

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, October 22, 2019 at 12:00 noon

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

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

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. R. Armstrong, Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement
Dr. D. Yee, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary
Ms. D. Perrier, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. K. Chee, Senior High School Principals' Association
Mr. B. Cocking, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Ms. L. Devitt, Elementary School Principals' Association
Mr. T. Killam, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Mr. D. Rakowski, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Ms. R. Royal, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. C. Sagriotis, Senior High School Principals' Association
Mr. D. Sparrow, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAAL)

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

Chair Dennis called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. on the link and the Grade 4 Choir from Saddle Ridge School led the singing of O Canada. The Chair called for a recess to assemble in the Multipurpose Room.



Chair Dennis 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 Dennis welcomed staff, public members and representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Minor, Associate Corporate Secretary, noted changes to the agenda include the removal of Item 8.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update from the consent agenda, for discussion immediately following the consent agenda.

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of October 22, 2019 as submitted, subject to the change noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no awards or recognitions.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **Saddle Ridge School Presentation**

Ms. L. Pritchard, Area 4 Education Director, introduced the presentation by welcoming staff and students from Saddle Ridge School. She noted the school presentation is on Results 2: Academic Success, with a focus on Mathematics. She acknowledged and thanked Ms. L. MacEachern, Music Teacher, and the Grade 4 Choir for their performance of songs and opening the meeting with O Canada. She introduced Ms. S. Levesque, Principal, and Mr. S. Turner, Assistant Principal.

Principal Levesque shared highlights about the cultural diversity at Saddle Ridge School. Eighty-five per cent of the students are English Language Learners, speaking 26 different languages in addition to English. The focus of their school development plan is student achievement in well-being, literacy and mathematics. Assistant Principal Turner shared details of the learning outcomes and positive impacts on student achievement.

A video was shown of student learning in the classroom and depicting how Mathematics is embedded and embraced in the school culture. Ms. R. Krieger and Ms. A. Chaudhary, Learning Leaders, and students Jugadveer, Jannat, Eishaal and Muhammad respectively shared their teaching and learning experiences with Mathematics and through inquiry.



On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Dennis expressed appreciation for the school presentation.

5 | PUBLIC COMMENT

5.1 Ms. A. Pavey, Parent

Ms. Pavey stated that she is a former CBE student, a former CBE classroom teacher, a trained mindfulness educator and a parent of three middle school students attending CBE schools.

Ms. Pavey expressed her appreciation for CBE schools embedding wellness into school development plans. She stated that when we practice and support mental and emotional well-being and embed them in our every-day lives and relationships, everyone benefits. She shared her belief that all schools have a responsibility to provide emotional and mental tools to support well-being; a place where: student feedback and engagement is a daily practice; where every school staff member is trained in trauma-informed care; where human connection is the root to the environment and technology attachment and addiction is a thing of the past; and a place where no one is marginalized or separated from the larger whole.

6 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

There were no reports.

7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION

7.1 Proposed Amendments to Governance Policies OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students and OE-3: Instructional Program

Chair Dennis introduced the report and shared background information. She noted that trustees have undertaken a review of OE-2 and OE-3 to provide greater clarity and direction to the Chief Superintendent regarding the operations of the school division.

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees gives first reading to the amendments of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students policy and OE-3: Instructional Program policy, as provided in Attachment I and II to the report, and**
- 2. THAT the Chief Superintendent informs the Board of significant organizational impacts, if any, that would result from these proposed changes by no later than January 30, 2020.**

The Chair asked if the Board wished to consider the motion in two parts, to which the Board agreed to a division of the question.

Chair Dennis read part one of the motion, as follows:



THAT the Board of Trustees gives first reading to the amendments of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students policy and OE-3: Instructional Program policy, as provided in Attachment I and II to the report.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: monitoring the operational expectations and revising them are a significant part of the role of trustees, and ultimately, its how the Board ensures compliance throughout the system; the Chief Superintendent will provide the Board with the reasonable interpretations and indicators for Board approval that will be used to demonstrate whether or not compliance has been met; the success of students is intricately tied to their experiences at school; and students need to feel respected and cared for before their learning can begin.

During debate, a trustee expressed concern with the wording of policy subsection 2.4 for OE-2, and the Chair called for a short recess to allow the trustee some time to consider the wording for an amendment.

Recessed: 12:42 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:00 p.m.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT the Board of Trustees gives first reading to the amendments of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students policy and OE-3: Instructional Program policy, as provided in Attachment I and II to the report, subject to the amendment of policy subsection 2.4 to read as “acknowledge, celebrate and respect diversity and self-expression”.

