

Calgary Board of Education

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Board Room, Education Centre, 515 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary, Alberta, on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee G. Dirks
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee K. Kryczka
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Dr. B. Croskery, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. J. Crarer, Acting Superintendent, Educational Support Services
Mr. D. Dart, Superintendent, Corporate Services – Secretary Treasurer
Mr. J. Jones, Executive Assistant to the Chief Superintendent
Ms. B. Kuester, Executive Director of Communications
Mr. R. Peden, Director and General Counsel, Legal Affairs
Ms. J. Barkway, Assistant Corporate Secretary
Ms. S. Wasylshyn, Executive Assistant to the Trustees
Ms. H. Numrich, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Ms. G. Burger-Martindale, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
Ms. A. Craig, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Ms. J. Regal, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Mr. F. Reaume, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40

Action By

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. on the plaza, after viewing and enjoying the Faculty Art Show, entitled "Empower" by Calgary Board of Education teachers. Band teachers D. Grimstead, M. Sakatch, R. McIntyre, J. Hiley and J. Grey accompanied the singing of the national anthem. The meeting reconvened in the boardroom and Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Barkway informed that replacement pages for 7-48 and 7-55, Agenda Item 7.2 *Annual Education Results Report* had been circulated. Trustees and administration received copies of these.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 27, 2007, be approved as submitted.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS

Arts-Centred Learning

Ms. C. Faber, Director of Innovative Learning Services, introduced the Arts-Centred Learning Program and Ms. S. Martens, Curriculum Support Specialist, Fine and Performing Arts. Ms. Martens thanked and acknowledged M. Temple and D. Kaminski who assisted in the preparation of the Faculty Art Show as well as twenty-seven teachers who participated in the art display. A PowerPoint presentation and DVD were given highlighting student successes in the Arts-Centred Learning program. Several students spoke of how the skills learned in the arts involved using both sides of the brain resulting in successes in academics as well. Students related how the arts are a large part of their lives and that they will continue to be a part of their adult life as well. Ms. Martens stated that the program works towards achievement of Ends 3 Citizenship in assisting students to better understand and appreciate the arts by becoming creative citizens tomorrow. Chair Cochrane expressed appreciation to all involved for their part in the presentation.

4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS

5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION

5.1 Report from the Chair and Trustees

Trustee Ferguson reported that she attended O.S. Geiger School in celebration of their recent UNICEF campaign. Their goal to raise \$750 for the health community was far surpassed; they raised a total of \$6,300. They were very excited about this and the project brought a sense of school spirit, community and global awareness.

Trustee Kryczka attended Chinook Learning Services for adult English as a Second Language classes; Centennial High School for an Open House regarding P3's; an informative Area V meeting with Trustee Bazinet; an Alternate High School awards ceremony; and Somerset School Parent Council meeting.

Trustee Ferguson noted that she attended an awards ceremony at John G. Diefenbaker High School where 344 student awards were awarded to more than one quarter of the students in school. She also attended the Calgary Senior High Athletic Awards Ceremony where three Calgary Board of Education students received awards.

Trustee Bazinet noted that she and Trustee King attended the Mayor's 19th Annual Christmas Food Drive kick off. Trustee Bazinet stated that Calgary Board of Education schools are one of the largest contributors to the Food Bank, which coincides with the Citizenship Ends and promotes global community.

Trustee King reported that she attended an awards evening at Forest Lawn High School, where she was honored to present two awards and, as a former student there, to reconnect with some former teachers.

5.2 Report from the Chief Superintendent

Chief Superintendent Croskery provided comments on the following issues and events:

He announced that the Calgary Board of Education recently received two awards. Superintendent Dart introduced the IAP2 International award. This is an association of public participation; a core value award that exemplifies community engagement and public participation, where organizations from around the world participate. Mr. Dart stated that

the Calgary Board of Education governance policies have been instrumental in promoting public participation and the Community Engagement and Operational Planning Department have been leading in this area. Mr. Dart stated that their successful application was due to the strong leadership of this department and the presentation given by Director P. Carlton. Director Carlton also expressed his appreciation to the team of staff that assisted him in the application process. Formal presentation of the award was given to Chair Cochrane.

