

**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, December 16, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair  
Trustee C. Bazinet  
Trustee G. Dirks (arrived at 5:23 p.m., left at 6:56 p.m.)  
Trustee L. Ferguson  
Trustee P. King  
Trustee K. Kryczka  
Trustee G. Lane

Administration:

Dr. B. Croskery, Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
Mr. D. Dart, Superintendent, Corporate Services – Secretary Treasurer  
Ms. B. Hubert, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. C. Davies, Executive Assistant to the Chief Superintendent of Schools  
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. J. Regal, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local No. 38 (arrived at 5:20 p.m.)  
Ms. L. Newton, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (arrived at 5:10 p.m.)  
Ms. G. Gislasun, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAALs)  
Ms. C. Hall, Principals' Association for Adolescent Learners (PAALs)

Action By

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME**

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on the plaza after enjoying a presentation of seasonal music by the F.E. Osborne Junior High School "All Mixed Up" Band. The band accompanied the singing of the national anthem and Chair Cochrane thanked the students for a very enjoyable presentation. The meeting reconvened in the Board Room.

**2.0 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Barkway stated that a Stakeholder Report would be given by the Telus World of Science; and that Items 9.1.1 - Minutes and 9.2.1 - Facility Condition Report, had been pulled from the Consent Agenda.

MOVED by Trustee King:

**THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2008, be approved as amended.**

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ABSENT:

Trustee Dirks

### **3.0 SCHOOL/SYSTEM PRESENTATIONS**

There were no school/system presentations.

### **4.0 HONOURS AND RECOGNITIONS**

#### **4.1 Lighthouse Award**

Ms. M. Levy, System Principal, Corporate Partnerships, introduced the recipient of this month's Lighthouse Award as Morgex Insurance. Morgex Insurance and the Calgary Board of Education have, for the last six years, sponsored a creative project focusing on an awareness of safety measures for elementary students called "Safety at Home and on the Road". The project includes a student safety poster contest that generates hundreds of entrants eager to win the grand prize of \$1,000 for their school and \$500 for the students of the first place winning poster. Ms. Levy expressed gratitude for their partnership and for their commitment to community citizenship. A Morgex Insurance representative accepted the award with sincere thanks and gave special mention to Ms. L. Milner, Corporate Partnerships, students and teachers for their support of the program. Chair Cochrane presented a plaque on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Calgary Board of Education and expressed appreciation for the partnership and the opportunities provided to students.

### **5.0 PUBLIC CONVERSATION AND INFORMATION**

#### **5.1 Report from the Chair and Trustees**

- Trustee Kryczka attended the Henry Wise Wood High School Fall Awards Program, where many students were awarded for exceptional performance. She also recently attended a play, Les Misérables at Henry Wise Wood High School. She announced that the Artists in Education program had received funding in 56 schools this year.
- Trustee Ferguson reported that several trustees attended the Phase 1 consultation for the Special Needs Review. She appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback and stated that the Calgary Board of Education represents 26 percent of the special needs population in the province. She noted that interested persons can participate in an on-line survey at [www.settingthedirection.alberta.ca](http://www.settingthedirection.alberta.ca). The deadline to respond is December 31, 2008.
- Trustee King attended a performance of "Hansel and Gretel II, the Children Strike Back" at Forest Lawn High School. She participated in delivering "Book Bags for Kids" to four schools.

#### **5.2 Report from the Chief Superintendent**

Dr. Croskery reported on the following events: he recently met with a School Superintendent from Germany and exchanged ideas on special needs education; he attended Olympic Heights School for the opening of the Generation E project, in partnership with Enmax, led by the Eco Team; he met with the Alberta Teachers' Association executive regarding the Secondary Education Review and High School Renewal; he met with the diversity team at Kingsland School; he attended Balmoral School regarding the Korean School program; he met with Dr. L. Miller, Chief Superintendent of Calgary Catholic Schools; he attended the James Fowler High School Annual Harris House Luncheon, with special mention to their teacher, Mr. A. Van Leeuwen; he attended the Calgary Economic Development Open House; the Calgary Board of Education, Education Centre Holiday Celebration; he attended the Alberta Teachers' Association Open House Festive Celebration;

and he attended the Facility and Environmental Services holiday luncheon at Heritage Park where the entertainment was provided by the choir and hand bells of O.S. Geiger School.

5.3 Public Question Period

There were no public questions.

