

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON FEBRUARY 14, 2002,  
COMMENCING AT 9:35 A.M.**

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**PRESENT**

JUDY FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON (left the meeting at 2:37 p.m.)  
BRENDA HERDER  
MICHELE MULDER (left the meeting at 12:21 p.m.)  
GERRY OBERG  
GWENDA POYSER  
BILL SEARS  
WAYNE THRONDSO (left the meeting at 4:20 p.m.)  
PATRICIA ZENIUK

**ABSENT**

**ALSO PRESENT**

WARREN PHILLIPS, Chief Deputy Superintendent of Schools  
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer  
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

**G. POYSER IN THE CHAIR**

Chairman Poyser called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. and adjourned the meeting that was recessed on January 24, 2002.

Chairman Poyser called the February 14, 2002 meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

#27/02 P. ZENIUK – That the agenda be approved with the addition of the following items:

**New Business**

15. Letter, Beaver Ambulance Society Employees
16. Request from City of Camrose, Tennis Courts – Bill Schulte
17. School Council/Board of Trustees Liaison Meeting

**Information**

3. Canadian Achievement Test Results 2001

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

#28/02 W. THRONDSOON – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 10 and 24, 2002 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**PUBLIC MEETING, SIFTON SCHOOL**

Trustee Zeniuk expressed her discomfort with some concerns raised with respect to the public meeting at the Sifton School and referenced a quote in the local paper with respect to the number of people at the meeting.

Chairman Poyser reminded Trustees that the parents of the students at the Sifton School were informed by letter of the meeting and noted that parental concerns could have been presented at that time.

Ms Poyser further noted that the notice of motion states that the Board is proceeding in the direction of the closure of the junior high program, but the motion is debatable. If more information or further discussion is needed on this, it can be done at the Committee Meeting on February 28, 2002. Trustees were requested to forward questions to Dr. Phillips before the Committee Meeting day.

Dr. Phillips noted that the discussion should focus on the broader issue of the reconfiguration of schools in the City of Camrose, which includes Sifton School. The impact on all schools, including CCHS, should be considered before a final decision is made.

**IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:48 a.m.)**

#29/02 M. MULDER – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Acting Superintendent Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

Director of Transportation, Brenda Johnson, joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m. to present a personnel matter.

The in-camera session recessed at 10:14 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 10:14 a.m.

**DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

**Request for Students to Ride Heisler-Daysland High School Bus**

#30/02 B. SEARS – That, in order for the students to complete their 2001-02 school year at the Daysland School, and notwithstanding policy IC 'Attendance Areas/Transportation', the Board allows grade five student #4706-03 and grade 8 student #4706-04, residents in the Heisler School attendance area, to access the bus transporting high school students to the Daysland School.

CARRIED

Occasional Riders on High School Designated Buses

Ms Johnson received a concern from a parent that a non-high school student was being allowed to ride the bus that is not accessible to non-high school students from the area in which the parent resides. This involves a young student who is attending the school to which he was directed, but accesses the high school bus occasionally for a baby-sitting arrangement. Policy EEAA(1) permits transportation to the baby-sitters house providing there is room on the bus and a waiver has been signed by the parent. This policy makes no reference to a “designated” bus being any different than any other bus. However, Clause 4 of Policy IC does restrict riders on a designated bus to students who are registered in the grade levels to which the bus is designated.

Trustees agreed that the ridership of the student fits the policy.

Information Items

Ms Johnson reviewed the information items contained in her report.

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

**MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 10:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10:44 a.m.

**DRAFT POLICY GBEB/IFCFA ‘SEXUAL HARASSMENT’**

Discussion on this policy was deferred to the continuation of this meeting on February 28, 2002.

**REQUEST – CAMROSE AND DISTRICT MUSIC FESTIVAL**

A letter from the chairperson of the Camrose and District Music Festival noted that the registration fees for groups increased from \$20 to \$35. The letter further noted that the number of entries from Battle River Regional Division #31 in 2001 was 60, and went on to request an increase in the donation given to the music festival in lieu of registration fees for school groups.

