

## **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, November 28, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

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### MEETING ATTENDANCE

#### Board of Trustees:

Trustee L. Hack, Chair  
Trustee P. Bolger  
Trustee N. Close  
Trustee M. Dennis  
Trustee D. Downey (departed at 4:00 p.m.)  
Trustee C. May  
Trustee S. Vukadinovic

#### Administration:

G. Strother, Acting Chief Superintendent of Schools  
R. Armstrong, Superintendent, Human Resources  
D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services  
K. Fenney, General Counsel  
B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services  
M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer  
M. Nelson, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement  
J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement  
P. Minor, Corporate Secretary  
M. Graham, Board Administrator

#### Stakeholder Representatives:

Clay Gordon, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 40  
Matthew Armstrong, Sr. High Principals’ Association

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

Chair Hack called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and students from New Brighton School led the national anthem through a video recording.

Chair Hack acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. She also acknowledged the Tsuut’ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

The Chair welcomed staff, union representatives and members of the public to the meeting, including those attending virtually.



**2 | CONSIDERATION/ APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

P. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted that no agenda change requests were received.

MOVED by Trustee Bolger:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2023, as submitted.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**3 | AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no presentations.

**4 | RESULTS FOCUS**

There were no reports or presentations.

**5 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

There were no reports or presentations.

**6 | PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**7 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD INFORMATION**

**7.1 2022-23 Fourth Quarter Budget Variance Analysis**

Acting Chief Strother introduced the report.

Administration responded to trustee questions on the impact of targeted funding on future budget assumptions and in-year budget management; operational surplus; and the liquidity ratio.

**8 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD DECISION**

**8.1 2022-23 Year End Financial Results and Audited Financial Statements**

Trustee Dennis, Chair of the Board of Trustees' Audit & Risk Committee, introduced the report, noting the financial statements before the Board today have been reviewed by the Audit & Risk Committee ensuring accuracy and transparency.

Acting Chief Superintendent Strother commented on the report, noting the financial statements are a critical component of the Board's governance framework and



accountability to the public. The report provides evidence of CBE's prudent management of resources to benefit students and demonstrates commitment to CBE's core values, including a modest operating surplus, reasonable levels of operating and capital reserves, and the conclusion by external auditors that the information is presented fairly in all material aspects.

Superintendent Grundy provided highlights of the financial statements, including: confidence that the financial statements are an accurate reflection of the CBE's 2022-23 school year; increased school based fundraising and fee activity; an annual surplus of \$364 million comprised of operating surplus and gains from the disposition of three end-of-life school facilities that will be added to capital reserves for modernizing, maintaining, and growing CBE learning spaces; environmental asset retirement obligations (ARO) and the resulting decline in net assets and impact on the liquidity ratio; operating reserves at 2.8% of the prior year total expenses, sufficient to address unanticipated or emergent issues that could impact the continuity of learning; capital reserves at \$79 million, or 1.5% of facility replacement cost; and the Financial Health Matrix that indicates the CBE is on sound financial ground.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: accounts receivable from Alberta Education for higher than projected enrolment; Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO); capital gains on disposition of end-of-life facilities; impact of inflation on per student funding calculation and related purchasing power; Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding; the CBE Sustainability Framework and the reduction of electricity consumption; waivers and unpaid fees; lunchroom supervision fees and deficits; Operations and Maintenance funding calculations; dental and medical benefits plan advances; student to staff ratios; enrolment numbers and capacity; per student funding in the Financial Health Matrix; the service transformation initiative; and financial risk factors.

Chair Hack called for a motion.

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Financial Results of the Calgary Board of Education for the year ended August 31, 2023, including the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2023 and the Independent Auditors' Report dated November 28, 2023 for submission to the Minister of Education.**

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: the accurate and detailed reflection of CBE financial activity for the 2022-23 school year; evidence of fiscal responsibility and good financial management; the high degree of transparency and demonstration of financial prudence; increased enrolment and classroom complexity; impacts on classrooms and learning; operating surplus; advocacy for increased funding; and appreciation for the finance team, KPMG auditors and the external volunteer members of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.  
The motion was



CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recessed: 12:18 p.m.

Reconvened: 12:31 p.m.

## 8.2 Annual Education Results Report 2022-23

Acting Chief Superintendent Strother introduced the report, noting it assures the Board of Trustees, Alberta Education, and the community of CBE's continued commitment to assuring the success of each student and demonstrates that the CBE is proactively addressing key focus areas in alignment with Alberta Education's Assurance Domains and the CBE Education Plan.