In debate of the amendment trustee comments included: this falls in line with wording used in Alberta Education and CBE documents when describing and speaking about diversity; significant discussions were held with respect to the potential wording of the policy stems; there is a need to have indicators that are reasonable and measurable and it is questionable whether the Chief Superintendent would ever be in compliance with the policy if amended as proposed; the original wording offered a broad scope and the reasonable interpretations and indicators should make it come alive; the proposed wording sends a strong message of the Board’s position on diversity; the Administrative Regulations flow out from Board policies and they are very definitive in this area, in that it is the Board’s expectation that there will be a respect for diversity; it is not possible to have control over every single person in the learning environment, but it is possible to encourage every person; respect for diversity is a fact, not a choice; having consistent wording throughout our policies is very important; and policies set the tone for the entire system and the proposed wording will not marginalize any group of students within our system.

Chair Dennis called for the vote on the amendment.

The amendment was
DEFEATED.

In favour: Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hehr



Opposed: Trustee Adams
Trustee Bradshaw
Trustee Davis
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hurdman

Chair Dennis noted that the main motion, part one, was on the floor for trustee debate and she restated the motion as follows:

THAT the Board of Trustees gives first reading to the amendments of OE-2: Learning Environment/Treatment of Students policy and OE-3: Instructional Program policy, as provided in Attachment I and II to the report.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: this is first reading and depending on what is reported by the Chief Superintendent amendments could be made between first and second reading; the changes proposed to OE-3 are significant and timely; trustees have discussed, since election, matters of well-being and building equity across the system so that all students have access to resources and experiences that will enrich their learning and help them to succeed to their best ability; we need to remove barriers for all of our students and assure their social and emotional needs are met as well; this work is becoming more intentional at the trustee level; and this is a first step, but an important one.

Chair Dennis called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

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

Opposed: Trustee Hrdlicka

Chair Dennis stated that part two of the main motion was on the floor for trustee debate and she restated the motion as follows:

THAT the Chief Superintendent informs the Board of significant organizational impacts, if any, that would result from these proposed changes by no later than January 30, 2020.

In debate of the motion trustees commented that this seems to be a reasonable timeline.

Chair Dennis called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



7.2 Proposed Amendment to GC-3: Board Job Description (re: Closure of School Policy)

Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel, provided highlights of the contents of the report, noting the exhibit GC-3E reflects the key requirements of the *Education Act* and rules regarding closures of schools and school buildings. She responded to a trustee question about the specific changes made to the old processes that were in place with regard to public input.

Chair Dennis stated the report will be placed on the consent agenda for the November 5, 2019 public Board meeting, with a motion that the Board of Trustees amends GC-3: Board Job Description policy to include the addition of GC-3E: Closure of Schools Procedure, Attachment I to this report.

7.3 Modular Classroom Plan 2020-2021

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report and called forward Superintendent Breton to provide further details. Superintendent Breton shared the school utilization rate threshold that is used by the province to determine whether or not modular classroom requests will be accepted is only established after all modular classroom submissions from across the province have been received. The reason for this is that the approval is dependent upon the total budget allocated for this capital undertaking, coupled with the overall demand received from across the province. The modular submission deadline is November 1, 2019.

Administration responded to trustee questions on a variety of matters, including: the age of the modular classrooms to be relocated from Dalhousie School to Elboya School; the utilization of and provincial capacity for Ernest Manning High School; the differences between enrolment numbers and building occupancy numbers in relation to capacity and codes respectively; reasons for the cost differences of relocating a modular versus adding a new modular classroom; interim solutions for immediate resolution, and solutions currently in use for high schools to meet their needs for student space; and steps going forward should the province not approve our 2020/21 modular classroom program submission, including the need to engage with the community to address over capacity issues at the specific school.

MOVED by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the 2020/21 Modular Classroom Program submission.

In debate of the motion trustee comments included: Administration has clearly informed the Board about the system needs for modular classroom unit - the criteria put forward on these needs is appreciated; and Alberta Education is looking to school divisions to reduce finances and this plan shows innovative thinking, which is important and appreciated.

Chair Dennis called for the vote on the motion.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8 | CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Items Provided for Board Approval

There were no items.

8.2 Items Provided for Board Information

8.2.2 Construction Projects Status Update

8.2.3 Correspondence

8.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

Administration addressed a trustee's questions about the roles of Diversity Learning and Support Advisors, School Family Liaisons and the addition of six new Indigenous Education Learning Leaders.

Chair Dennis noted that the Board would meet in camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss two land and four strategic governance matters. She noted the next public Board meeting is Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

Recessed: 2:09 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:26 p.m.

10 | IN-CAMERA SESSION

Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Davis:

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, October 22, 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 Adams:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

1. **THAT the Board of Trustees approves the second elementary school to be built in the community of Cranston be named Sibylla Kiddle School, and**
2. **THAT the Board of Trustees' decision be communicated to the public as quickly as possible.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to execute correspondence to the Minister of Education as discussed in camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dennis declared the meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Chair

Associate Corporate Secretary
Adopted: November 12, 2019

