

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON OCTOBER 10, 2002,
COMMENCING AT 11:30 A.M.**

PRESENT

JUDY FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON
BRENDA HERDER
MICHELE MULDER
GERRY OBERG
GWENDA POYSER
BILL SEARS
WAYNE THRONDSO (left the meeting at 4:18 p.m. and rejoined the meeting at 5:05 p.m.)
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

WARREN PHILLIPS, Acting Superintendent of Schools
STEPHEN SMITH, Acting Chief Deputy Superintendent of Schools (joined the meeting at 1:20 p.m.,
left the meeting at 3:22 p.m. and rejoined the meeting at 4:30 p.m.)
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

G. POYSER IN THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#239/02 M. MULDER – That the agenda be approved as presented with the
addition of the add-on sheet.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#240/02 B. HERDER – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on September
12 and 26, 2002 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

DIVISION VIDEO

Acting Superintendent Phillips informed the Trustees that a promotional
video about the Division will not proceed at this time.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:33 a.m.)

#241/02 W. THRONDSO – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Acting Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 12:04 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 12:04 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:04 p.m. and reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

PACE OUTREACH SCHOOL

Chairman Poyser informed the Board that the Division nominated the PACE Outreach School for the Premier’s Award for School Board Innovation and Excellence. Ms Poyser thanked Tim Chamberlin, Communications Officer, for the well-done research and background work he did in preparation of this nomination.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUEST – CAMROSE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

#242/02 P. ZENIUK – That the Board approves, in principle and subject to the principles of draft policy HGBC ‘Travel Study’, the request by the Camrose Composite High School International Travel program for participants to travel to France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland, and further that the final itinerary be presented to the Superintendent of Schools for approval.

CARRIED

ASBA WORKBOOK – LEARNING COMMISSION TASK FORCE

Trustees provided responses to the questions posed in the ASBA Workbook with respect to the Learning Commission Task Force. The responses will be compiled for submission to ASBA.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:45 p.m. and reconvened at 2:58 p.m.

Director of Transportation, Brenda Johnson, joined the meeting at 2:59 p.m.

Parent #4512-03 joined the meeting and was welcomed by Chairman Poyser.

Chairman Poyser informed the Trustees that a letter was received from the Commission on Learning notifying the Board that Commission members are asking for six boards, of which Battle River Regional Division #31 is one, to make a joint presentation to the Commission in Red Deer on December 2, 2002. The Superintendent of Schools from Black Gold Regional Division requested a meeting for the preparation of a joint presentation. Dr. Phillips will follow-up on this request.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (3:05 p.m.)

#243/02 P. ZENIUK – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Acting Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Acting Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, Director of Transportation Johnson, Parent #4512-03, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

Parent #4512-03 left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

The in-camera session recessed at 3:22 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 3:22 p.m.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Request for School Bus Service in the Village of Ryley

#244/02 P. ZENIUK – That the request for bus service from within the Village of Ryley be denied.

CARRIED

Bus Service for Non-Resident Students

Ms Johnson provided the Trustees with information with respect to providing bus service for non-resident students and the possibility of charging a fee for students who are ineligible to ride a school bus.

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 3:49 p.m.

CONCERNS RELATED TO THE INCREASED USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS BY STUDENTS

Mr. Kerry Laberge, seconded from the principalship of the PACE Outreach School, joined the meeting at 3:49 p.m. and was welcomed by Chairman Poyser. Dr. Phillips noted that two weeks ago several conversations and a meeting with a number of principals and vice-principals from junior and

senior high schools led to the request that Mr. Laberge assume a lead role in providing direction on how Battle River Regional Division #31 can provide assistance to school administrators in dealing with students who are using illegal drugs. The Advisory Committee consists of 2-4 principals, the school resource office from the City of Camrose, a Trustee and the Superintendent of Schools, as well as other resource personnel from within the Division, who will assist Mr. Laberge in developing a direction and focus for this work.