Superintendent Pitman provided context for the report, noting unprecedented enrolment growth in the 2022-23 school year; increased complex learning needs and English as an Additional Language (EAL) learners; implementation or piloting of new curriculum across numerous subjects in K-6; and CBE's Framework documents. She also highlighted increased high school completion rates; strong student achievements; and noted areas for improvement and next steps.

Superintendent Pitman and Acting Superintendent Nelson provided highlights from the Learning Excellence portion of the report, summarizing data analysis provided. Specifics were provided on student attendance and rates of absenteeism; student achievements; mathematics programming; professional learning opportunities and staff feedback; ongoing support for EAL learners and students who self-identify as Indigenous; student perception data; and areas for improvement.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters relating to Learning Excellence, including: student achievements; Culture and Spiritual Ceremonial (SCS) and Religious Holiday attendance codes; attendance and absenteeism; high school completion rates for English as an Additional Language Learner (EAL) students; reading and literacy skills and screening; data regarding achievement and graduation rates for students living in foster care; Literacy and Mathematics Frameworks; data provision to advocacy groups (eg. Left Unread); guidelines for Artificial Intelligence tools in teaching; the Student Well-Being Framework; and referrals for inclusive education supports and assessments.

Superintendent Nelson provided additional details on the People Excellence portion of the report, noting professional development, strategic human resource planning, and staff feedback.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters relating to People Excellence, including employee feedback; workforce planning; school-based leadership turnover; leadership development opportunities; teacher attendance; in-service jurisdiction needs; emergency supply teachers; and employee well-being services.

Recessed: 2:00 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:16 p.m.



Superintendent Pitman provided additional detail on the Collaborative Partnerships portion of the report, highlighting: prioritization of all students and parent voices through a variety of feedback opportunities, actions to meet the ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, and partnerships with industry and post-secondary organisations.

Administration responded to trustee questions on Collaborative Partnerships, including local measures for post secondary access, and parental involvement.

Acting Superintendent Nelson provided additional detail on the Strategic Resourcing portion of the report, including program priorities and needs for both technological and non-technological resources.

Administration responded to trustee questions on the data dashboards.

Chair Hack called for a motion.

MOVED by Trustee Downey:

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Annual Education Results Report 2022-23 and authorizes its submission to Alberta Education.**

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: demonstration of alignment with the vision, missions, goals, outcomes and specific achievement measures of the Ministry of Education; CBE educational frameworks and Education Plan; strong academic results; school preparedness of CBE's youngest students; use of data dashboards; professional learning; enrolment growth; improvement in mathematics and literacy; keen understanding of the students CBE serves; CBE commitment to supporting students and staff; process accountabilities; concern about availability of necessary support moving forward, including funding; and identified areas for growth.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 9 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

### 9.1 **Items Provided for Board Decision**

#### 9.1.1 OE-4: Treatment of Employees – Annual Monitoring

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-4: Treatment of Employees.**

#### 9.1.2 Meeting Minutes

- Special Meeting held October 16, 2023
- Regular Meeting held October 17, 2023



- Regular Meeting held October 24, 2023

**THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Special Meeting held October 16, 2023 and the Regular Meetings held October 17 and 24, 2023.**

## 9.2 Items Provided for Board Information

Chair Hack noted the public portion of this meeting is now adjourned; and, that the Board would reconvene in private to discuss one legal, two land, three labour and four strategic planning matters. She stated the next public Board meeting is on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

Recessed: 2:40 p.m.

Reconvened: 3:05 p.m.

## 10 | PRIVATE SESSION

### Motion to Move In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

Whereas the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that matters on the private agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, November 28, 2023 be considered at a private session; therefore, be it

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

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### Motion to Move Out of In Camera

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

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

The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Downey

### Motions to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Bolger:

**THAT, subject to Ministerial approval, the Board of Trustees approves the transfer of properties to the “Conseil Scolaire FrancoSud”; and**

**THAT the Board authorizes the Chair to correspond with the Minister of Education pertaining to these transfers, Attachment I to the report.**

The motion was

CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Bolger



Trustee Close  
Trustee Dennis  
Trustee Hack  
Trustee May

Opposed: Trustee Vukadinovic

Absent: Trustee Downey

MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

**THAT the Board of Trustees authorizes the Chair to communicate with the Minister of Education as discussed in camera.**

The motion was  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Downey

**11 | TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The meeting terminated at 5:36 p.m.