Dr. Croskery introduced the Venture Top 50 award, where the Calgary Board of Education was ranked number five in a list of the top 50 public sector organizations in the Province of Alberta. Dr. Croskery read the awarding letter from Venture Publishing and the award was formally presented to Chair Cochrane.

Dr. Croskery also noted the following significant events that he attended: World Skills Competition in Tokyo, an event which will be coming to Calgary in 2009 and will involve the Calgary Board of Education; the Open Minds celebration; and the Global Educational Technology Summit by SMART Technologies.

5.3 Public Question Period

There were no questions from the public.

5.4 Stakeholder Reports

There were no stakeholder reports.

5.5 Trustee Inquiries

There were no Trustee inquiries.

6.0 **ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 Annual Audited Financial Statements

Trustee Bazinet introduced the report on behalf of the Audit Committee. Superintendent Dart expressed appreciation to the staff from Financial Services and particularly Director W. Braun for assistance in preparation of the Audited Financial Statements.

Mr. Braun gave a PowerPoint presentation and review of the financial statements. He made the following observations and comments: life cycle planning is important and emphasized; operating reserves continue to experience significant cash flows and returns from investments that occurred in 2007; recruitment challenges continue due to the situation in the city of Calgary at this time; and there is a heavy reliance on provincial grants.

He noted that the deficit was fully eliminated in the last fiscal year, resulting in favorable actual results. The budget was impacted by a larger than expected enrolment increase and the inability to fill staff vacancies with permanent staff. The class size initiative also provided additional funding resulting in the hiring of an additional 167 full time equivalent teachers. During the last 3 years, 507 additional teachers were hired. This is approximately 9 per cent of the teacher population prior to this and is significant.

Mr. Braun noted that other revenues also increased, largely due to the sale of surplus sites. Increased revenue was also due to funding received from Alberta Education for maintenance work that had to be deferred until the trades are available to do the work.

In summary, Mr. Braun concluded that this has been a successful fiscal year. Student needs are being met; the Ends are being achieved and improved reporting and information is being

provided to the board, public and school. In the area of fiscal stability there is improved risk management, and compliance to the provincial funding framework. Financial health has improved through sound fiscal management. Initiatives such as class size have enhanced student learning. There is a commitment to sustainability and to the mission of educating tomorrow's citizens today.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves:

- a) **the Audited Financial Statements of the Calgary Board of Education for the year ended August 31, 2007 including the Auditors' Report thereon, dated November 7th, 2007, and the Unaudited Schedules to the Financial Statements as submitted, for submission to the Minister of Education; and**
- b) **the Calgary Board of Education Financial Statements and Statistical Information for the year ended August 31, 2007 including the Auditor's Report thereon, dated November 7th, 2007, as submitted, for submission to the Minister of Education.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Cochrane thanked the Audit Committee for fine work.

7.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

7.1 Ends 2: Academic Success

Dr. Croskery introduced the report, stating its importance and the pleasure it is to have students present it. He acknowledged those who worked on it and introduced Acting Superintendent J. Crarer. Ms. J. Crarer provided brief introductory comments and introduced Ms. Cartwright and the student presenters. Dillon, Stephanie and Garrett spoke of how their academic success was influenced by the Work Experience and Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP). Janakee gave an informative PowerPoint presentation on using all the tools to assist with research, and Christine and Andrew shared of their academic successes in the English as a Second Language program by reading poems and stories they had written.

Dr. Croskery provided introductory remarks regarding the annual education results and the banner depicting the annual results of 6138 graduates and 2590 scholarships was unveiled.

