

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 14, 2014 at 12 noon.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees:

Trustee J. Bowen-Eyre, Chair
Trustee L. Ferguson
Trustee J. Hehr
Trustee T. Hurdman
Trustee P. King
Trustee A. Stewart

Administration:

Mr. D. Stevenson, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. S. Church, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. F. Coppinger, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. C. Faber, Superintendent, Learning Innovation
Ms. C. Male on behalf of Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance and Supply Chain Services
Dr. C. Oishi, Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. B. Brunton, Chief Communications Officer
Mr. G. Francis, General Counsel, Legal Services
Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary
Ms. J. Manfield, Recording Secretary

Stakeholder Representatives:

Ms. H. Doppmeier, Alberta Teachers’ Association, Local 38
Ms. K. Lloyd, Calgary Association of Parent and School Councils
Ms. L. Robb, Calgary Board of Education Staff Association
Mr. R. O’Shaughnessy, Principals’ Association for Adolescent Learners (PAALS)

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

Chair Bowen-Eyre called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. and O Canada was led by Battalion Park School by way of a DVD video presentation.

Chair Bowen-Eyre acknowledged and welcomed representatives from the aforementioned organizations. She also welcomed Ms. Jessica Percival and her grade one students from Royal Oak School and noted that they are working in the historical classroom this week learning about democracy and the history of downtown Calgary.



2 | **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. J. Barkway, Corporate Secretary, noted that a proposed change to the Agenda was the addition of Item 5.3, 2015/16 Modular Classroom Plan.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2014 be approved as submitted, subject to the above-noted change.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that although the Provincial Achievement Tests/Diploma Exam Results report was provided on the Consent Agenda, the Board would be receiving more information on the specific results throughout the year as it monitors the Results policies. She added that once again the CBE students exceeded the provincial results in the majority of the areas.

3 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

3.1 **School Presentation - Simons Valley School – Results 2**

Mr. B. Parker, Area II Director, provided a brief introduction stating that the presentation was about the school's Makerspace, the learning opportunities that it provides, and how it represents what makes learning in the 21st century so exciting. He added that there is a great deal of creative and critical thinking, and problem solving going on at the school which brings to life their mantra: Create – Invent – Learn.

Principal R. Bauer came forward and introduced Assistant Principal Mr. S. Jeffrey, teachers Ms. M. Chastko and Ms. K. Lasher, and students Eric, Madelyn, and Zainab. Mr. Bauer stated that the school has a non-traditional area called the Makerspace in their Discovery and Learning Centre (DLC), where students engage in a creative play learning environment that focuses on making, creating, inventing, thinking, and hands-on learning with limited direction. He added that the DLC provides a place where they work together to inspire meaningful learning that empowers students to connect, feel and wonder.

Assistant Principal S. Jeffrey stated that through a data review of their literacy and reading comprehension programming, they recognized teachers and students required support in developing critical and creative thinking strategies. They embraced Ritchhart, Church and Morrison's *Making Thinking Visible* which focuses on teaching and learning routines. Teachers act as guides for inquiry based approaches to develop knowledge and thinking processes.

Teacher M. Chastko introduced grade 2 student Eric, grade 4 student Madelyn, and grade 6 student Zainab who each shared their personal experiences on projects they worked on in the DLC. Ms. Chastko stated that students work to develop their own



ideas, try them out, test the boundaries, experiment with alternatives, get input from others, and generate new ideas based on their experiences. A video was shown of the students as they worked collaboratively through their design challenges in the DLC.

Trustee Ferguson thanked the staff and students for their presentation and for representing Simons Valley School so well. She expressed it is amazing how teachers are supporting and fostering individual student academic success in a non-traditional space in a very creative way.

4 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

4.1 **OE-3: Treatment of Owners – Annual Monitoring**

Chair Bowen-Eyre stated that this report was introduced at the October 7, 2014 meeting where trustees posed questions and received clarification on the report. The report is now on the agenda to determine if the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-3.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT The Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-3: Treatment of Owners.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the motion be amended to include *“with the exception of policy subsection 3.1”*.

In support of the motion, it was stated that although we have continued to make progress on this subsection, the exception should be noted to ensure that resources are in place to ensure that the work continues.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee King
Trustee Stewart

Opposed: Trustee Hehr

Trustees debated the amended motion, which is summarized as follows:

- The report is noted in compliance on other indicators and Administration has indicated that they will be reviewing some of the indicators in the report. A trustee also noted the positive increase in public engagement sessions this past year.



The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee King
Trustee Stewart

Opposed: Trustee Hehr

Motion Arising

MOVED by Trustee Ferguson:

THAT the Board of Trustees commends the Chief Superintendent for the increasing trend related to parental involvement as indicated by indicators 3.3.5 and 3.3.6.