Mr. Laberge provided information to the Trustees, noting that he has seen an increase in the use of illegal drugs (narcotics) and that the target population is younger (junior high school level). Mr. Laberge has also noted the increase in damaging choices youth in the community are making with respect to using these drugs. Mr. Laberge has provided to school administrators information with respect to the symptoms of drug usage and will work with, and try to determine what will work with, junior high school students. The working committee will receive advice from the advisory committee to provide a made-in-Battle River Regional Division #31 solution. Mr. Laberge will work with a coordinated community committee and other school communities in Battle River Regional Division #31 with respect to this concern.

Trustees were informed that Mr. Laberge has been seconded for 4-6 weeks for the Committee work, and that Mr. Kevin Martin has been appointed a temporary principal at the PACE Outreach School.

Trustee Fitzmaurice-Johnson volunteered to be the Trustee representative on the Advisory Committee.

Trustee Thronson left the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

ENROLMENTS

Dr. Phillips reviewed the current enrolments in Battle River Regional Division #31 by wards, a comparison of pupil-teacher ratios for September 2001 and September 2002, and noted schools that are at, or below, the critical minimum enrolment (CME) as defined in policy FL 'School/Program Closure'. Schools/programs whose enrolments are at, or fall below, the CME, as of September 30, 2002, are: the elementary program at the Alliance School, the junior high school program at the Edberg School, the elementary and junior high school program at the Heisler School, and the elementary and junior high school program at the Strome School. Dr. Phillips noted that, with the exception of the Heisler School, the enrolments at the above-noted schools has not declined during the past several years.

Director of Transportation Johnson rejoined the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

TABLED MOTIONS #195/02 AND #196/02

Tabled motions #195/02 and #196/02 were considered.

#196/02 B. SEARS – That motion #195/02 be amended to add: “and further that the route change occur for a fee to be determined by the Director of Transportation”.

CARRIED

MOTION FOR THE MEETING TO CONTINUE BEYOND 5:00 P.M.

#245/02 G. OBERG – That the regular meeting continue beyond 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Trustee Thronson rejoined the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Motion #195/02, with the amendment, now reads:

#195/02 G. OBERG – That the bus route in the Viking School attendance area be altered to accommodate the pick up of the children in the Jackson family at an approach on the boundary road of the Municipal District of Wainwright and Beaver County, and further that the route change occur for a fee to be determined by the Director of Transportation.

CARRIED

REVIEW OF POLICY IC ‘ATTENDANCE AREAS/TRANSPORTATION’

#246/02 M. MULDER – That policy IC ‘Attendance Areas/Transportation’ be referred to the Policy Development/Review Committee to bring recommended amendments to the Board before the end of the 2002-03 school year.

CARRIED

BASHAW SCHOOL BUS ROUTE

Director of Transportation Johnson provided a transparency outlining a current Bashaw School bus route.

#247/02 G. OBERG – That the Board maintains the Bashaw School bus route as it currently exists.

CARRIED

Trustee Mulder left the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT (continued)

Request to Ride High School Bus to Daysland

- #248/02 B. SEARS – That, notwithstanding policy IC, the Board approves the transportation of student #4712-01 on the high school designated bus which transports students from Strome School to Daysland School.
CARRIED

Amendment to Policy EEAE(1) ‘Parent Provided Transportation’

- #249/02 J. FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON – That the Board approves the proposed amendment to policy EEAE(1) ‘Parent Provided Transportation’ as presented by the Director of Transportation.
CARRIED

Amendment to Policy EEAE ‘Student Transportation in Private Vehicles’

- #250/02 G. OBERG – That the Board approves the proposed amendment to policy EEAE ‘Student Transportation in Private Vehicles’ as presented by the Director of Transportation.
CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST

- #251/02 B. SEARS – That the Board permits student #4512-03, resident in the Round Hill School attendance area, to access the high school designated bus to the Hay Lakes School.
DEFEATED

MEETING RECESS

At 5:29 p.m., Chairman Poyser recessed the meeting until October 24, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.