Chair Cochrane noted that the Board has the responsibility to consider the monitoring report on Ends 2: Academic Success and determine whether reasonable progress has been made to the ultimate achievement of this End result. The emphasis is on progress not compliance. This is an important decision on what the Calgary Board of Education is doing to achieve the Ends and an opportunity to discuss areas of success and areas in which we are challenged. It is important to distinguish that we need to look at the Calgary Board of Education's performance over time and that progress can fluctuate.

Trustees posed questions, which were responded to by Administration, and the discussion is summarized as follows:

- Although the high school completion rate is lower than the target, it will not be adjusted. Director Brost explained that Alberta Education suggests the target of a one per cent increase would indicate significant improvement; therefore, that was determined as the target. If the target is not achieved, it is maintained for another

year. At the request of trustees, three year comparative figures will be provided in future.

- There is a concern over not only results in Calgary Board of Education in mathematics test scores, but the math curriculum province wide. The curriculum is very complex and difficult and the province is contending with this challenge now. The problem needs to be fully understood as young lives are being affected and it is an issue of concern, possibly calling for concerted action at the provincial level.
- Some of the significant areas of success include: English as a Second Language, special needs students, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement and the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP).
- Dr. Croskery stated that he feels it is extremely important that the Calgary Board of Education take national leadership in connecting schools with the workplace. There is a slight increase in the number of students enrolling in the RAP program and it is officially recognized by the government as a post secondary program. Dr. Croskery stated that he believes the aim should be to double the RAP enrolment numbers as this program has such a significant affect on students.
- The high school exit survey is a new process that has just been put into place over the last two years. Mr. Jones explained that students were asked to respond to questions specific to each of the Ends statements. This data is used to inform of the progress being made towards achievement of the Ends. A system glance is developed from the results, with each school receiving the results specific to their school to be used for their school development planning. Mr. Jones will provide Trustees with the number of students that participated in the surveys.
- In reference to the system-wide program inventory, a Trustee questioned what would be the rationale for an increase or decrease in student participation of particular programs. Administration suggested that the reasons could vary according to a number of factors; some of these might include student interest, availability of teachers, or change of focus by staff. Mr. Jones explained that this survey is relatively new and that as respondents become more familiar with questions, and questions are adjusted, the data should have more meaning in the third year. He emphasized that numbers change dependent on the number of students in a particular grade level, as well as events taking place in the city, such as the civic election, which will be of particular interest this year.
- In reference to the Provincial Testing Program Results, a Trustee inquired if there would be adjustments made to the formula used for the Resource Allocation Model (RAM) if targets are continuously not met. Dr. Croskery responded that this is a question that needs to be considered when the resource allocation is reviewed and the cause determined. He noted, for example, that in the area of math where Calgary Board of Education students show similar decline to that of the rest of the province, it is likely that the curriculum may need some revision. However, if there were areas where Calgary Board of Education students are at a lower level than the rest of the province, it would need to be determined if the area is adequately resourced, or if resources need to be re-deployed. Alberta Education does make adjustments to the program of studies and is now in the process of adjusting to a brand new program of studies in mathematics to be implemented fully in the fall of 2008. They are currently in the process of identifying what it is that is needed to plan in order to attend to the needs of a new math program. Response teams are being formed to attend to the needs that have been identified by individual schools. Administration explained that the targets set in the

J. Jones

Provincial Testing Program Results focus for the system level was on the cohort group that includes all three groups. The individual group results are important numbers at a school level, and will be reported to Trustees with the provincial achievement tests results.

- A Trustee questioned how school development plans and the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement projects affect how the individual student needs are being met in the classroom. Ms. Crarer explained that there are five system wide initiatives from which each school chooses their focus area for the year. The Alberta Initiative for School Improvement funding is requested and provided to work on the focus area with the intention to see an increase in the results of this particular focus. Dr. Croskery explained that resource allocation is deployed at the school level by the principal and is part of the ATA Collective agreement. It is important to ensure that the areas of highest need are targeted.
- In regards to the Grade Level Achievement Reporting for the 2008 monitoring report, Administration explained that Alberta Education decided to implement this reporting in phases; however, this process is currently under review as the response from jurisdictions has been that this is not something that they can easily do, particularly in the areas of Social Studies and Science.
- In response to a Trustee inquiry regarding the purchase of computers and the renewing of technology, Ms. Crarer stated that computers in schools could either be purchased through Calgary Board of Education funds or through school fund raising. Mr. Dart stated that an inventory is done on all of the computers in the school regardless of how they were purchased and that there is an evergreening process in place.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board has reviewed the scheduled monitoring report on Ends 2: Academic Success and concludes that reasonable progress has been made toward the ultimate achievement of this Ends policy.