Trustees debated the motion, and their comments are summarized as follows:

- In support of the motion, there has been a percentage increase over the last 3 years in the Accountability Pillar Survey which relates to including parents and students in community engagement and student issues, as well as an increase in the average number of views per day on the CBE website, as indicated on page 6-8. This is an external measure which provides a higher level of accountability and is an area that the school system has spent a great deal of time and money on improving, and as we are making progress it is worth recognizing.
- In opposition to the motion, it was noted that the indicator states the result is considered to be intermediate. The CBE school system should not be satisfied with intermediate results in this area and the results need to be at a higher level ranking.

The motion was
DEFEATED.

In favour: Trustee Bowen-Eyre
Trustee Ferguson
Trustee Stewart

Opposed: Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hurdman
Trustee King

5 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD ACTION**

5.1 **Trustee Liaison Report - Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC)**

Chair Bowen-Eyre reminded the Board that there was a significant question, answer and discussion on this report at the October 7, 2014 Board meeting, and that the first recommendation of the report was originally postponed by the Board at the June 17, 2014 meeting.

Chair Bowen-Eyre restated the June 17, 2014 motion for clarification as follows:



MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves funding for the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) for the 2014/15 school year, in the amount of \$3,000.

Trustees debated the motion, and their comments are summarized as follows:

- The information provided by CAPSC at the October 7 Board meeting gave trustees a better understanding of the work that CAPSC does and the challenges they face with funding. Appreciation was expressed for the work CAPSC has done. The funding amount is less than the full request that was brought forward to the Board and reflects the challenging financial times we are facing; however it will still give CAPSC some funding to work with. It is important that the Board has a parent stakeholder to provide parent voice.
- As the Board previously decided to use all of its reserves, it should be asking stakeholders to do the same. Providing funding could be considered in the future once CAPSC has used its reserves.
- We don't provide funding to any other parent groups. CAPSC will still have support from Administration through the lease agreement, whereas other groups pay for the use of school space, and that amount of support is appropriate. It would be beneficial to develop a relationship with the Council of School Councils (COSC) as indicated in the *School Act* and have a school council representative at meetings to liaise with school councils.
- There are currently only 22 school council members of CAPSC out of a total of 228 schools. Our role as a Board is to ensure that all school councils are represented and have a voice. There were over 100 school councils represented at a recently held COSC meeting.
- CAPSC has been a significant stakeholder for many years and this funding would secure their place as an official stakeholder.

The motion was
DEFEATED.

In favour:	Trustee Stewart
Opposed:	Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Ferguson Trustee Hehr Trustee Hurdman Trustee King

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees respectfully discontinues its official stakeholder relationship with the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils; and

THAT the Council of School Councils (COSC) be established as the official voice of parents at the Calgary Board of Education; and



THAT the Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee be directed to provide a recommendation to the Board regarding the Council of School Councils as the official voice of CBE parents, and report back to the Board by December 31, 2014.

Two trustees requested that the motion be divided and considered as three separate questions.

Trustees debated the first motion, as follows:

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees respectfully discontinues its official stakeholder relationship with the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils.

- A trustee shared her belief that CAPSC has done fantastic work over the past year with parents, and having an official stakeholder status has allowed them to accomplish a lot. Although concern was expressed on their low membership, CAPSC events are open to everyone. We need to support parents through as many different means as possible, and work together to determine how they can be a more effective voice for parents.
- CAPSC is an associate member of the Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) which was given a grant by the province to develop modules around school council effectiveness and training. It was noted that the CBE pays for our school council memberships with ASCA.
- CAPSC is welcome to attend all Board meetings; in the future, the parent stakeholder group could have a school council chair from any school council in the City attend and sit at the stakeholder table.
- A trustee expressed that this is in no way intended to offend or alienate CAPSC. This decision is meant to leverage the voice of parents within our school system.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Ferguson Trustee Hehr Trustee King
Opposed:	Trustee Stewart Trustee Hurdman

The second paragraph of the motion was considered, as follows:

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Council of School Councils (COSC) be established as the official voice of parents at the Calgary Board of Education.



