

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON OCTOBER 13, 2005,
COMMENCING AT 9:33 A.M.**

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
BRENDA HERDER
KEN OFFORD (left the meeting at 12:10 a.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK
CHERYL SMITH
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

GERRY OBERG
HAMEED SYED

ALSO PRESENT

WARREN PHILLIPS, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer
TIM CHAMBERLIN, Communications Officer
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

B. HERDER IN THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#218/05 K. OFFORD – That the agenda be approved with the addition of the following items:

- 8.14 Letter from Pembina Hills School Division
- 8.15 Letter from Red Deer Public School Division

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#219/05 C. SMITH – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 8 and 22, 2005 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

BATTLE RIVER HOCKEY ACADEMY

Dr. Phillips, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed a document outlining further information with respect to selection criteria and academic expectations of the Battle River Hockey Academy.

#220/05 K. OFFORD – That the Board approves the Battle River Hockey Academy pilot program as presented.

CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Professional Development Funding

Dr. Phillips re-affirmed for Trustees that the Division provides professional development funding in the amount of \$400/course to a maximum of \$1200/year for staff working towards a master's degree. To date, 16 teachers have received approximately \$18,000 in professional development funding.

Death of Two Students

Dr. Phillips informed the Board of the untimely deaths of two Battle River School Division #31 students and commended the administrators and counselors at the schools and those from the Division Office who assisted with grief counseling at the schools that the students attended.

UPDATE ON BOARD PLANNING SESSION

Dr. Larry Payne, Assistant Superintendent, joined the meeting at 10:01 a.m. to provide an update to the Trustees with respect to the upcoming Board Planning Session on October 24 and 25, 2005.

Dr. Payne left the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

UPDATE ON VIDEO-CONFERENCING PROPOSAL

Mr. Merle Stover, former Superintendent of Schools for Battle River School Division #31, joined the meeting at 10:14 a.m. and provided an update to the Trustees with respect to the video-conferencing proposal he is preparing on behalf of the Division for submission to Alberta Education.

Mr. Stover left the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:52 a.m. and reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

VIDEO-CONFERENCING PROPOSAL

#221/05 V. PETRUK – That the Board supports the submission of the video-conferencing proposal to Alberta Education.

CARRIED

SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION OF STAFF

Trustees engaged in a discussion with respect to supervision and evaluation of staff and the process for this. Trustees also discussed the

process for dealing with parent concerns expressed to individual Board members.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:12 p.m.

Trustee Offord was absent at the call to order.

SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION OF STAFF

At the call to order, Trustees continued the discussion with respect to supervision and evaluation of staff.

CRITICAL MINIMUM ENROLMENTS

Dr. Phillips reviewed the September 30th enrolment counts and noted that the following schools have been identified as being below the critical minimum enrolments in the following divisions:

- Alliance School – elementary division
- Edberg School – elementary and junior high division
- Lougheed School – elementary division
- Rosalind School – elementary division
- Strome School – elementary and junior high division.

Dr. Phillips noted that he will contact the principals at the above-noted schools in order to obtain five-year projected enrolments, and seek indications on how each proposes to provide programs. Dr. Phillips will report on these findings to the Board at the regular meeting in November 2005.

TRANSPORTATION APPEAL – RICK LONG

At 1:29 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Mr. Rick Long to the Board meeting and invited his presentation.

Mr. Long, custodial parent, requested that Trustees consider permitting his son to ride a Sherwood Park bound bus from Tofield to Clover Bar Junior High School for the balance of the school year in order to fulfill a court order that his son attend this school to finish his junior high year.

Mr. Long left the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

#222/05

C. SMITH – That, notwithstanding the transportation agreement between Battle River School Division #31 and Elk Island Public School Division, and subject to verification of the custodial agreement, the Board permits the Elk Island School Division to transport the son of Rick Long from Tofield to Sherwood Park for the balance of the 2005-06 school year.

CARRIED

POLICY BHB ‘BOARD MEMBER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES’

#223/05 V. PETRUK – That the Board adopts policy BHB ‘Board Member Development Opportunities’.

CARRIED

BAND TRIP TO VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA, NEW NORWAY SCHOOL

#224/05 P. ZENIUK – That the Board approves, in principle and subject to policy HGCB ‘Travel Study’, the proposed trip by the band students at New Norway School to travel to Vancouver and Victoria, BC from May 8-13, 2006.

CARRIED

SPORTS TRIP, TOFIELD SCHOOL

#225/05 R. HEIBERG – That the Board approves, in principle and subject to policy HGCB ‘Travel Study’, the proposed sports trip by the Tofield School senior girls volleyball team to travel to New Brunswick, Canada, tentatively scheduled for May 23-27, 2007.

CARRIED

TRAVEL STUDY PROPOSAL, PACE OUTREACH HIGH SCHOOL

#226/05 C. SMITH – That the Board approves, in principle and subject to policy HGCB ‘Travel Study’, the proposed travel study trip by students attending the PACE Outreach School to travel to London, Paris and Rome during spring break 2006, and further that this trip be contingent on the Superintendent of Schools meeting with the students and parents/guardians to discuss supervision arrangements, and that the above-noted condition becomes a part of the consent form.

CARRIED

COMMUNITIES OFFERING SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS FOR YOUTH (COSEY)

The Communities Offering Supportive Environments for Youth (COSEY) project specifically targets approximately 30 students from grades six and eleven within Battle River School Division #31 for the purpose of providing leadership training, peer mentoring skills, healthy risk-taking initiatives, and team building skills, for these youth. School staff will participate as mentors providing support to the participants throughout the year.