5.4 Stakeholder Reports

5.4.1. Telus World of Science, Mr. B. Struble

Mr. Struble, Director of Exhibits and Theatre Development for the new Science Centre project, 2011, gave a PowerPoint presentation about the new Science Centre, describing its new location and plans to open in 2011. He introduced Ms. C DeBoice, a former Calgary Board of Education student and teacher, who is now working on this project and developing a new learning philosophy. They are currently providing professional development within their own staff to provide learning opportunities for students. Ms. DeBoice stated that they are listening to the needs of the Calgary Board of Education and all school boards in southern Alberta, by engaging community leaders to help guide the project, mission and learning philosophy. They are doing this through ongoing testing and pro-typing of exhibits and programming and look forward to further input from CBE in working towards this project.

5.5 Trustee Inquiries

There were no Trustee inquiries.

**6.0 ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 Proposed Accommodation Plan – Sir John Franklin School, Regular Program

Dr. Croskery introduced the report and thanked the staff who worked on it.

Mr. P. Carlton, Director, Community Engagement and Operational Planning, provided brief introductory comments noting that the Arts Centred Learning Program has been very successful at Sir John Franklin School, while the regular program has declined.

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

- The Skill and Prep (PLP) class will remain at Sir John Franklin School; however, Mr. Carlton noted that the special education classes are reviewed on a regular basis with regards to the best location, based on student addresses.
- The Arts Centred Learning Program enrolment numbers this year are similar to last year's numbers. It has been very successful at Willow Park School for grades 5-9 and it is expected that the program will grow as it is promoted in Areas I, II and III at Sir John Franklin School.
- In response to a Trustee question, Administration will report back to the Board as to whether or not students in Country Hills Village will be designated to the middle school that is to be built by 2012 in Coventry Hills.
- Students currently attending the regular program at Stanley Jones School transition to Colonel McLeod School in grade 7.

- Mayland Heights and Vista Heights are bordered by Deerfoot Trail and Barlow Trail. Buses cross at the connector, rather than at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. When assigning school designations the ability to keep students within their current area and Calgary Transit opportunities are considered. Calgary Transit is more accessible than charter bussing.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Trustees receive, as information and for the record, the student accommodation and implementation plan outlined in the report; and**
2. **BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to proceed with a consideration of closure of the grades 7 to 9 regular program at Sir John Franklin School, in accordance with the *Closure of Schools Regulation* and the Board of Trustees' Governance Process Policy 5E: *Board of Trustees' Procedure – Consideration of School Closure*, sections 4 to 7.**

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2 Proposed Accommodation Plan – Harold W. Riley, West Dover, Erin Woods and Valley View Schools

Mr. Carlton provided brief introductory comments.

Trustees posed questions that were addressed by Administration:

- At the present time Harold W. Riley School houses the regular program and the Medicine Wheel program. Mr. Carlton stated that when registration is declining at a school, the potential for other opportunities such as alternative programs are considered. Harold W. Riley School was considered for the Traditional Learning Centre (TLC) program at one point; however, it was determined that it was too far south and would make for longer bus rides; therefore, the Chris Akkerman School site was chosen instead.
- The Métis Society has been consulted regarding accommodation options for the Medicine Wheel program. They are interested in opportunities for expansion. At this point the Medicine Wheel program will remain at Harold W. Riley School, but relocation and expansion opportunities may be considered in the future. Mr. Carlton stated that he had been informed by Director Gouthro that Harold W. Riley School will not qualify for full day Kindergarten next year, so it might be beneficial to relocate to another school such as West Dover School or Valley View School, in order to access a full day kindergarten program.
- Closure of the regular program would permit leasing parts of the facility if the decision is made for closure. It was noted that the proposed uses for the building were discussed at focus groups and it was indicated that the Area office could be located at H.W. Riley School regardless of the outcome of the consideration of closure.
- A Trustee pointed out that the total projected enrolment for out-of-attendance area students for Harold W. Riley, West Dover and Valley View Schools for the next five years that is referred to on page 6-20 of the report is missing. Administration will ensure that this information will be provided to Trustees. Mr. Carlton stated that the 5

year projections indicate that all of these students could not be accommodated in one building.

F. Coppinger

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board receive, as information and for the record, the accommodation and implementation plan outlined in the report; and**
2. **BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Trustees is satisfied that there is cause to proceed with a consideration of closure of the Kindergarten to Grade 6 regular program at Harold W. Riley School, in accordance with the *Closure of Schools Regulation* and the Board of Trustees' Governance Process Policy 5E: *Board of Trustees' Procedure – Consideration of School Closure*, sections 4 to 7.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 7.0 MONITORING AND RESULTS

### 7.1 Annual Monitoring of EL-13: Facilities

Dr. Croskery introduced the report and thanked the staff who worked on it. Superintendent Coppinger provided further introductory comments. He noted that of major concern to Administration is the estimated total deferred maintenance backlog of \$623 million that will not be close to being met by the annual maintenance and renewal grant of \$18 million.