Comments in support of this motion were as follows:

- There has been success in certain areas, and effort is being made to continue to improve on results.
- It is a very positive report overall. A number of indicators are ahead of those at provincial levels, which is remarkable for a system of such complexity, size and challenges.
- The high school drop out rate is decreasing and the high school completion rate is increasing. It is good to acknowledge the accomplishments, achievements and areas of challenge.
- As student population and reporting requirements change, targets are moving but the push to get better continues. This report gives a good overview of the challenges and successes.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees expresses concern with the three year decrease in the English Language Arts results at an acceptable level in grade 3.

A Trustee noted that the three year reporting shows a decline in acceptable standards for the cohort group, which is a concern, especially in the area of grade 3 language arts. This is such an important subject that impacts many other subjects and these students are at the very beginning of their learning.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Bazinet
Trustee Kryczka
Trustee Lane
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King
Trustee Cochrane

Opposed: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent in the following areas of success: for exemplary performance in the number of students eligible for scholarships; for significant achievement of English as a Second Language and special needs students; for overall achievement of students exceeding provincial achievement levels; for exemplary international level results of International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement student achievement levels; and for lowering of the drop out rate and improvement in the high school completion rate.

Trustee comments in support of the motion included:

- All of these are significant indicators; this is commendable performance that we should be proud of, thanks to the good work of the Chief Superintendent and staff. It is remarkable for such a large system to achieve such a high level of success and is worthy of commendation.
- The emphasis on making meaningful progress in performance is recognized on the international stage as well. A recent newspaper article stated that Canadian results of public schools in Canada are higher due to the influence of the Alberta results. The results of Calgary would affect the Alberta results.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for the success of having 97.4 percent of grade four students enrolled in a Language and Culture course.

Trustee comments in support of this motion included the following:

- The Ends 2 policy on Academic Success states “each student will have the opportunity to learn languages other than English, and attain second language levels of proficiency and cultural awareness to prepare them for participation in the global environment.” In support of this statement, this is the first year that all Calgary Board of Education students have been provided the opportunity to learn another language. Other school boards in the province have been unable to accomplish this and the Calgary Board of Education has a very high percentage of students being involved in learning a second language.
- The Calgary Board of Education has always had a strong program of second languages with French Immersion, German, and Spanish and shows a strong commitment to language and culture courses.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees expresses concern that the targets set for mathematics at both the acceptable level and standard of excellence in grades 3, 6 and 9 were not met.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Moved by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the data sources, indicators and targets provided, including amendments, to be reported on in November 2008.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Cochrane expressed thanks to Dr. Croskery and all staff who worked on this report.

Chair Cochrane received the consent of the Board to continue past 8:00 p.m., to the end of the agenda.

Recessed at 7:52 p.m. Reconvened at 8:12 p.m.

7.2 Annual Education Results Report

Acting Superintendent J. Crarer provided brief introductory remarks to the report.

Ms. Barkway noted a correction to the report on page 7-51, Outcome 1.3, Graduates. This should read “increase of 118 from 2006” rather than “increase of 137 from 2006”.

Trustees posed questions to which administration responded as follows:

- In regards to the future directions and challenges listed, Director Brost explained that these are obtained from an analysis of the results and will be used in the next Three Year Education Plan. Dr. Croskery explained that some of the challenges have been comprised over a two year period and come from various places including the

secondary review, Directors' meetings, feedback from principals, school based area and system planning.