Trustees debated the motion, and their comments are summarized as follows:

- Many school boards across Alberta are connecting parents and school councils through a council of school councils.
- A trustee stated that although she supports looking at COSC to become the official stakeholder, the Board has not yet communicated this intention to COSC. The decision should be delayed until the Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee can determine how this could best work before imposing the responsibility on COSC.
- Given that the Board has approved the motion to discontinue the official stakeholder relationship with CAPSC, the Board needs to replace the parent voice. There are some tremendous parent leaders involved in COSC and there is confidence that there will be interest from the group. It was noted that COSC members have asked in the past when they could have more of a voice and play more of a role.
- The *School Act* states that parent voice comes to the Board through its school councils. This motion will enable the Board to talk to COSC and determine what their responsibilities are so that we can meet the future of the *Education Act* in 2015.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Bowen-Eyre Trustee Ferguson Trustee Hehr Trustee King Trustee Stewart
Opposed:	Trustee Hurdman

The third paragraph of the motion was considered, as follows:

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Strategic Dialogue and Public Engagement Committee be directed to provide a recommendation to the Board regarding the Council of School Councils as the official voice of CBE parents, and report back to the Board by December 31, 2014.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.2 New School, Modernization and Modular Ranking Criteria

Chair Bowen-Eyre noted that there was significant discussion on this item at the October 7, 2014 Board meeting.

MOVED by Trustee Stewart:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the New School, Modernization and Modular Ranking Criteria as provided in the report.



Trustees debated the motion, and their comments are summarized as follows:

- Establishing criteria will make the process stronger and more transparent for communities. We can now effectively tell communities why we need expanded facilities and new schools, and on the timelines that we do.
- There was significant public engagement and review of the ranking formula and it is clear throughout the report that we have heard the public's concerns and have addressed them as much as possible.
- It was noted that the ranking in the report shows that these are the CBE's priorities. We do not control the funding that goes towards ensuring that these schools are actually built, modernized, or that modular units are placed at the schools. This report provides information for the school capital plan that we submit to the provincial government and outlines our priorities.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5.3 2015/16 Modular Classroom Plan

Superintendent Coppinger stated that this is the first time the CBE has had approved criteria for modular ranking. Administration is requesting approval for 28 modulares in 11 schools. Superintendent Coppinger explained the process used to identify those 28 modulares. The tables on pages 5-7 and 5-8 of the report provide information on the 7 filters for determining the eligibility for which schools would be considered for modular classrooms. He noted the exceptions of requests for modulares at Evergreen and Cranston schools, which are P3 schools that were never completed, and the request for modulares at John. G. Diefenbaker which was denied in last year's request. He added that without the addition of these modulares there will be accommodation issues due to the expected student enrolment in September 2015. There may also be added financial issues due to Alberta Education's cost-sharing approach implemented last year where the CBE is required to contribute \$50,000 per modular unit, as well as 100% of the cost of adding items such as air conditioning, sinks, and connecting corridors. If Alberta Education continues with this cost-sharing approach, there may be a cost of up to \$1,850,000 that the Board would need to find in either the capital budget or reserves in order to complete the installation of the 28 modulares.

Trustees posed questions, which are summarized as follows:

- In response to a question about the increased utilization of high schools due to out of boundary students and program choices, it was noted that high school students do have more flexibility to move around the system. It would be counter-productive to add modular units to existing high schools; the demand is for new high schools and facilities to provide the programs that are needed for students. We will be challenged with the addition of having 20-21 year old students attend high schools, and work is underway to create program choices that extend beyond traditional timetables and how students access instruction.



- Administration reviews the need for alternative programs in different areas of the city on an on-going basis, but it is challenging as schools become fuller. The opening of new schools in 2016 and 2017 will create opportunities due to the movement of students closer to their homes and freeing up space in existing schools.
- Administration explained that when the province approved the P3 schools for Evergreen and Cranston, they were approved at a reduced capacity.
- Requests for some schools are for standalone modulars and others for modulars with an attached corridor, due to their site conditions and layout. There are 22 schools noted on page 5-9 that cannot accommodate additional modulars which will create an accommodation issue within the community. Administration explained that the 7 filters are not in priority order, but are a way of eliminating schools from the list.

MOVED by Trustee King:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the 2015/16 Modular Classroom Plan and the submission of the recommended modular classroom requests to Alberta Education.

Trustees debated the motion, and their comments are summarized as follows:

- The Board has already approved the ranking criteria and this report identifies schools where it is critical to add capacity. We now have clear criteria to identify those issues.
- Concern was expressed that the report was not released publicly prior to approving the criteria, but it was noted that there was significant consultation in determining the new criteria.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANNIMOUSLY.

6 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the following items to be adopted as submitted.

6.1 Approval of Minutes

- Special Meeting held October 3, 2014

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Special Meeting held October 3, 2014, as submitted.

6.2 Items Provided for Board Information

The following reports were provided to the Board for information:

6.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

6.2.2 Provincial Achievement Tests/Diploma Exam Results



6.2.3 2014-2015 Student Enrolment Summary

6.2.4 Trustee Liaison Report – ASBA Zone 5

7 | **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Bowen-Eyre declared the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

