

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, September 17, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee P. Cochrane, Chair
Trustee C. Bazinet
Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee P. King
Trustee G. Lane
Trustee S. Taylor

Administration:

Ms. N. Johnson, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. D. Stevenson, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. C. Faber, Superintendent, Learning Innovation
Ms. D. Parsons, Superintendent, Learning Services
Mr. A. Jain, Acting Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Dr. C. Oishi, Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services
Mr. R. Peter, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. J. Manfield, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Mr. R. Anderson, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40
Mr. F. Bruseker, Alberta Teachers' Association, Local 38
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils
Mr. B. Unterschultz, Elementary School Principals' Association

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and O Canada was led by the entire student population from Varsity Acres School by way of a video recording.

Chair Cochrane acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations.

2 | CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted the proposed changes to the Agenda include the addition of Item 7.1, Amendment for the October 8, 2013 Board Meeting Commencement Time, and Item 10, In-camera Session.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2013, be approved as submitted, subject to the revisions noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

4 | RESULTS FOCUS

4.1 Varsity Acres School – Results 2

Ms. J. Everett, Director, Area I, stated that the presentation would share stories of academic success at the K-6 French immersion school and show the deep exploration of the program of studies for each student. She stated that in the Board Development Session on language learning last year, the school demonstrated how French immersion and bilingual schools use a counter-balanced approach to ensure that students develop language skills at the same time as they develop an understanding of content.

Principal C. Edwards expressed how delighted they are to share the outstanding work completed by the schools' K-6 students. She told of how the school has a history of undertaking an artist-in-residence program to support learning and that the school received a grant through Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Through the digital photography artist-in-residence program, they enhanced the academic success of all students by developing a student learning goal to support students in exploring their learning in different ways, and were able to create and communicate curriculum understanding in French and English languages through photos and in writing. Students Sophie and Noah came forward and shared their experiences with their use of cameras and how using effects such as flash, lighting, shading, perspective, angles, and black and white photos produced different results.

Parent M. O'Brien told of how success in the classroom isn't measured by score on a test. Inquiry based classrooms are challenging children to explore and interact with the world. Formative assessments are about documenting the learning process, and the photography project enabled students to explore abstract concepts from within the classroom. Students learned in ways that were personally meaningful through interacting with their world, and with the use of the cameras, they were able to explore in new ways and document their own development throughout the project. The photographs were displayed throughout the school and were unique expressions of how

each child sees the world. As an educator, she emphasized that you cannot underestimate the value of training students to ask their own questions, and to seek answers that are personally meaningful.

Assistant Principal M. Huber explained how the artists-in-residence project inspired students to use photography as a language, and to develop language and content simultaneously. The tasks used in the project provided the students opportunities to further develop and process their language skills. The project engaged students to use their French language skills to make connections to the curriculum and to use the camera as a lens to make their learning visible. The tasks used in the project included:

- Students as Photographers – imagining a story using toys as props, and photography skills such as perspective and angles;
- Students as Storytellers – students developed their French vocabulary to create and share their stories orally;
- Students as Author – students published their stories in French to add to the school library.

Trustee Bowen-Eyre thanked the staff and students for their presentation, and for sharing their experiences and their learning.

4.2 Results 1: Mega Result – Reasonable Interpretation

Chair Cochrane reminded the Board that it is the Board's responsibility to confirm that the interpretation of the Board's policy language is reasonable and that the indicators and targets selected by the Chief Superintendent are reasonable.

Chief Superintendent Johnson introduced the report stating that the intent is to convey the significant vision and impact that the Mega Result policy has for our students, community and entire organization. The Mega Result connects the work of the CBE with the province's vision of an educated Albertan, articulated through *Inspiring Education*. She stated that the encompassing nature of the Mega Result is to extend to each student the expectations for Academic Success, Citizenship, Personal Development, and Character which are all grounded in the Mega Result, which sets forth a vision of accomplished, successful, future-oriented and hopeful students entering their adult years with much to offer their communities.

Trustees posed questions, which were addressed by Administration and are summarized as follows:

- Questions were raised around the use of the wording "*will complete high school*" and opinions that these words require clarity of definition. Chief Superintendent Johnson stated that the interpretation makes an attempt to understand that high school is completed in many ways in the province, including diplomas, certificates, and special education. She suggested that perhaps Alberta Education's definition would be appropriate to include in the interpretation.