- In response to a statement that CBe-learn, international programs and the like were major innovations and if there were any new innovations being considered, Dr. Croskery stated that innovation has been in the system for over 100 years. There are creative people at every level who are encouraged to keep up the good work, being creative and thinking outside the box. There is always room for improvement. There are some that have not been formalized yet, referring to a book entitled "Five Minds for the Future" by Howard Gardner, which he believes will be influential in public education and that we should be engaging people around this thinking by linking it with the Ends statements. Some countries are mandating that technology be to be used by every student; many of our students now learn on line; use of technology in education will become increasingly important. These approaches are important and powerful forces in the 21st century.
- Administration noted that the integration of services referred to twice in the future directions and challenges list is differentiated in that one refers to response teams that would go into schools and the other as integrating the work of the service unit in areas on a broader basis.
- In reference to the budget processes listed in the future directions and challenges, Acting Superintendent Crarer explained that the budget process drove student learning needs in the past. Through the school development plans, particular needs are identified and become part of the area renewal plan, which then become part of the system Three Year Plan. Budget would respond to the identified needs. Dr. Croskery noted that plans are built and then allocations are requested to meet the plan and deploy at the school level.
- The percentage of students that are excluded from provincial achievement tests is approximately 9 – 10 per cent. There was some discussion as to how to include more students in these assessments.

Moved by Trustee Kryczka:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Annual Education Results Report 2006-2007 be submitted to Alberta Education.

Trustees entered into debate on the motion and comments were as follows:

- It is a challenge to connect high school students to the workplace setting and bring more meaning to their academics. In considering future direction and challenges set out in this report it would be important to include the teacher as part of the solution, if students are feeling a disconnect.

Amendment to Motion:

Moved by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the motion to approve the Annual Education Results Report, be amended by the addition of "subject to further consideration of the Future Directions and Challenges being re-written in a way to be more accessible and understandable by the general public."

Trustee Dirks suggested an amendment, that the following words be substituted for the amendment moved by Trustee Bazinet: “with appropriate examples for each of the Future Directions and Challenges, that will facilitate public understanding of those future directions and challenges.”

Trustee Bazinet agreed to accept the proposed substitute phrase as a friendly amendment.

Trustees entered into debate on the amendment to the motion and comments in support are as follows:

- This is a public document that should be easily understood.
- The Future Directions and Challenges is a significant list that should be easily understood by school councils and parents. Providing examples would not limit administration, but provides the public with easier understanding.
- When examples are given it is assumed that they are examples only, and are not exclusive.

Trustees’ comments against the amendment included:

- Concern that public would see these as specific examples and that would limit a broader understanding of directions and challenges.
- The amendment is not necessary, as administration can respond to requests for further clarity.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the amendment to the motion, as follows:

THAT the motion to approve the Annual Education Results Report for submission to Alberta Education be amended by the addition of “with appropriate examples for each of the Future Directions and Challenges that will facilitate public understanding of those future directions and challenges.”

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Dirks
Trustee Lane
Trustee Kryczka
Trustee Bazinet
Trustee King

Opposed: Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Cochrane

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the main motion, as amended. For clarity, the amended motion is as follows:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Annual Education Results Report 2006-2007 be submitted to Alberta Education, with appropriate examples for each of the Future Directions and Challenges that will facilitate public understanding of those future directions and challenges.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Dirks
 Trustee King
 Trustee Lane
 Trustee Kryczka
 Trustee Bazinet

Opposed: Trustee Ferguson
 Trustee Cochrane

7.3 EL-11: Financial Condition

Superintendent Dart provided brief introductory remarks.

Trustees posed questions to which administration responded as follows:

- In response to a Trustee inquiry as to the process used by administration to justify sole source expenditures, that they are legitimate, no conflict of interest and the reputation of the Calgary Board of Education is not harmed, Mr. Dart referred to Administrative Regulation 70001 Purchase of Goods and Services, that is managed by the Purchasing Department.

