

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON October 6th, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9:42 A.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
PETER MILLER
KEN OFFORD (joined at 9:49 a.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK
KENDALL SEVERSON
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

BILL SCHULTE, Assistant Superintendent (Business)
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Officer

ALSO PRESENT

DR LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent (joined at 10:03 a.m.)
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Recording Secretary

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m. and advised that Reading University guests would be arriving at 10:00 a.m. for a presentation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#134\09 H SYED – That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#135\09 K SEVERSON – That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on September 10th and 24th, 2009 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

MEETING WITH MLAS

Chair Smith, Dr Payne and Trustees Syed and Heiberg reported on their meeting with Verlyn Olson, MLA, on Tuesday, September 29th, 2009.

Chair Smith, Dr Payne and Trustees Petruk and Severson reported on their meeting with Doug Griffiths, MLA, on Thursday, October 1st, 2009.

Additional meetings are scheduled with George Rogers, MLA for Leduc – Beaumont – Devon Constituency, on Wednesday, October 21st, 2009 and Ray Prins, MLA for Lacombe – Ponoka Constituency, on Friday, November 27th, 2009. The discussions will continue to focus on prioritizing education services, projected budget concerns and their impact on classrooms, and Alberta Education's School Act review.

Blain Fowler, Chairman, Battle River Community Foundation, Roger Epp, Dean of University of Alberta Augustana Campus, David and Helen Samm, Directors, Camrose Adult Learning Council, James and Norman Mayer, Joe and Paula Cramer, Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent (Instruction) and Joannie Zimmer, Principal, C.W. Sears School, joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

READING UNIVERSITY

Chair Smith welcomed the Reading University delegation and invited introductions. Ms Zimmer provided a summary of the key events of the Reading University Program. This summer reading program, which took place during the month of July, targeted grades 2 and grade 3 students. Results indicated improved reading skills and increased enjoyment of reading on the part of all students. Trustees thanked the teachers and coordinators for their participation and commitment to the project, also expressing appreciation to Dr Epp for the use of the facilities at Augustana Campus, and to the Reading University Committee and community supporters for their contributions.

Dr Payne spoke to the effectiveness and benefits of the program, noting the positive impact on students when the school division and community work together.

Chair Smith, on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Battle River School Division, thanked the Committee for their efforts towards the success of this pilot project.

The Reading University delegation left at 10:35 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent (Instruction) and Dennis Dunlop, Division Principal joined the meeting at 10:51 p.m.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS COMMITTEE

Chair Smith welcomed Mr Jarrett and Mr Dunlop. Mr Dunlop provided an update on the work of the Consultative Process Committee.

Forums with students, teachers and support staff will be held in Daysland on November 3 and 4. Parent and community discussions will be as follows:

Monday, November 16 at Holden School – 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25 at Killam School – 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 3 at Charlie Killam School – 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The theme this year will be “Trustee For A Day” and the forums will focus on future prioritizing of services within Battle River School Division.

The Committee is emphasizing the need for input from community members and requests that Trustees forward names of individuals to be invited to participate to Dennis Dunlop, Division Principal, or Diane Hutchinson, Communications Officer.

Mr Jarrett and Mr Dunlop left the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:06 a.m.)

#136\09 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, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

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

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:09 p.m. and reconvened at 1:21 p.m.

SCHOOL FEE COLLECTION LETTER

Chair Smith brought to the attention of the Board, a letter received from a parent raising concerns on the process for collecting instructional fees. Information from Ms Walsh, Treasurer indicates that families that cannot meet the request for the instructional fee payment can contact the Principal of their school and ask to have the fees waived. The school forwards the request for payment to a collection agency only when repeated attempts to contact the parents are ignored. A response from the Board will be forwarded to the parent.

ASBA SCHOOL ACT DISCUSSIONS

The Trustees provided their feedback on suggested changes to the School Act, to be submitted on behalf of the Board to Minister Hancock, MLAs and the ASBA by October 30th, 2009.

