

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON FEBRUARY 11TH, 2010, COMMENCING AT 9:35 A.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
PETER MILLER
KEN OFFORD (joined at 9:53 a.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK
KENDALL SEVERSON
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

DR LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent
BILL SCHULTE, Assistant Superintendent - Business
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Coordinator
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Recording Secretary

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#09\10 K SEVERSON – That the agenda be approved with the addition of the following items:

INFORMATION

5.23 Leaders of Tomorrow; and

TRUSTEE MATTERS

10.6 Invitation to Edmonton Regional Aboriginal School Health Meeting – February 17th, 2010

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#10\10 P MILLER– That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on January 14th, 2010 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Greg Friend, Director of Personnel, joined the meeting 9:39 a.m.

EDWIN PARR NOMINATION

#11 \10 H SYED - That the Board nominate Ashley Maisonneuve, teacher at C W Sears School, for the 2010 ASBA Edwin Parr Award.

CARRIED

Greg Friend left the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE #131 – CANCELLATION OF BUS ROUTE(S) DUE TO WEATHER\ROAD CONDITIONS

Dr Payne, Superintendent of Schools, informed the Trustees of the revisions to Administrative Procedure #131 – Cancellation Of Bus Route(s) Due To Weather\Road Conditions for Battle River School Division.

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, had reviewed the amendments to this Administrative Procedure with all bus drivers at the Professional Development Day on February 1st, 2010.

LONG SERVICE AND RETIREMENT BANQUET

Dr Payne, Superintendent of Schools, advised that, in addition to the change of date to the Long Service and Retirement Banquet, he will continue to advise staff that this event is open to all employees of the Battle River School Division in addition to staff being honoured.

ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE AT ASBA

Dr Payne, Superintendent of Schools, will determine, in consultation with Mr Ray Bosh, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent – Business, who will attend ASBA Fall and Spring General Meetings to ensure the most efficient use of resources is considered.

BUDGET 2010 ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Smith reported on her attendance at the Legislative Parliamentary Session and Budget Discussion on February 9th, 2010.

ARBITRATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Smith, Dr Payne, Superintendent of Schools, Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, and Diane Hutchinson, Communications Officer, attended a conference call advising of the decision reached through the Arbitration Hearing to implement a 5.99 percent wage increase to be paid to all teachers retroactive to September 1st, 2009.

ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MEETING REQUEST

A meeting with the Battle River School Division Trustees and the Elk Island Catholic School Division Trustees is scheduled for April 22nd, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in Camrose.

MEETING WITH HEATHER WELWOOD AND DAVID ANDERSON

Chair Smith, Trustee Heiberg, and Trustee Miller, along with Dr Payne, reported on their meeting with Heather Welwood, President, and David Anderson, Executive Director, of ASBA on January 18th, 2010 in Camrose.

Chair Smith has been invited to join the ASBA Governance Task Force.

LETTER TO MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Chair Smith provided a copy of the letter sent on behalf of the Trustees to the Minister of Education with regard to the Student Affairs Appeal Hearings.

ALBERTA EDUCATION CONSULTATION AND REGIONAL SESSIONS

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustees Heiberg, Petruk and Offord along with Dr Payne will attend the Consultation and Regional Sessions hosted by Alberta Education in Red Deer on March 23rd, 2010.

SCHOOL ACT REVISIONS

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a letter received from Keray Henke, Deputy Minister of Education, advising that revisions to the School Act have been postponed until the Fall Session of the Alberta Legislature.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS LETTER TO THE MINISTER

A copy of the letter sent to the Minister of Education and MLAs in the Battle River School Division on the Consultative Process Results Review was provided to the Trustees for their information.

LETTER FROM GOLDEN HILLS

Chair Smith provided a copy of the letter received from Golden Hills School Division Trustees expressing their concerns on the proposed budget cuts.

COVENANT HEALTH FOCUS GROUP

Vice Chair Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Covenant Health Focus Group meeting held in St Mary's Hospital on January 26th, 2010.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Chair Smith, Trustee Miller and Dr Payne reported on their attendance at the School Council Meeting in Strome on January 26th, 2010.

Chair Smith, Trustees Miller and Offord along with Dr Payne attended a meeting with Lougheed Parent Council representatives in Division Office on January 27th, 2010.

EMPLOYEE\BOARD MEMBER EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

In an effort to be more cost efficient the Battle River School Division will be implementing the direct deposit method for expense claims for Trustees and all employees in the near future.

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent – Business, brought to the attention of the Trustees a memo he received from Michael Walter, Assistant Deputy Minister, reminding Battle River School Division of the upcoming elections for the 2010 Alberta School Board Trustees and consideration of changing the ward structure at this time. The Board will not be putting forward any changes, and electoral boundaries will remain as they currently exist.

MEETING WITH CAMROSE CITY COUNCIL

Trustees and Senior Administrative staff from Division Office met with Camrose City Council on February 1st, 2010, to share information and identify areas of mutual concern. The Board expressed thanks for the support provided for the Resource Officers and the city’s contributions to the Bailey Theatre.

Chair Smith thanked Diane Hutchinson, Communications Coordinator, for the great job she did organizing the meeting and preparing the presentation.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:39 a.m. and reconvened at 10:53 a.m.

FOUR DAY WEEK – VIKING SCHOOL

#12\10 H SYED – That Viking School remains on a five day school week for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Trustee Petruk requested a recorded vote.

In favor of the motion

Opposed to motion

R Heiberg
P Miller
K Offord
C Smith
H Syed
P Zeniuk

V Petruk
K Severson

CARRIED

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, joined the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:45 a.m.)

#13\10 K OFFORD - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent (Business) Schulte, Treasurer Walsh, Communications Officer Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

Trustee Syed left the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:09 p.m. and reconvened at 1:23 p.m.