#227/05 P. ZENIUK – That the Board accepts the recommendation from the Superintendent of Schools which states: that the Board endorses the COSEY proposal for schools, specifically in the City of Camrose Ward and the County of Camrose Ward for the 2005-06 school year, subject to parents providing signed consent for their children to participate, whether as a mentor or as a protégé; and further that any field trips adhere to Board expectations for both planning and implementation.

CARRIED

BAWLF CENTENNIAL HALL PROJECT REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

The Board re-affirmed its previous decision with respect to the request for financial support for the Bawlf Centennial Hall Project, and a letter will be sent to the fund-raising committee and Bawlf School re-iterating the Board's position.

FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON WORKERS AND CAREER TRANSITIONS GRIDS

#228/05 P. ZENIUK – That, effective September 1, 2005, the Board increases the grids of the Family School Liaison (FSL) workers and that of the Career Transitions personnel by 2.8%.

CARRIED

DATE OF NOVEMBER BOARD MEETINGS

It was noted that the original date of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees in November – November 10, 2005 – is the date tentatively scheduled for a meeting with the Minister of Education in Stettler.

#229/05 C. SMITH – That, in the event that November 10, 2005 is scheduled for a meeting with the Minister of Education, the regular Board meeting be held on November 9, 2005.

CARRIED

#230/05 V. PETRUK – That the second meeting of the Board in November be scheduled for November 29, 2005.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:46 p.m. and reconvened at 3:03 p.m.

AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS

#231/05 V. PETRUK – That, in addition to the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the Deputy Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent (Personnel) to accept staff resignations.

CARRIED

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Division Office administrators met with high school principals on October 11, 2005, shared information with respect to Battle River School Division #31 diploma exam results, individual school results, five-year trends, etc., stressed that the results from the 2004-05 diploma exams were not satisfactory, and that all share accountability. The purpose of the meeting was to determine changes that need to be made at the Division level, the school and the classroom level to improve results.

#232/05 C. SMITH – That the Board supports the formation of a Division-wide committee to look at student achievement, and further that Chairman Herder serve as the Board representative on this Committee.

CARRIED

UPDATE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Deputy Superintendent, Ray Bosh, updated Trustees with respect to what is happening in the Special Education and Technology departments.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER REPORT

At 3:26 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Cst Craig Ferguson, School Resource Officer with the Camrose Police Service, to the meeting and invited his presentation. Cst Ferguson updated Trustees with respect to the DARE programs in the City of Camrose. Cst Ferguson noted that there are five additional police officers teaching the DARE program to students in the City of Camrose. He noted that he has been working at building relationships with students and teachers and serves as a resource to teachers and school administration. As necessary, he also does criminal investigations. Cst Ferguson indicated that he has been enjoying the work of the School Resource Officer.

Cst Ferguson left the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The information items were included in the folder that was circulated to the Trustees during the meeting.

Estate Bequeathment

Dr. Phillips noted that a substantial amount of money has been bequeathed to Battle River School Division #31 to serve as scholarships for students graduating from Camrose Composite High School and who are attending post-secondary institutions, with the exception of students attending the Augustana Faculty of the University of Alberta.

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on October 4, 2005 for the purpose of setting the agenda for this meeting and for planning the agenda for the Board Workshop on October 24 and 25, 2005.

Small Schools Committee

#233/05 B. HERDER – That the terms of reference for the Small Schools Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Policy Development/Review Committee

The Policy Development/Review Committee had a meeting on September 12, 2005 and is currently waiting for information from the Alberta School Boards Association with respect to policy models.

Capital Planning Committee

Trustee Petruk reported on a meeting of the Capital Planning Committee held on September 15, 2005, noting that the terms of reference for this Committee have not changed.

Infrastructure Maintenance Program (IMP) Approval Requests

#234/05 V. PETRUK – That the Board approves the following items to be funded through IMP funding:

Rosalind School Handicap Ramps in the amount of \$1,780;
Killam School Digital Controls Replacement in the amount of \$21,000;
Tofield School Gym Roof in the amount of \$43,500.

CARRIED

#235/05 V. PETRUK – That the Board approves the following item to be funded through IMP funding:

Strome School roof and heating system in the amount of \$228,000.

CARRIED

ASBA Zone 4 Report

Chairman Herder reported on her attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 meeting on September 26, 2005, and noted that the next meeting will be held in Innisfail on October 24, 2005. This will be the annual general meeting.

Alberta School Employees Benefit Plan (ASEBP)

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte informed Trustees that a meeting of the ASEBP Board of Directors is scheduled for October 17, 2005, and noted that a brochure outlining the new benefits coverage, effective January 2006, was sent out.

Drug Response Task Force

Vice-Chairman Smith reported on the work of the coordinator of the Communities Offering Supportive Environments for Youth (COSEY) II program. Ms Smith also noted that she attended a conference in Red Deer; that a provincial drug strategy program will be released in November 2005; that AADAC will provide some funding for each drug coalition. Ms Smith further noted that public recognition was given to Kerry LaBerge, Coordinator in the Special Education Department with Battle River School Division #31, and Yvonne Allan, East Central Health, for their early promotion of and work with the Drug Response Task Force.

Administrators' Meeting

Trustee Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Administrators' Meeting held on October 11, 2005.

ATA Liaison Committee

An ATA Liaison Committee meeting was held on October 11, 2005 with five topics on the agenda.

Communication Liaison Committee

Trustee Heiberg reported on a meeting of the Communication Liaison Committee held on September 12, 2005.

Learning Together Program Steering Committee

The next meeting of the above-noted Committee will be on October 19, 2005.

REVIEW OF PRESENTER'S PACKAGE AT BOARD MEETINGS

Trustees reviewed a form for presenters at Board meetings to submit prior to the Board meeting each wishes to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chairman Herder adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

BRENDA HERDER, CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM SCHULTE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

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