Feedback will also be discussed at the Zone 4 meeting on Monday, October 26, 2009 and will form part of the ASBA submission to government.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE #502 – PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FUNDING

Dr Payne informed the Trustees of the revision to Administrative Procedure #502 Playground Equipment Funding to align with the fiscal year budget requirements.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE #320 – STUDENT RECORDS

Dr Payne informed the Trustees of the revision to Administrative Procedure #320 Student Records to incorporate recommendations received from Alberta Education on maintaining student records.

FRIENDS OF EDUCATION AWARD

#137\09 K Offord - That the Board of Trustees approve the nomination of the Reading University for the Friends of Education Award.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:34 p.m. and reconvened at 2:49 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

#138\09 V PETRUK - That the Board approves the Superintendent's Evaluation Report 2008 – 2009 as an accurate representation of the Superintendent's performance for the period September 1st, 2008 to August 31st, 2009.

CARRIED

CRITICAL MINIMUM ENROLLMENTS

#139\09 P ZENIUK – That the Board of Trustees accept this report as information, and that there be no recommendation of school closure for the 2009 – 2010 school year. Strome School, Loughheed School, and Rosalind School will be notified their Critical Minimum enrolment status and the recommendation.

CARRIED

PSBA FALL GENERAL MEETING

Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustees Miller, Heiberg, and Offord will attend the PSBA University and Fall General Meeting on October 22nd to 24th, 2009 at the Sutton Place Hotel in Edmonton.

ASBA FALL GENERAL MEETING

All Trustees together with Dr Payne, Mr Bosh, and Mr Schulte plan to attend the ASBA Fall General Meeting on November 22nd to 24th, 2009 at the Westin Hotel.

RETIREMENT \ LONG SERVICE BANQUET

Vice Chair Zeniuk, Mr Bosh and Ms Fairall will be responsible for organizing the Retirement \ Long Service Banquet to be held on December 5th, 2009 at the Camrose Regional Exhibition.

AWARDS CEREMONY

Trustee Miller will attend the awards ceremony in Forestburg on Sunday, November 1st, 2009. Trustees Zeniuk and Severson will attend the awards ceremony in Bawlf on Friday, October 16th, 2009 and Trustee Severson will attend in New Norway on Friday, December 18th, 2009.

PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS

When attending Parent Council Meetings, Trustees are requested to provide the date and location of the Parent \ Community Consultative Forums and encourage parental participation.

BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGES

Chair Smith advised the Trustees that the October 22nd, 2009 Board meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. to accommodate Trustees that need to leave early to attend the PSBA Fall General Meeting.

The December Board meeting previously scheduled for December 10th, 2009 will be held on December 3rd, 2009 starting at 9:30 a.m.

BOARD MEETING FOLLOW UP LISTS

The Trustees will be provided with a list of Board Meeting action items to assist with follow up.

NEGOTIATION WORKSHOP

Trustee Miller reported on the Negotiation Workshop he attended on September 23rd, 2009.

ASBA ZONE 4 MEETING

Chair Smith, Trustees Miller, Heiberg, Offord, Severson, and Petruk reported on their attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 meeting on September 28th, 2009 in Camrose. Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction and Diane Hutchinson were also in attendance. Ms Smith and Mr Jarrett presented on the theme “Connecting Your Vision in Crisis”, followed by discussion groups. Data from the discussions will be provided to Trustees and forwarded to Zone participants.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR

WILLIAM SCHULTE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (BUSINESS)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALL TO ORDER..... 110

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA 110

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES 110

MEETING WITH MLAS 111

READING UNIVERSITY..... 111

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS COMMITTEE..... 112

SCHOOL FEE COLLECTION LETTER 113

ASBA SCHOOL ACT DISCUSSIONS 113

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE #502 – PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FUNDING 113

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE #320 – STUDENT RECORDS 113

FRIENDS OF EDUCATION AWARD 113

SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION..... 113

CRITICAL MINIMUM ENROLLMENTS 114

PSBA FALL GENERAL MEETING 114

ASBA FALL GENERAL MEETING..... 114

RETIREMENT \ LONG SERVICE BANQUET 114

AWARDS CEREMONY 114

PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS 114

BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGES..... 114

BOARD MEETING FOLLOW UP LISTS 115

NEGOTIATION WORKSHOP..... 115

ASBA ZONE 4 MEETING 115