#31/02 J. FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON – That the Board of Trustees provides \$2500 to the Camrose and District Music Festival in lieu of registration fees for schools within Battle River Regional Division #31.

DEFEATED

#32/02 W. THRONDSOIN – That the Board of Trustees provides \$2000 to the Camrose and District Music Festival in lieu of registration fees for schools within Battle River Regional Division #31.

CARRIED

**REQUEST – FLAGSTAFF MUSIC FESTIVAL**

#33/02 G. OBERG – That the Board of Trustees provides \$500 to the Flagstaff Music Festival as requested by the Festival Secretary in lieu of registration fees for schools within Battle River Regional Division #31, and further that if registration fees exceed \$500, upon presentation of supporting documentation, further funds will be forwarded to cover the cost of registration fees.

CARRIED

**DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDARS – 2002-03 SCHOOL YEAR**

Trustees reviewed draft school calendars for the 2002-03 school year and approved four draft calendars to be forwarded to schools and school councils for response. Responses are to be received by April 5, 2002.

**SATISFACTION SURVEYS**

Information garnered from the Satisfaction Surveys needs to be updated every two years as per Alberta Learning guidelines, therefore Satisfaction Surveys will not be administered this school year.

**REDEDICATION SERVICES – CENTRAL HIGH-SEDEGWICK PUBLIC SCHOOL**

The rededication service for Central High-Sedgewick Public School is rescheduled for April 17, 2002 at 11:00 a.m.

**CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY – UPDATE ON MEETING**

Trustees Sears and Zeniuk as well as several Divisional Office administrators met with members of the Board of Directors of the Cornerstone Christian Academy on February 5, 2002. Cornerstone Christian Academy is looking for an education partner and outlined their expectations of that partnership. These include: having input with respect to who is on staff, the right to decline admission of a student if they feel the student does not meet their focus, the right to continue to maintain the ability to levy a fee, the right to maintain its own transportation system, the right not to be bound by Battle River Regional Division #31 attendance boundaries and the right to operate as a private school under the umbrella of Battle River Regional Division #31.

#34/02 W. THRONDSO – That Battle River Regional Division #31 not offer an alternative program at Cornerstone Christian Academy as requested.

CARRIED

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Declaring a conflict of interest, Trustee Oberg excused himself for the discussion during the in-camera session leaving the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

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**IN-CAMERA SESSION (11:55 a.m.)**

#35/02 P. ZENIUK – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Acting Superintendent Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 12:21 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 12:21 p.m.

**MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 12:21 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

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The Director of Transportation, Brenda Johnson, joined the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

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**DELEGATION – ROUND HILL SCHOOL COUNCIL**

At 1:31 p.m. Chairman Poyser welcomed a delegation of three persons from the Round Hill School Council to the meeting and invited their presentation. Norma Williams, School Council chairperson, served as spokesperson.

Ms Williams presented a proposal to redraw the busing boundary to the north of Round Hill and noted the redrawing on an accompanying map. The proposed change would move the northern boundary of Round Hill School to Township Road 500, the North Miquelon Lake Road, from the current boundary line at secondary highway 617.

Ms Williams noted the reasons for the location of the new boundary are: it is geographically close to an equal point between Tofield and Round Hill, and it extends the existing northern boundary from the west to the east.

Ms Williams indicated that an important component of the plan would be to ‘grandfather’ students who have been attending Tofield School and who would wish to continue attending there if the boundary change occurred. Ms Williams noted that, as of September 30, 2001, eleven students from that area are attending Round Hill School.

As Round Hill School accommodates grades 1-9, the proposal notes that the high school attendance area would be split four ways, rather than the current three, with Tofield School being added to Bawlf, Hay Lakes and Camrose Composite.