RYLEY SCHOOL TRAVEL CLUB

#14\10 K OFFORD – That the Board approves, in principle and subject to Administrative Procedure 261 'Travel Study', the international travel trip to Paris, Provence and the Côte d'Azur by the Ryley School Travel Club students during spring break 2011, March 25th to April 2nd, 2011.

CARRIED

ALBERTA HOME AND SCHOOL COUNCIL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

#15\10 K OFFORD – That, for the 2009 – 2010 school year, the Board of Trustees will cover the cost of registration and hotel accommodation for five parent representatives from five individual School Councils to attend the Alberta School Council Connection 2010.

CARRIED

PSBAA EXECUTIVE VISIT

Chair Smith informed the Trustees that Patty Dittrick, President, and David King, Executive Director, of Public School Boards Association will be attending the Battle River School Board meeting on March 11th, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. A draft agenda of discussion items will be prepared at the February 25th, 2010 Board meeting.

BOARD PLANNING RETREAT

The Fall 2010 Board Planning Retreat will be held December 2nd and 3rd, 2010 at Pigeon Lake.

Dr Warren Phillips and Donna Phillips joined the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

RURAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT

Chair Smith welcomed Dr Warren Phillips and Ms Donna Phillips to the meeting and invited their presentation. Dr and Ms Phillips reviewed the background of the project, provided a summary of accomplishments and advised the Trustees of the termination of the project effective November 2009. Dr and Ms Phillips thanked the Board for the opportunity to work on this project and for their support throughout this endeavour.

Chair Smith and Dr Payne thanked Dr and Ms Phillips for their presentation and concise summary of lessons learned for future reference.

Dr Philips and Ms Phillips left the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer joined the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

FISCAL MONITORING REPORT

#16\10 V PETRUK - That the Board approve Policy #22, Reserves, Surpluses and Deficits as presented.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (2:12 p.m.)

#17\10 R HEIBERG - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent (Business) Schulte, Treasurer Walsh, Communications Officer Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:36 p.m. and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

FISCAL MONITORING REPORT

Ms Walsh provided updated Interim Financial Statements and Budget Reports as at December 31, 2009 and reviewed them with the Trustees.

Ms Walsh left the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

READING UNIVERSITY

#18\10 V PETRUK - That the Board of Trustees approves a commitment up to \$25,000 in support of the July 2010 Reading University program in Camrose, funds to be taken from the Instructional Operating Reserve.

CARRIED

#19\10 R HEIBERG - That the Board of Trustees approves a commitment up to \$20,000 in support of expanding the Reading University to the Tofield Community in July 2010, funds to be taken from the Board Innovations Fund.

CARRIED

Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction, joined the meeting at 3:11 pm

BOARD \ ADMINISTRATORS' RETREAT

Mr Jarrett reviewed the proposed theme, format and objectives of the 2009 – 2010 Board Administrators' Retreat "Aligning Our Vision". The Retreat is scheduled for February 18th and 19th, 2010 at the Westin Hotel in Edmonton.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Trustees were advised by Mr Jarrett that Leaders of Tomorrow project will not continue this year as funding was not received from other partners. Battle River School Board's donation has been refunded.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 3:37 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS REPORT

Mr Jarrett presented an overview of the 2009 Consultative Process Results. This feedback was received through a series of forums held during November and December 2009 with students, staff, parents and community members. The forums were focused around the question of what stakeholders consider to be essential components of a 21st century education.

Mr Jarrett left the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

DISPOSAL OF HARDISTY ECS BUILDING

#20\10 V PETRUK - That the Board of Trustees request administration to seek approval from Alberta Education \ Infrastructure to dispose of the Hardisty ECS modular unit.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE(S) UPDATE

#21\10 R HEIBERG – That the Board of Trustees approves the amendment to Policy 13 ‘Appeals and Hearing Regarding Student Matters’, which incorporates:

2.4 The Superintendent or designate will provide information on possible educational programming for the student should the expulsion be upheld;

and the additional phrasing:

4.1 ...including conduct enacted through technological means, regardless of the place of occurrence.

CARRIED

Dr Payne advised that as a result of a recommendation from the Ministerial Review, Administrative Procedure #356 Suspension and Expulsion of Students and Administrative Procedure #320 Student Records have been amended.

CAPITAL PLAN COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION

#22\10 K OFFORD – That the Board approve Trustee Miller as a representative on the Capital Plan Committee in place of Vice Chair Zeniuk for the remainder of the 2009 – 2010 school year.

CARRIED

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

The Consultative Process Committee suggested the Board utilize the existing active link to the BRSD website previously assigned as ‘Talk to the Superintendent’, as an opportunity to open a direct electronic communication with the Board of Trustees. Communication to the Trustees through this website will be brought forward at Board meetings.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

ASBA FNMI Student Success Committee Meeting

Trustee Miller reported on his attendance at the ASBA FNMI Student Success Committee Meeting on January 13th, 2010.

Edmonton Regional Aboriginal School Health Meeting

Chair Smith received an invitation to attend the Edmonton Regional Aboriginal School Health Meeting at the Edmonton Public Schools Centre for Education on February 17th, 2010. Trustee Miller will attend on behalf of the Board.

ASBA Zone 4 Meeting

Trustee Offord and Vice Chair Zeniuk reported on their attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting at Olds College on January 25th, 2010.

PSBAA Council Meeting

Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustees Miller and Offord provided an update on their attendance at the PSBAA Council Meeting in Leduc on February 4th to 6th, 2010.

CONTINUATION OF MEETING BEYOND 5:00 P.M.

#23\10 V PETRUK – That the regular meeting continue beyond 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (5:15 p.m.)

#24\10 K OFFORD - 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

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 5:35 p.m.

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