

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON November 9th, 2009, COMMENCING AT 1:10 P.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
PETER MILLER
KEN OFFORD (joined at 1:17 p.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK
KENDALL SEVERSON
CHERYL SMITH
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

HAMEED SYED, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT

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

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#140\09 K SEVERSON – That the agenda with the following additional items be approved as presented:

- 5.9 Speak Out – Alberta Student Engagement Initiative
- 5.10 Camrose Family Literacy – Christmas Hamper Donation Request
- 7.12 Leaders of Tomorrow Award

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#141\09 P MILLER – That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on October 6th, 2009 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, and Greg Wood, Auditor, joined the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#142\09 R HEIBERG - That the Board approves the following reserve transfers:

Increase Instruction Operating Reserve \$1,277,744.34.

Transfer of \$23,959.22 from Instructional Operating reserve to the Bashaw School Operating reserve to cover the accumulated deficit at August 31, 2009.

Transfer of \$5,300.00 from Operations and Maintenance Operating reserve to Playground Unallocated reserve for funds not allocated in accordance with Administrative Procedure #502.

Transfer of \$11,200.00 from Operations and Maintenance Operating reserve to Playground Unexpended reserve for funds allocated to schools, but not spent at August 31, 2009.

Increase Operations and Maintenance Furniture \ Equipment Reserve to allow funds to be available for September 2010 \$716.00.

Reduce Operations and Maintenance Shop reserve to \$800,000.00 (\$234,176.19).

Remove Operations and Maintenance Cold Storage reserve (\$70,000.00).

Reduce Operations and Maintenance Operating reserve to \$545,114.51 (\$956,881.00 Spring 2009 budget).

Transfer Transportation Shop Equipment reserve to Transportation Operating reserve (\$20,000.00).

Reduce Administration Equipment Reserve to \$100,000.00 (\$736,001.12).

Decrease Accumulated Operations Surplus by \$50,503.06.

CARRIED

#143\09 V PETRUK - That the Board approves the 2008 – 2009 Audited Financial Statement as presented.

CARRIED

Ms Walsh and Mr Wood left the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:49 p.m. and reconvened at 3:05 p.m.

LETTER FROM MINISTER

Chair Smith brought the Board's attention to a letter received from the Minister of Education in response to the letter submitted by Chair Smith on behalf of the Trustees concerning Alberta Education's budget reductions, teachers' wages and the implementation of Bill 44.

ASBA VIDEOCONFERENCE WORKSHOP

ASBA is offering a Videoconference Workshop entitled "Public Engagement: Tips and Techniques" on November 16th, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. Diane Hutchinson, Communications Officer, will attend this workshop.

AISI CONFERENCE 2010

Chair Smith brought to the Trustee's attention an invitation to the AISI Conference 2010 entitled "Engaging Minds – Celebrating a Decade of AISI" on February 8th and 9th, 2010 at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton.

ASBA MELRA PRESENTATION

Along with Dr Payne, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustees Offord, Heiberg, and Petruk will attend the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting and MELRA Award Presentation on November 30th, 2009 in Wetaskiwin.

ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

Alberta Transportation is proposing to initiate a change to the Use of the Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation as related to the speed zone hours for school and playground areas. Chair Smith and Dr Payne will send a letter of support to Alberta Transportation on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

H1N1 UPDATE

Ms Hutchinson provided an update on the impact of the H1N1 virus in Battle River School Division and the number of schools with an absenteeism of over 10% where students are experiencing influenza-like symptoms. The highest rate of outbreaks across Canada is in schools. Chair Smith, on behalf of the Board, and Dr Payne have sent a letter to the Minister of Health requesting an implementation of a vaccine program in the schools.

LETTER TO MINISTER ON SCHOOL ACT REVIEW

Chair Smith provided a copy of the submission compiled from input provided by the Trustees on the School Act Review which was sent to the Minister of Education, MLAs, Alberta Education and ASBA.

HOLDEN SCHOOL BREAKFAST REQUEST

#144\09 P MILLER - That, for the 2009 – 2010 school year, the Board provides \$2500 in support of the breakfast program at the Holden School.

CARRIED

NEW NORWAY SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUEST

#145\09 K OFFORD - That the Board approves, in principle and subject to Administrative Procedure #261 'Travel Study', the international travel trip to Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Paris by the New Norway School International Travel students during summer break 2011 (June 30th, 2011 to July 13th, 2011).

CARRIED

IMR \ SCHOOL CAPITAL LISTS

#146\09 V PETRUK - That the Board adopts the revised 2009 \ 2010 IMR Block Funding report as presented, and further, that this report be attached to, and forms a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

JACK STUART ROOFING TENDERS

#147\09 P ZENIUK - That the Board accepts the tender from Boarder Roofing in the amount of \$214,000.00 to reroof portions of the Jack Stuart School subject to Alberta Infrastructure approval.

