, since now they will not show the same problems they would have with their first language. This gives the students more confidence. Mr. Ludwigsen then introduced a video about a student who is on the Autistic Spectrum and does not like to speak regularly, but has a passion and is proud when speaking German.

Chair Hurdman thanked the students and teachers for their presentation and having the courage to speak in front of a room full of people.

#### 4.2 Results 4: Personal Development – Annual Monitoring

Chair Hurdman noted that this report was presented at the April 9, 2019 Regular meeting where trustees asked questions and received clarification on various issues. She stated that the Board must now formally act on the monitoring report to determine whether reasonable progress is being made towards the ultimate achievement of Results 4: Personal Development.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

**THAT the Board of Trustees has reviewed the monitoring report for Results 4: Personal Development, 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 policy subsection 4.5.”**

In debate of the amendment, comments from trustees included: low student survey indicator results on 4.5, subsections 2 and 4, physical health and emotional health; second year has been identified as an exception; first year for the new survey and thus the arbitrary targets; the skills and tools to make healthy lifestyle choices need to be provided by the CBE; emotional, social and physical well-being affect learning; and it's more difficult to engage positively with others if stuck in negative thinking or worry loop which can lead to challenging behaviors.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the amendment.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

In debate of the motion as amended, trustee comments included: reasonable effort is being made; this is a difficult results area to measure; appreciate efforts being made on returning rate; inclusion of the survey questions is critical to understanding;



conversations are needed around holding the system accountable for outcomes that may be beyond the CBE's control; operationalizing outcomes at the school level; how results of student growth in sense of self are shown; the targets are ambitious; soft skills are needed in the world to be well-rounded, good employees, and to succeed in life; education is more than just teaching reading, writing, Mathematics, it's about the learning environment too; student examples exemplify that students learn best from other students but still need guidance from the teacher; and teachers go that extra mile.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion as amended.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

### 5.1 OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students – Annual Monitoring

Chair Hurdman noted that this report was presented at the April 9, 2019 Regular meeting where trustees asked questions and received clarification on various issues. She stated that the Board must now consider whether the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students. The purpose of considering this report is to satisfy the Board that its policy values are being complied with in accordance with the approved indicators.

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students.**

In debate of the motion, trustee comments included: this is a critical Operational Expectations policy for students in regards to how they feel about the environment they are in; the system is doing what it needs to do to ensure the safety of students; students feel welcomed and safe at school; while 2 of the 7 indicators were noncompliant, they are being worked on and are isolated incidents; and this is the first year the Board has monitored some of these indicators.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

**THAT the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to review indicator 2.1.2 for OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students for Board reaffirmation or approval by June 30, 2019.**



In debate of the motion, trustee comments included: conversation is required around fire drills and lock-downs; there is a gap between fire code legislation and what is currently happening in schools and the indicator should be in-line with legislation requirements; and this has already been flagged by the Chief Superintendent in the capacity section of the report.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

**THAT the Board of Trustees agrees to review OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students policy by December 31, 2019.**

In debate of the motion, comments from trustees included: this is the first time reporting on the revised indicators; safety and well-being are very different areas but they are under the same Operational Expectations policy; questioning whether a review is necessary when this is only the first year of monitoring the new indicators; other priorities are more important that the Board has already committed to doing; concerns with the code of conduct would be the focus of a review; there is a finite amount of resources that need to be managed and prioritized; directing work by Administration for the Board is potentially taking away resources from students; policy development and review is the work of the Board; the review and update of this policy was not performed by the current Board and it would be helpful for this Board to review; priority is schools and learning environments but this policy affects that; and this is an opportunity to review and possibly amend the policy.

Chair Hurdman called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Adams Trustee Davis Trustee Dennis Trustee Hehr Trustee Hrdlicka Trustee Hurdman
Opposed:	Trustee Bradshaw

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

7.1 **EducationMatters – Presentation and Financial Statements as at December 31, 2018**



Ms. Field, Executive Director, and Mr. Shaikh, Chair of EducationMatters, presented a PowerPoint highlighting the work that EducationMatters does in support of the CBE Three-Year Education Plan. Last year EducationMatters distributed over twice the operational funding it received, mostly in the form of grants.

EducationMatters representatives responded to trustee questions on matters including: the positive impact EducationMatters makes; the clear commitment to public education and critical work EducationMatters does; the decline in funding over the last 10 years has made partners crucial; the work of finding donors and matching them with programs; the importance of student scholarships; how success is different for each student; and the schools helping schools program.

## 8 | CONSENT AGENDA

### 8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

The following item was removed from the Consent Agenda:

#### 8.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: the number of years the Cinderella event has taken place, event partnerships with the Calgary Catholic School Board and the Siksika Nation, and the number of students that took part in the event; the issues that the report card survey comments committee are looking at; the energy efficiency plan going forward considering fiscal constraints; and new school construction opportunities to implement energy efficiency.

Chair Hurdman noted that the Board would meet in camera following this public portion of the meeting to discuss one land and three strategic governance matters. She noted the next public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

Recessed: 1:44 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:03 p.m.

## 9 | IN-CAMERA SESSION

### Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

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 the Board of Trustees, April 16, 2019, 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 Hehr:

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

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Hurdman declared the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