Mr. D. Hoerz, Director of Facility Operations, elaborated on this concern stating that the inflationary increase in the construction costs and the volume increase in maintenance requirements have contributed to the escalation of deferred maintenance costs. He noted that the net total continues to increase yearly as maintenance needs are not being met and the problems intensify.

Chair Cochrane reviewed the criteria against which the Trustees are to judge this report, including that of reasonable interpretation of the policy, compliance with the policy, and whether sufficient information has been provided. She noted also that the particular vote with regard to compliance should in no way be considered as a vote of non-confidence.

Trustees posed questions that were addressed by Administration and a brief summary of the discussion is provided as follows:

- Alberta Education is aware of the maintenance costs estimated by the Calgary Board of Education, as it has been discussed with the ministerial representatives. The methodology that they use to determine costs is different, i.e., the life cycle of facilities and inflation rates (2 per cent per year) are not considered in their estimates or reflected in funding. The facility audit was done in 1999/2000 and there has been considerable accrual of maintenance needs since that time. School boards across Canada face similar situations.

As part of the budget announcement from Alberta Education earlier this year it was stated that it was the government's intent to use one-third of the unbudgeted surplus towards infrastructure projects; however, there has been no further confirmation of this.

- Consideration is being given to raising the facility rental rates.

- Considerable effort is being made to provide additional funds for the maintenance backlog. Energy savings are currently projected due to an energy conservation project that will be in place in 30 schools this coming year. The Calgary Board of Education currently purchases 10 percent of the energy it consumes in the form of green power.
- There has been no indication from Alberta Education as to when funding might be available for the relocation of Chinook Learning Services, which is number one on the Three-Year School Capital Plan.
- A Trustee commented that it would be useful to include information about the intended use for closed buildings in the report. It was noted that three of the twenty currently closed buildings will be disposed of. These include King Edward School and Albert Park School that are currently for sale. Ogden School is still under consideration as to how best to proceed.
- Mr. Hoerz clarified that in the Facility Condition Report the Plant Operations and Maintenance funding of approximately \$69 million for 2007/08 is the total for all schools including caretaking, utility costs, etc. The EL-13 Facilities Monitoring Report refers to \$21.5 million provided by the province, a portion of the maintenance total.
- The CTS space at the Shawnessy/Somerset School currently under construction is the proto-type used by the province for the CBE's four middle schools in ASAP Phase 2. Shawnessy/Somerset School is a Calgary Board of Education design. The four middle schools were designed by designers that were appointed by the province for the P3 models; they did consult the Calgary Board of Education for their recommendations.

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

**THAT the Chief Superintendent has reasonably interpreted the provisions of Executive Limitations 13: Facilities, and the Board of Trustees finds the Chief Superintendent to be in compliance.**

Trustee comments in support of the motion included the following:

- This is an extensive, interesting report that demonstrates that Administration is doing their best to meet the expectations of the Board by addressing needs in spite of lack of funding. They are exploring other ways to provide funding for facilities.
- Trustees expressed concern that the level of provincial funding impacts the ability to provide optimal learning environments for students. The maintenance backlog is critical and the longer it is left, the more costly it will become. This report will be useful for a conversation with the provincial government.
- The Calgary Board of Education is a large system with facilities that are extensive and diverse. Modernization remains a challenge; however the number of new schools being built is very positive.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motions Arising:

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for leadership in the development of space to accommodate the new CTS curriculum.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent on efficient, effective and innovative stewardship of Calgary Board of Education facilities, given the limited resources available.**

A Trustee comment in support of the motion included that this is a full, detailed report. The energy projects, naturalization and modernization projects show that Administration is clearly doing all they can to provide a safe and secure learning environment in facilities for students.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**8.0 POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW**

**9.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Cochrane declared the following items to be adopted as submitted:

**9.1 Board Consent Agenda**

**9.1.1 Correspondence**

**THAT the Board receives the following correspondence for information and for the record, in the form as submitted:**

- **Correspondence dated October 2008 from the Honourable Dave Hancock, Minister of Education enclosing the Ministry of Education's 2007/2008 annual report in CD format.**
- **Correspondence dated October 29, 2008 from the Honourable Dave Hancock, Minister of Education to Board Chair Pat Cochrane regarding the 2008 Accountability Pillar results.**
- **Correspondence dated November 17, 2008 from the Honourable Keray Henke, Deputy Minister, to Board Chair Pat Cochrane advising of capital project approval for furniture and equipment for the following schools: K-4 schools in Saddle Ridge, Evergreen, Cranston, Royal Oak and West Springs; and K-6 school in Bridlewood.**
- **Correspondence dated November 25, 2008 from Mr. Owen Tobert, City Manager, City of Calgary, regarding the Notice of K-6 Regular School Program Closures at Glamorgan School and Killarney School.**