Chair Cochrane reviewed the criteria against which the Trustees are to judge the monitoring report on EL-11: Financial Condition, including that of reasonable interpretation of the policy, whether the Board is satisfied that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the policy provisions or has disclosed procedures to establish compliance, and whether sufficient information has been provided. She noted further that any decision or comment of the Board of Trustees with regard to non-compliance is in no way intended to be a vote of non-confidence for the Chief Superintendent.

Trustees posed questions, which were responded to by Administration, and the discussion is summarized as follows:

- In regards to committed operating surplus or operating or capital reserves, Mr. Braun explained that the interpretation is that these are funds that the Board has agreed to commit to reserves for a specific purpose. Board approval is required both to commit them and to specify the purpose for specific projects. In both cases the Board is made aware of which reserves are being planned for use during the year. Any uncommitted funds also require Board approval prior to being committed to a specific purpose. The Policy Committee will be reviewing this further in an attempt to clarify the wording, particularly to sub-points 2 and 3.
- Administration explained that the financial statements were originally scheduled for the November 6, 2007 Board meeting, but were delayed in order that the Audit Committee could review them first. The financial statements were requested to be presented at a public meeting; therefore they were not received before the monitoring report or the Annual Audited Financial Statements. It was suggested that the sequence of year-end financial reporting be reviewed for future years.

- Debts are deemed uncollectible after one year. After reasonable attempts to collect third party billings, some of these, including some outstanding student fees, are sent to collection agencies.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Chief Superintendent has reasonably interpreted the provisions of EL-11: Financial Condition, and the Board of Trustees finds the Chief Superintendent to be in compliance with the policy.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

8.1 Report from the Policy Committee, EL-17: imagineCALGARY

Trustee Ferguson introduced the report.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees gives third reading and thereby final approval to amended Executive Limitations 17: imagineCALGARY Partnership, as attached.

Trustee comments regarding the motion included:

- Steering committees have started to meet, and it is urgent to move if we are going to.
- Many groups in the city want Calgary Board of Education representation on their committees. Administration should make the decision as to which ones have Calgary Board of Education representation. The impact statement indicates that the imagineCALGARY objectives are not totally formed. It is unclear as to what committees will be doing, and it would be better for administration to determine where best to be involved.
- ImagineCALGARY includes all Calgarians, not just students.
- The original partnership agreement has already created a unique situation.
- We are one of the largest institutions in the city and can have a large impact. The directive is minimal, to ensure proactive involvement. It should be within the boundaries of the Board's discretion to approve this type of policy.

Chair Cochrane called for the vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In Favour: Trustee Dirks
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King
Trustee Cochrane
Trustee Lane
Trustee Kryczka

Opposed: Trustee Bazinet

9.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Items 9.2.1 and 9.2.2 were pulled from the Chief Superintendent Consent Agenda. Chair Cochrane declared the remaining Consent Agenda items to be adopted as submitted, as follows:

9.1 Board Consent Agenda

9.1.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held November 6, 2007
- Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Private Agenda held November 13, 2007

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 6, 2007 and the Regular Meeting, Private Agenda held November 13, 2007 as circulated.

9.1.2 Education Matters Quarterly Report

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the EducationMatters Quarterly Report for information and for the record.

9.2 Items Pulled From the Consent Agenda

9.2.1 Report on Financial Status of Operating Budget as at August 31, 2007 and Projected Financial Results for the Year Ended August 31, 2007

Trustees posed questions, which were responded to by Administration, and the discussion is summarized as follows:

- Alberta Initiative for School Improvement funding that is not spent has been deferred to the following year. The intent from the provincial government is that at the end of the third year of the three-year cycle, the majority of the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement funds should be spent. Administration will be working towards using the majority of this amount, although it could be a challenge as this is a significant amount of money and they want to spend it wisely. There are five specific projects designated for this purpose.
- Mr. Dart explained the column headings of the 2006/07 budget variance report; Mr. Braun added that the actual results are the annual results. The budget amount reflects the end of the year annual budget with the quarterly adjustments.
- In response to a question regarding credit enrollment unit (CEU) audits and claw-backs, Mr. Braun explained that while they are done annually, they are always two years after the fact.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

1. **THAT information regarding all budget revisions made during the period June 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007 inclusive (identified in the Analysis section of this report and in Attachments I and II), be received for monitoring information and for the record.**
2. **THAT the unaudited Statement of Revenue and Expense for the period September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007 and notes thereto (identified in the**

Analysis section of this report and in Attachments III and IV, respectively) be received for monitoring information and for the record.

