

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON JANUARY 26TH, 2012, COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT

CHERYL SMITH
DOUG BOWIE
JIM FIELDING
SHELLEY GRUNDBERG
REBECCA HEIBERG
NOREEN METZ
PETER MILLER
KENDALL SEVERSON

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

DR LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
RICK JARRETT, Assistant Superintendent - Instruction
BILL SCHULTE, Assistant Superintendent – Business
IMOGENE WALSH, Treasurer
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Coordinator
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Recording Secretary

C SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF CONTINUATION AGENDA

#07\12 K SEVERSON – That the continuation agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Amanda Spiller, student, Brenda Herder, Principal, Strome School, and Janet Spiller, parent, joined the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Spiller, Mrs Herder, and Mrs Spiller, and invited their presentation on Amanda's success at Strome School.

Ms Spiller, Mrs Herder, and Mrs Spiller left the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Mr Harvey Benke, Chairman, and Mr Bob Miller, Camrose Camp of Gideons International, joined the meeting at 9:23 a.m.

CAMROSE CAMP OF GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL

Chair Smith welcomed Mr Benke and Mr Miller, and invited their presentation. Mr Benke and Mr Miller informed the Trustees of the origination of the Gideons International group in the early 1900's, and the introduction of the distribution of the New Testament to grade five students across Canada in 1946. Mr Benke and Mr Miller encouraged the continuation of this distribution through the Battle River School Division.

Chair Smith thanked the representatives for attending the Board meeting. Mr Benke and Mr Miller thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss this matter with them.

Mr Benke and Mr Miller left the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:38 a.m.)

#08\12 J FIELDING - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services Bosh, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent - Business Schulte, Treasurer Walsh, Communications Coordinator Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:18 a.m. and reconvened at 10:27 a.m.

OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (10:27 a.m.)

The In-Camera session concluded and the regular meeting reconvened.

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a letter received from the Minister of Education, the Honourable Thomas Lukaszuk, thanking Chair Smith for her participation together with Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, at the ASBA Zone 4 Board Chairs and Superintendents meeting on December 7th, 2011 in Red Deer.

ASBA 'BARGAINING BOOT CAMP'

Chair Smith advised the Board that ASBA is offering a 'Bargaining Boot Camp' on February 6th and 7th, 2012 in Edmonton and February 9th and 10th, 2012 in Calgary.

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Chair Smith received a letter from the Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Jeff Johnson, advising that Battle River School Division's request for Capital for Emergent funds for the demolition and abatement of hazardous materials at the former Alliance School in Alliance was denied. This was due to the project not falling within the CEP funding eligibility guidelines.

LETTER FROM UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, AUGUSTANA CAMPUS

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a letter received from the University of Alberta, Augustana Campus, thanking Battle River School Division for their contribution to the 2011 – 2012 Hockey Academy.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Trustees discussed potential changes and challenges if changes were made at this time to the 2012 – 2013 school year calendar. Mr Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction, presented a summary of the rationale for the current calendar structure.

Kathryn Graff, Manager of Intervention Services, joined the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Graff and invited her presentation. Ms Graff advised the Trustees that Battle River School Division is one of the thirteen change agents selected in the Province of Alberta to receive additional funding for Action on Inclusion. Setting the Direction Framework of Alberta Education has defined an inclusive education system as “a way of thinking and acting that demonstrates universal acceptance of, and belonging for, all students. Inclusive education in Alberta means a values-based approach to accepting responsibility for all students”.

The funding will be allocated to schools based on \$16.00 per Grade 1 to 12 student, and \$8.00 per ECS student, based on the September 30th count.

Ms Graff left the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

#09\12 K SEVERSON - That the Board approve amending the school year calendar to begin the school year on September 1, commencing with the 2012 - 2013 school year calendar.

Trustee Severson requested a recorded vote.

In favor of the motion

K Severson

Opposed to the motion

D Bowie
J Fielding
S Grundberg
R Heiberg
N Metz
P Miller
C Smith

DEFEATED

#10\12 J FIELDING – That the Board approve the following amendments to the 2012 – 2013 school year calendar:

1. the full day staff meeting day be moved from January 14th, 2013 to January 18th, 2013; and
2. the full day staff meeting day be moved from May 13th, 2013 to May 17th, 2013.

Trustee Severson requested a recorded vote.

In favor of the motion

Opposed to the motion

J Fielding
D Bowie
C Smith
S Grundberg
R Heiberg
N Metz
P MILLER

K Severson

CARRIED

LETTER FROM CLEARVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a letter received from Ken Checkel, Chair of Clearview Public School Division, advising that their Board voted on January 6th, 2012 to deny Battle River School Division's request of February 11th, 2011 to share fifty percent of the Alberta Education Basic Student Grant for the twenty two Rosalind Colony students that moved from the Byemoor Colony to the Rosalind Colony in January 2011.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:58 a.m. and reconvened at 1:12 p.m.

DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION

Trustees viewed a vignette recently produced by Alberta Education entitled 'Diversity In Education – Diversity In Alberta Schools' which features two students from Battle River School Division, one from Viking School and one from Camrose Composite High School. This vignette will be presented at the Community Engagement Forums.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUMS

Trustees reviewed the format of the upcoming Community Engagement Forums. Conversations will be based on the Alberta Education's Inspiring Education Vision outlined in the Three E's: Engaged Thinker, Ethical Citizen, and Entrepreneurial Spirit. This year's focus will be on Ethical Citizen together with the goal of inclusion for all students.

Community Engagement Forums are scheduled as follows:

School Council Representatives

Thursday, February 2nd at the Daysland Community Hall,
Full day;

Special Education Parents

Friday, February 3rd at the BRSD Division Office,
Afternoon;

Students and Staff

Monday, February 6th at Daysland Community Hall,
Morning – Staff,
Afternoon – Students;

Parents and Community Members

Wednesday, February 8th at Allan Johnstone School,
Evening

Wednesday, February 15th at Ryley School,
Evening

Thursday, February 23rd at Round Hill School,
Evening.

ALBERTA SCHOOL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION 2011 CONFERENCE

#11\12 K SEVERSON - That, for the 2011 - 2012 school year, the Board of Trustees will cover the cost of registration for the 2012 two full day Conference and hotel accommodation for eight parent representatives from eight individual School Councils to attend the Alberta School Councils Connection 2012.

CARRIED

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Disposal Of Killam Bus Garage

#12\12 K SEVERSON - That the Board authorizes administrative personnel to apply to the Minister of Education for approval to dispose of the property in Killam on which the old Killam bus garage is located, and subject to Ministerial approval offer the land for sale by tender.

CARRIED

Response from Strome School Council

Trustee Severson brought to the Trustees attention a reply received from Strome School Council Communication Representative, Cheryl Holben. Trustees agreed that this will be handed over to Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, for response on these administrative matters.

FISCAL MONITORING REPORT

Chair Smith welcomed Imogene Walsh's presentation. Ms Walsh provided updated Interim Financial Statements and Budget Reports as at December 31st, 2011 and reviewed the documents with the Trustees.

LEGAL WORKSHOP – 'ARBITRATIONS INS AND OUTS'

Mr Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction, and Ms Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, reported on their attendance at the ASBA Legal Workshop – Arbitrations Ins and Outs in Edmonton on January 19th and 20th, 2012.

BILL SCHULTE'S RETIREMENT

Chair Smith acknowledged this is Bill Schulte's last Board Meeting and thanked him for his contribution and dedication of twenty six years of service to the Battle River School Division.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:31 p.m. and reconvened at 2:41 p.m.

PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a definition of the subject of 'pecuniary interest' as stated in the School Act prepared by ASBA Manager of Special Initiatives, Scott McCormack.

BULL CONGRESS

Trustee Grundberg brought to the attention of the Trustees the need to promote the Canadian Bull Congress with urban and rural students. This three day event is held annually in January at the Camrose Regional Exhibition, with one full day dedicated to Education School Programs.

BAD WEATHER

Trustees discussed the Administrative Procedure related to bad weather and the issue that schools must remain open for safety reasons even though busses are not running.

OUTDOOR SCHOOL PROGRAM

Trustee Fielding reported on a presentation of the Saskatoon Public Schools Outdoor School Program on January 18th, 2012 in Viking.

ASBA ZONE 4 MEETING

Trustee Heiberg reported on her attendance along with Chair Smith, Vice Chair Bowie, and Trustees Miller, Metz, and Severson at the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting on Monday, January 23rd, 2012 in Stettler.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Administrators' Meeting

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, provided feedback summarizing successes, challenges and possible solutions gathered from participants at the Administrators' Meeting on January 10th, 2012 in Camrose.

Leadership Academy

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, provided feedback gathered from participants summarizing the effectiveness of the various segments at the Leadership Academy on January 11th, 2012 in Camrose.

Hutterite Colony Leaders Meeting

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the Hutterite Colony Leaders' Meeting he attended with Mr Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent – Business, on January 24th, 2012 in Camrose.

Superintendent of Elk Island Catholic School Division

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, advised that Mr Michael Hauptman has been appointed Superintendent \ Chief Executive Officer of the Elk Island Catholic School Division effective May 1st, 2012.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (3:37 p.m.)

#13\12 J FIELDING - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees and Superintendent of Schools Payne be excluded.

CARRIED

OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (4:04 p.m.)

The In-Camera session concluded and the regular meeting reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR

WILLIAM SCHULTE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT – BUSINESS

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