- **Correspondence dated December 3, 2008 from Board Chair Pat Cochrane to the Honourable Dave Hancock, Minister of Education, regarding the staged closure of the K-6 Regular Programs at Killarney School and Glamorgan School.**

9.1.2 Annual Summative Evaluation of Chief Superintendent

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the formal summative statement of the performance evaluation of the Chief Superintendent for the 2008 calendar year, as documented in the attached letter and report.**

9.2 Chief Superintendent Consent Agenda

9.2.1 Locally Developed Courses

**THAT the following Calgary Board of Education senior high school locally developed courses be renewed for use in Calgary Board of Education schools for the period February 1, 2009 to January 31, 2012.**

- Astronomy 15
- Mentorship 15, 25, 35

**THAT the following newly acquired senior high school locally developed course be approved for use in Calgary Board of Education schools for the period specified with the course.**

- Mathematics 35 (AP)

**THAT the following new Calgary Board of Education senior high locally developed courses be approved for use in Calgary Board of Education schools for the period February 1, 2009 to January 31, 2012.**

- Sculpting (Advanced Techniques) 15, 25, 35

**THAT the following new Calgary Board of Education junior high locally developed courses be approved for use in Calgary Board of Education schools for the period February 1, 2009 to January 31, 2012.**

- Creative Communication: Use 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology to Entertain, Inform and Persuade 7, 8, 9
- Power Up Your Learning: Discover and Use Your Strengths as a Learner, and Learn New Strategies to Improve Your Learning 7, 8, 9
- Speaking Out: Become an Effective Speaker to Entertain, Inform and Persuade 7, 8, 9

9.2.2 Update to the 2008/09 Budget

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report for information.**

9.2.3 Certificate of Recognition (COR) Audit Results

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report for information.**

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda and were considered by the Board at this point in the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held November 25, 2008
- Regular Meeting held December 2, 2008

MOVED by Trustee Kryczka:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 25, 2008 and December 2, 2008, as submitted.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Facility Condition Report (EL-13E)

- There was a lengthy discussion with regards to the value of deferred maintenance and the significant difference in Alberta Education's assessment compared to that of the Calgary Board of Education's. Mr. Hoerz explained that this is mainly due to the fact that the original audit included life cycle costs and the new audit does not. The current data from the Province's data storage program has not been updated for accessibility by the CBE. It was suggested that the CBE hire its own consultants to obtain a more accurate measure; however, this would be costly.
- In regards to addressing the problem of deferred maintenance, Superintendent Coppinger stated that there are 233 CBE facilities, each with an average life span of 55-60 years. He noted that the sandstone buildings are 100 years old, but other buildings built 50 years ago are in worse condition. In the last 7 years there has been no modernization funding received from the province, except for Western Canada High School. The Three-Year Plan includes modernization needs. Ongoing discussions with Alberta Infrastructure need to take place in order to address this issue of maintenance backlog. Energy projects contribute towards reducing the maintenance needs. We are continuing to pursue the change of regulation discussed by Alberta Education to allow school boards to borrow funds for energy projects.
- A Trustee noted that the chart in the report showing deferred maintenance by Area indicates that some areas have greater needs than others and that some of the numbers are huge. Administration explained that maintenance needs of facilities are made known by supervisors and are completed based on the most critical components of a school. If the maintenance backlog continues to escalate, and the gap continues to grow, it is possible that annual crisis funding will be required.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Facility Condition Report for information and for the record.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**10.0 TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no notices of motion.

Recessed at 6:56 p.m.  
Reconvened at 7:20 p.m. Trustee Dirks did not return to the meeting.

**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. ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

At 7:55 p.m. Chair Cochrane received the consent of the Board to continue the meeting to the end of the agenda.

**11.2 Motion to Revert to Public Meeting**

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

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

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Consulting Services Agreement between the Calgary Board of Education and Conroy Ross Partners Limited.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives Follow Up Processes Regarding Contracts report for information.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee Kryczka:

**THAT the Construction Projects Status report be received for information and for the record; and**

**THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes public release of information as discussed.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee King:

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives the correspondence for information and for the record, in the form as submitted.**

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

MOVED by Trustee Bazinet:

**THAT the Board of Trustees receives, for information, the report regarding Governance Issues Discussion.**

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ABSENT: Trustee Dirks

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.