

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) held in the Multipurpose Room, Education Centre, 1221 8th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee L. Hack, Chair
Trustee P. Bolger
Trustee N. Close
Trustee M. Dennis
Trustee D. Downey
Trustee C. May
Trustee S. Vukadinovic

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
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. A. Holowka, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary
Ms. M. Broda, Board Administrator

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Hack called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and O Canada was led by students from Deer Run School by way of pre-recorded video.

Chair Hack 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 Hack welcomed staff, public members, and union representatives participating virtually in the Board meeting.

2 | CONSIDERATION/ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted there were no changes to the agenda.



MOVED by Trustee Bolger:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 9, 2021, as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no awards or recognitions.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

There were no reports or presentations.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no reports or presentations.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

7 | **BOARD DEVELOPMENT SESSION**

7.1 **COVID-19 Update**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the presentation, acknowledging how challenging it has been living through the global COVID-19 pandemic. The support received from staff, students, and families is integral to being able to deliver programs and services in schools. He spoke about the decisions made to ensure the health and safety of students and staff such as: the mandatory mask policy; encouraging people to stay home when sick; promoting proper hand hygiene; the cleaning protocols in schools; and enhanced ventilation. He also spoke about the recently announced CBE vaccine mandate and the guidance provided to staff regarding timelines.

Superintendent Pitman reiterated that this is the third school year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. She shared some lessons learned from the 2020-21 school year including: building confidence and competence of all staff in navigating professional uncertainty and addressing student needs; constant communication, check-ins and structures whereby concerns or questions could be raised; the ability to pivot between online and in person learning; and the value of partnerships.

Superintendent Holowka spoke about what health measures the CBE has undertaken in schools, with the two most important measures being to prioritize in-person learning and to limit the disruption to in-person learning as much as possible.



Superintendent Breton spoke about specific school measures, focusing on ventilation in schools, stating that all CBE classrooms are mechanically ventilated. The CBE continues to limit outside visitors and bookings with access to schools limited to areas that will most benefit students and their learning.

Superintendent's Pitman and Holowka continued to speak about the COVID-19 cases experienced in the 2020-2021 school year, quarantine impacts, and the cases up to November for the 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent Pitman outlined the notification process, how outbreaks are declared, and the rapid testing program available to schools who have been declared on outbreak status by Albert Health Services (AHS).

Superintendent Armstrong spoke about the CBE vaccine mandate. He outlined the COVID-19 Vaccinations Administrative Regulation that was released November 9, along with the implementation for rollout. The deadline for compliance is December 17, 2021.

Superintendent's Holowka and Pitman spoke about recognizing the mental health impacts due to the pandemic and providing supports and interventions when appropriate. CBe-learn is being utilized for online learning in the current school year as it is a more sustainable option to the HUB model used in the 2020-2021 school year. Alberta Education's targeted funding for literacy and numeracy was recognized, and the CBE process of allocating the resources and funds is currently underway.

Superintendent Grundy spoke about the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the 2020-2021 school year and how the CBE is managing the ongoing costs.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: possible gaps in students receiving mental health supports; other school jurisdictions installing ventilation and filtration systems in classrooms; eligibility to take part in the rapid testing program; and the requirement to continue cleaning of high touch points in schools.

8 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD INFORMATION

There were no reports or presentations.

9 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD DECISION

9.1 CBE Boundary Adjustment – Glacier Ridge Area Structure Plan, Carrington north of 144 Ave NW, Crestmont Remnant, and the remainder of the West Macleod Area Structure Plan

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating that the report proposes CBE boundary adjustments in four areas in light of community development within the City of Calgary.

Superintendent Breton provided context to the report, noting the City of Calgary boundaries were expanded in 2005, 2007, and 2010 but the areas were sparsely populated so the CBE did not adjust its boundary. The CBE continually monitors development to determine when criteria is met to add them to the CBE boundaries. The



affected school jurisdictions have been notified with the changes taking affect for the next school year if approved by the Board of Trustees and the Education Minister.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: impacts on CBE from the city expanding; the ability to share busing costs and resources with other school jurisdictions; communicating to new communities about yellow school bus service; and transportation cost estimates dropping in year three.

MOVED by Trustee May:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to correspond with the Minister of Education, as per Attachment I to this report.

In debate of the motion a trustee made a comment on being in support of adjusting these boundaries as they align with the City of Calgary boundaries.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.2 Financial Status of Reserves and Designated Funds at August 31, 2021

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report stating it forms a key component of the year end financial reporting process.

Superintendent Grundy provided further detail, stating that CBE Administration is seeking approval to transfer \$2.7 million from the Fiscal Stability Reserve (FSR) and designated operating funds to address the projected 2020-2021 operating deficit. The deficit is related to the ongoing impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic on CBE operations.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: setting aside money for projects approved but not started; adjustments to projects already made prior to requesting transfer of funds; background of previous direction on the use, transfer, management, and balance of reserves; guidance given by the government for provincial approval for use of reserves; the fiscal stability reserve balance decreasing year after year; and implications of not undertaking planned operating projects.

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the transfers represented in Attachment I to this report.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: the request showing the precision of finance; the amount requested for transfer being less than 1% of the budget; the importance of supporting students; and that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is anticipated there will be a bigger financial impact.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.



The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

10.1 **Items Provided for Board Decision**

10.1.1 Roster for Second Vice-Chair

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the roster for Second Vice-Chair for the period of November 2021 through June 2022 as follows:

- **November/December 2021** **Trustee Dennis**
- **January/February 2022** **Trustee Close**
- **March/April 2022** **Trustee Downey**
- **May/June 2022** **Trustee Bolger**

10.2 **Items Provided for Board Information**

10.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

10.2.2 Correspondence

Chair Hack noted that the Board would meet in-camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss one land, one labour, three legal, and three strategic planning matters.

Recessed: 1:59 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:24 p.m.

11 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Superintendent Grundy confirmed he was alone and in a location that no other person could hear him or any part of this meeting.

Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

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, November 9, 2021 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 Vukadinovic:

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 Dennis:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the reappointment of Rachael Golembuski as an external member of The Calgary Board of Education Board of Trustees' Audit and Risk Committee for an additional three-year term, from April 1, 2021 to March 30, 2024; and

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the reappointment of John Pantazopoulos as an external member of The Calgary Board of Education Board of Trustees' Audit and Risk Committee for an additional three-year term, from April 1, 2021 to November 30, 2024.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Vukadinovic:

THAT the Board of Trustees ratifies the electronic approval of the November 5, 2021 endorsement letter.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bolger:

THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to execute communications with the Chinese Academy as discussed in-camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12 | ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