- 3. THAT the 2006/07 designated operating and capital project funds requested for carry forward to 2007/08, amounting to \$13.6 million (and identified in Section IV of this report), be approved.**
- 4. THAT the summary of transfers to operating reserves, amounting to \$1.4 million, net of those approved on October 2, 2007, (and identified in Section IV of this report), be approved.**
- 5. THAT the summary of transfers to capital reserves, amounting to \$8.2 million, net of those approved on September 25, 2007, (and identified in Section IV of this report), be approved.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9.3 School Enrolment Report 2007-2008 (EL-14E)

Trustees posed questions and administration responded as follows:

In reference to the sector growth and increase in enrolment, Mr. Carlton explained that several years ago there was realignment of the city of Calgary, making divisions into sectors to help address the need for new schools in some sectors of the city within which had greater than 85 percent utilization.

In regards to the decrease in enrolment in sector 4, a Trustee suggested that this might be due to students living in sector 4 attending schools in sector 3. It was requested and agreed that in future this clarity be provided.

- New schools create increase in enrolment. Information regarding schools is communicated to parents in various ways: information is provided to show homes in the new and expanding areas showing where the designated schools are as well as alternative programs they can access; Area Directors do an excellent job working with principals to communicate school information; a pamphlet is provided to Grade 6 and 9 students entitled "How does your child learn?"; newspaper inserts highlight good news stories. Parents in Calgary are given many choices.
- The decline in enrolment is partially due to the greater number of grade 12 students leaving than the number of grade 10 students coming in. The retention rate is less than projected. In response to a trustee question regarding having enough space for high school students in the years ahead, Mr. Carlton responded that 10 year projections include several new high schools and an additional wing on Centennial High School. There will also be space at Henry Wisewood High School.
- Trustees requested actual numbers of students attending Chinook Learning and CBe-learn on September 30, 2007. Administration will report back to Trustees with this information as soon as possible. These numbers are difficult to track as they are continuously registering and students may attend a high school and Chinook Learning or Cbe-learn at the same time. Mr. Braun explained that the budget reflects all learners, including adult learners.
- Mr. Carlton stated that they do not have enrollment figures from the private and charter schools; however, they can obtain Catholic school district enrollments. He noted that

D. Dart

there is an increase in grades 7 and 10 as often the charter and private programs end at this level and students return to the public system.

- Trustees noted that there has been a significant decrease in enrollment this year compared to last and asked at what point in time will younger students increase to make up for the projected drop in high school? Administration explained that they do not predict this happening as the grade 12 numbers are the greatest now, and it is hard to predict Calgary's net migration. Projected figures have been within .5 percent of accuracy in the past.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the School Enrolment Report for the 2007-2008 school year be received as information and for the record.

The motion was:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Trustee notices of motion.

Recessed at 10:24 p.m. Reconvened at 10:39 p.m.

11.0 IN-CAMERA ISSUES

11.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3 Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

THAT the Board of Trustees ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Calgary Board of Education and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 254 (Electricians), as attached to the report that was submitted with the agenda for the Regular Meeting on November 27, 2007.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Dirks:

THAT the Board of Trustees receive the report re: *Implications of Boundary Expansion of the City of Calgary* for information; and

THAT the Chief Superintendent be directed to recommend a Board position in accordance with tonight's discussion, including a communications plan and implementation strategies, and present it for Board consideration at the private session on December 4th, 2007.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 11:37 p.m.