CARRIED

KILLAM MODULAR UNIT FUNDS TRANSFER

#148\09 K SEVERSON - That the Board requests the administration to seek approval from Alberta Education to transfer the Killam modular unused funds in the amount of \$29,296 to the Camrose Composite High School modernization project for furniture and equipment purchases.

CARRIED

ALBERTA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

ATA Retirement and Induction Dinner

The Trustees are invited to attend the ATA Retirement and Induction Dinner scheduled for November 18th, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Norsemen Inn.

ATA Negotiating Committee

An ATA Local Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st, 2009. The place and time will be advised at a later date. Proposed agenda items were discussed.

SPEECH COMPETITION

The Trustees attending the next ASBA Zone 4 meeting are asked to encourage the ASBA Zone 4 Speech Competition Committee to announce the 2010 competition early in the new year to provide more preparation time for this event.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recesses at 4:10 p.m. and reconvenes at 4:32 p.m.

PSBAA MEMBERSHIP

Vice Chair Zeniuk, together with Trustees Miller, Heiberg and Offord reported on their attendance at the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta Fall General Meeting on October 22nd to 24th, 2009 at the Sutton Place Hotel in Edmonton.

Chair Smith will draft an email to David Anderson and Heather Welwood of the Alberta School Board Association on behalf of the Trustees requesting information and clarification around the separation of Francophone, Public and Separate school divisions and putting forward the notion that all could exist with increased efficiency under one umbrella organization.

The PSBAA membership will be discussed at the December 3rd, 2009 Board meeting.

SPEAK OUT VIDEO

Chair Smith received a DVD from the Minister of Education summarizing input from the high school students that were interviewed face to face or on line through the "Speak Out Initiative". The DVD is available for viewing.

DONATING TO FAMILY LITERACY

Donations of children's picture books or money to the Camrose Family Literacy Group for the Christmas hampers can be brought to the December 3rd, 2009 Board meeting.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW AWARD

149\09 K OFFORD - That the Board of Trustees approve the donation of \$750.00 from the Board Innovations Fund to the Leaders of Tomorrow of Battle River region to support the expanding needs of the program.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 4:58 p.m. and reconvened at 6:26 p.m.

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, joined the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Ken Offord, Trustee, left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

FALL BUDGET UPDATE

#150\09 P ZENIUK - That the Board of Trustees approve the 2009 – 2010 fall budget and the reserve transfers as presented, and further that the budget and reserve transfers be attached to and form a part of these minutes.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

Diane Hutchinson, Communications Officer, reported on a Communications Conference she attended the first week of October, 2009 in Montreal hosted by the Canadian Association of Communication in Education. Ms Hutchinson is a member of the National Executive of this Association and next year's conference will be hosted in Alberta.

CAPITAL PLAN COMMITTEE UPDATE

Trustees Petruk and Severson, Vice Chair Zeniuk and Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent (Business), met with the Mayor, Town Administrator and Councilor from Alliance regarding the plan to renovate the Alliance School into a museum.

The Edberg School will be leased to a Mennonite Church group with the plan to start church the first week in December 2009.

The next site meeting for the CCHS project is scheduled for November 18th, at 9:30 a.m.

MEETING WITH MLA

Chair Smith, Dr Payne and Trustee Severson are scheduled to meet with Ray Prins, MLA for Lacombe – Ponoka Constituency, on Friday, November 27th, 2009. The discussion will focus on prioritizing education services, projected budget concerns and their impact on classrooms, and Alberta Education's School Act review.

STAFF APPRECIATION GIFT BAGS

The Trustees agreed by consensus to continue with the delivery of gift bags to schools.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS DEBRIEF

Trustees reported on their participation at the Consultative Process meetings held on November 3rd and 4th, 2009 in Daysland. The two successful days included participation from students, support staff and teachers within the Battle River School Division. This year's Consultative Process revolves around the question of what stakeholders consider to be essential components of a 21st Century education.

In order to broaden the attendance base to include community members as well as parents, the following forums are also scheduled to take place. Notices have been placed in local newspapers, as well as school newsletters.

Monday, November 16
Holden School (Library)
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25
Killam School (Science Room)
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 3
Charlie Killam School (Drama Room)
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

BOARD RETREAT DEBRIEF

The Board and Senior Administration will meet with Shirley Stiles on January 28th, 2010 to review the work completed during the Board Retreat at Pigeon Lake on October 28th and 29th, 2009. Further philosophical and division prioritizing discussions will also be held at that time.

ASBA ZONE 4 UPDATE

The Trustees reported on their attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 meeting held on Monday, October 26th, 2009 in Stettler.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustees were reminded to submit committee reports to the Executive Assistant – Operations, by November 20th, 2009 to be included with the agenda package for the December 3rd, 2009 Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

A lawyer will be attending the Administrators' meeting Tuesday, November 10th, 2009 to review the "Administrative Procedure #170 Harassment-Free Work Environment" with Principals, Vice Principals and Supervisors in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR

WILLIAM SCHULTE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (BUSINESS)

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