- The Mega Result is consistent with the Ministerial Order which was signed on May 6, 2013 and with *Inspiring Education*. The legislation is about the engaged thinker, the ethical citizen, and entrepreneurial spirit. The Ministerial Order outlines several competencies which are included in the Results policies. Assessment will need to change to support those competencies.
- Given the changes we are seeing around high school flexibility and dual credentialing, a trustee questioned if we are looking at different measures. Administration stated that our education system is in state of flux and they are looking at the Carnegie Unit with all the high schools to move forward with this. We will continue to complete the Accountability Pillar Survey.
- Administration meets with a counsel of post-secondary, business and industry representatives who give input into their expectations of students upon completion of high school. The CBE has close connections with Mount Royal, SAIT, Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary, as well as dual credit opportunities with Bow Valley College. Superintendent Faber added that the work is emerging. They have been working with business and industry for 4-5 years directly around high school completion, and understanding how we can connect students to their futures.
- There are students that do not complete high school officially but do go on to university. The CBE provides more than the minimum opportunities for students, and some are graduating with several more credits than needed. Some post-secondary schools are accepting student portfolios of work, student interviews, and work experience, as opposed to summative assessments as conditions for acceptance.

MOVED by Trustee Lane:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Chief Superintendent's reasonable interpretation of Results 1: Mega Result, as presented.

Trustees debated the motion, which is summarized as follows:

- The interpretation is consistent with the personalization of learning. Students can be successful while not necessarily conforming to a particular model from the past.
- Although there has been much work done by Administration, a trustee felt that the interpretation does not reflect what completing high school entails.
- Several trustees felt that since the definition of completing high school is evolving, it would be appropriate to approve as is at present, recognizing we need to bring it back for further interpretation at some time in the future.
- The full wording of the interpretation needs to be considered. Students will complete high school "*with a foundation of learning*" which means they will have acquired the academic, personal, civic and ethical accomplishments and capacities to move on and thrive in the world. The focus should not be on completing high school but rather if students are prepared for their futures.
- Completion of high school is not an academic checklist. The Mega Result policy is about developing the whole child and if they are ready for the next step in their lives.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Cochrane
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee King
Trustee Lane

Opposed: Trustee Bazinet
Trustee Taylor

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 There were none.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

6.1 There were none.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

It was proposed that the time of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2013 commence at 5:00 p.m. to allow trustees and administration to attend the Alberta Education Regulatory Review consultation.

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Regular Board Meeting on October 8, 2013 be scheduled to commence at 5:00 p.m. The meeting to be held in the Multipurpose Room at 1221 – 8th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Cochrane declared the following items on the Consent Agenda to be adopted as submitted.

8 | **BOARD CONSENT AGENDA**

8.1 Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held September 3, 2013

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 3, 2013, as submitted.

8.2 Correspondence

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

- Letter dated July 8, 2013 from Pat Cochrane, Board Chair to Naheed Nenshi, Mayor, City of Calgary providing a copy of the CBE Three-Year School Capital Plan 2014-2017.
- Letter dated July 8, 2013 from Pat Cochrane, Board Chair to Hon. Jeff Johnson, Minister, Alberta Education and Hon. Wayne Drysdale, Minister, Alberta Infrastructure regarding the CBE Three-Year School Capital Plan 2014-2017.
- Letter dated July 9, 2013 from Hon. Jeff Johnson, Minister, Alberta Education and Hon. Wayne Drysdale, Minister, Alberta Infrastructure to Pat Cochrane, Board Chair acknowledging receipt of the CBE Three-Year School Capital Plan 2014-2017.
- Email #61 dated July 30, 2013 from Jacquie Hansen, President, Alberta School Boards Association to Board Chairs regarding Regulatory Review Survey.
- Email #62 dated August 7, 2013 from Jacquie Hansen, President, Alberta School Boards Association to Board Chairs regarding the Task Force on the Transformation of School Board Governance.

8.3 Governance Culture and Board/Chief Superintendent Relationship Governance Policies – Board of Trustees’ Annual Self-Evaluation

THAT the Board approves the Board of Trustees’ self-evaluation report as developed during the evaluation workshop of September 10, 2013 and that it be provided as recommendations for the upcoming Board of Trustees.

9 | CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Chief Superintendent’s Update

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the Chief Superintendent’s Update report for information.

Recessed: 4:08 p.m.
Reconvened: 4:24 pm

10 | IN-CAMERA ISSUES

10.1 Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee King:

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, Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 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.

10.2 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.

10.3 Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees receives the report as submitted with the Agenda for the private meeting of September 17, 2013 for information.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Cochrane declared the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.