

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON JUNE 26, 2003, COMMENCING AT 9:02 A.M.

PRESENT

JUDY FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON
BRENDA HERDER
MICHELE MULDER
GERRY OBERG
GWENDA POYSER
WAYNE THRONDSO
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

BILL SEARS

ALSO PRESENT

WARREN PHILLIPS, Superintendent of Schools
STEPHEN SMITH, Chief Deputy Superintendent of Schools
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer (left the meeting at 10:42 a.m.)
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

G. POYSER IN THE CHAIR

The Board of Trustees extended condolences to the family of Matthew Braim, student at New Norway School, who was killed in a motor vehicle accident on June 25, 2003.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

#156/03 G. OBERG – That the distributed add-on sheet of items be added to this agenda.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:04 a.m.)

#157/03 M. MULDER – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

Declaring a conflict of interest, Chairman Poyser and Trustee Oberg left the in-camera session at 9:04 a.m. and returned at 9:21 a.m.

The in-camera session recessed at 10:10 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:21 a.m.

STAFF AGREEMENTS

Division Office Staff

- #158/03 P. ZENIUK – That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the Division Office support staff, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.
CARRIED

Flagstaff Bus Contractors

- #159/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the Flagstaff Bus Contractors, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.
CARRIED

Maintenance Staff

- #160/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the Maintenance staff, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.
CARRIED

Beaver Bus Drivers

- #161/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the Beaver Bus Drivers, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.
CARRIED

School Support Staff (Teacher Assistants, Secretaries, Librarians)

- #162/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the School Support staff (teacher assistants, secretaries and librarians), the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

Custodians

#163/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the custodians, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

Gibson Cleaning Contract

#164/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect the contract with Gibson Cleaning, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

Mechanics

#165/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the mechanics, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

Battle River Regional Division #31 Bus Drivers

#166/03 P. ZENIUK - That, effective September 1, 2003 and with respect to meetings with the Battle River Regional Division #31 bus drivers, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Negotiating Committee, and further that these recommendations be attached to, and become a part of, these minutes.

CARRIED

HEISLER SCHOOL CLOSURE UPDATE

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte provided, for information, an update with respect to the possible sale of the Heisler School.

Superintendent of Schools Phillips provided an update with respect to a meeting with the Heisler School Council on June 23, 2003 at which time the timelines with respect to the closure of the School were presented.

BOARD PLANNING SESSION

An update was provided to Trustees with respect to the Planning Session in November 2003.

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte left the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER, 2004-05

Trustees discussed support for the school resource officer for the 2004-05 school year with no change to be made at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Trustees determined that the next meeting date of the Board will be August 27, 2003. This meeting will also be the Board's organizational meeting.

SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith reviewed the satisfaction survey results for the 2002-03 school year, noting the trends contained therein.

FORESTBURG SCHOOL TRAVEL CLUB REQUEST

#167/03 G. OBERG – That the Board approves, in principle, the request by the Forestburg School Travel Club to travel to London, Paris and Rome during the spring break 2004, subject to the Board's travel policy and administrative guidelines, with final approval given by the Superintendent upon receipt of a finalized itinerary.

CARRIED

DAYSLAND SCHOOL TRAVEL CLUB REQUEST

#168/03 G. OBERG - That the Board approves, in principle, the request by the Daysland School Travel Club to travel to Costa Rica during the spring break 2004, subject to the Board's travel policy and administrative guidelines, with final approval given by the Superintendent upon receipt of a finalized itinerary.

CARRIED

BASKETBALL CAMP, MONTANA USA

#169/03 P. ZENIUK – That the Board approves the attendance of ten to twelve students from Camrose Composite High School at a basketball camp at the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana, USA from June 30 – July 4, 2003.

CARRIED

VIKING SCHOOL TRAVEL CLUB REQUEST

#170/03 M. MULDER - That the Board approves, in principle, the request by the Viking School Travel Club to travel to Greece during the spring break 2004, subject to the Board's travel policy and administrative guidelines, with final approval given by the Superintendent upon receipt of a finalized itinerary.

CARRIED

VIKING SCHOOL TRAVEL REQUEST – QUEBEC WINTER CARNIVAL

Superintendent of Schools Phillips outlined a request received from the Viking School with respect to students, particularly students studying French as a second language, to travel to the Quebec Winter Carnival in February.

Director of Transportation Johnson joined the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

REQUEST FOR STUDENT TO RIDE A SPECIAL EDUCATION ROUTE BUS

#171/03 W. THRONDSO – That, notwithstanding policy and due to the recommendations from Family and Social Services, the Board authorizes the ridership of student #4505-01 on a special education route in order that the student may attend school in Camrose for the 2003-04 school year for a fee of \$2,159.75, and further that this arrangement be reviewed prior to the 2004-05 school year.

CARRIED

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 11:49 a.m.

TUITION FEES FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Trustees reviewed letters received from the staff at Ryley School and a family resident in the Ryley School attendance area with respect to the tuition fees being levied to exchange students. Trustees appreciated the input and noted that this will be reviewed after September 30, 2003.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PRACTICE – LETTER FROM C. W. SEARS SCHOOL COUNCIL

Trustees reviewed a letter received from the C. W. Sears School Council with respect to keeping schools open during inclement weather. Dr. Phillips noted that he has responded to this letter.

LETTERS FROM THE MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Trustees reviewed several letters from the Minister of Infrastructure for information, noting that both letters contained a paragraph in which the Minister refers to right sizing, consolidation and closure of schools.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

#172/03 M. MULDER – That the Board Chairman write a letter to the Minister of Infrastructure expressing the Board's appreciation for the additional funds to the Operations and Maintenance of schools, and further that this letter be copied to the Minister of Learning and the local MLAs.

CARRIED

LOUGHEED PUBLIC MEETING

Division Office administrators and several Trustees met on June 4, 2003 with a number of concerned parents at Lougheed School with respect to future programming possibilities because of declining enrolments.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

#173/03 B. HERDER – That letters be sent to School Council chairs with respect to the motions regarding consultations on the attendance areas/ transportation policy and the future directions and vision of the Division.

CARRIED

FRENCH IMMERSION COMMITTEE

Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith reported on the meetings and school visitations done by the French Immersion Committee seeking information with respect to the possibility of a French Immersion program being instituted in Battle River Regional Division #31. A press release will be prepared shortly.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Drug Response Task Force meeting held on June 24, 2003, noting that a delegation will be requesting time at the Board's September meeting.

Trustee Thronson noted that he met with Norm Mayer, Mayor for the City of Camrose, with respect to cost sharing of the theatre concept as part of the Camrose Composite High School modernization. Mr. Mayer requested a presentation be made to City Council.

Trustee Herder reported on her attendance at the 'Creating Vibrant Communities' symposium in Heisler at the end of May, 2003, and her attendance at the Village Council meeting in Rosalind.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Student Affairs Committee met on June 13, 2003 to hear a recommendation for expulsion. The Committee upheld the recommendation.

ATA LIAISON

Chairman Poyser received a letter from the president of the ATA Local, noting that the invitation to hold an ATA/Board Liaison meeting will be considered by the ATA at its executive meeting to be held in September 2003.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – TRUSTEE FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON

Chairman Poyser accepted, with regret, a letter of resignation from Trustee Fitzmaurice-Johnson, Trustee in the City of Camrose, and wished her all the best with her study plans.

BY-ELECTION

#174/03 G. OBERG – That the Board directs administration to prepare a recommendation of timelines with respect to the holding of a by-election for the vacated Trustee position in the City of Camrose.

CARRIED

THANKS – TRUSTEE MULDER

Trustee Mulder expressed her appreciation to the Board and Division Office personnel for their support during her election as President of the Alberta School Boards Association.

Chairman Poyser congratulated Trustee Mulder on her appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chairman Poyser adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

GWENDA POYSER, CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM SCHULTE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

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