The delegation requested that the Board implement this proposal for the start of the 2002-03 school year.

The delegation left the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

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Ms Johnson left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

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**DELEGATION – FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON (FSL) WORKERS**

Chairman Poyser welcomed Coreen Everington, Sandra Loades, and Deanna Shepherd, FSL workers; and Devin, student, to the meeting and invited their presentation.

The FSL program offers support to children and their families in the Battle River Regional Division #31 community. In the summer of 2001 the FSL workers provided two five-day canoeing adventures on the North Saskatchewan River, from Rocky Mountain House to Drayton Valley. Trained guides from Augustana University College led the canoeing expedition.

Students drawn from the caseloads of the FSL workers participated in the trip. Devin, a student, was one of the students on the canoe trip and spoke glowingly about his experience. Devin noted that he loved the activities and the beautiful scenery, that they had great leaders, and the entire event was awesome. Devin indicated that he met so many new people and it was easy to do [in that setting]. The students did not know each other until they embarked on this trip and Devin felt that everyone was accepted. Devin also noted that the students assisted with the clean-up after meals and the setting up and taking down of their camp each day.

Ms Everington and Ms Loades noted that the success of the 2001 trip has them making plans for a 2002 canoe experience. The FSL workers will be accessing a grant through Action for Health to help fund this trip, as well as seeking sponsorship in the community.

Chairman Poyser applauded the participants for making it through a trip like their canoe experience, and the leaders for the tremendous amount of planning and work that went into preparing for the canoe trip.

A follow-up activity is planned with the 2001 participants who will also do an evaluation of the program.

Dr. Phillips commended Devin on his eloquence and the FSL workers for their work in planning the trips.

The delegation left the meeting at 2:29 p.m.

**TRUSTEES' PLANNING SESSION**

The Trustees' Planning Session was rescheduled for March 21 and 22, 2002.

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Trustee Fitzmaurice-Johnson left the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 2:37 p.m. and reconvened at 2:49 p.m.

**FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON CANOE TRIP 2002**

#36/02 W. THRONDSOON – That the Board of Trustees contributes \$470 to sponsor one student to attend the 2002 summer canoe trip being planned by the FSL workers.

CARRIED

**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN CAMROSE**

Trustees were informed that the Elk Island Catholic School Board unanimously passed a motion to establish a Catholic high school in Camrose, effective with grade 10's in the 2003-04 school year. A grade will be added per year until all senior high school grades are being offered. There is the possibility that these students may wish to access CTS courses at CCHS.

**REQUEST FOR USE OF VIKING SCHOOL WEIGHT ROOM DURING STRIKE**

#37/02 W. THRONDSOON – That, with respect to two individuals who requested the use of the weight room at the Viking School during the teachers' strike, the Board adheres to the Contingency Plan directive regarding user groups in the schools during the strike, and deny the request.

CARRIED

**USERS GROUPS IN SCHOOLS DURING THE TEACHERS' STRIKE**

#38/02 B. SEARS – That, notwithstanding agreements held between schools and user groups, the schools in Battle River Regional Division #31 remain closed to all user groups for the duration of the teachers' strike.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF CAMROSE – TENNIS COURT IMPROVEMENTS**

#39/02 W. THRONDSOON – That, as per the agreement between Camrose School District #1315 and the City of Camrose dated July 17, 1978, Battle River Regional Division #31 enter into a cost sharing agreement in an amount between \$16,216.05 – 17,512.05 with the City of Camrose for improvements on the tennis courts at Camrose Composite High School.

CARRIED

**SCHOOL COUNCILS/BOARD OF TRUSTEES LIAISON MEETING**

The School Councils/ Board of Trustees Liaison meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Poyser reviewed the information items as noted on the agenda.

**IN-CAMERA SESSION (4:00 p.m.)**

#40/02 W. THRONDSOON – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 4:27 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 4:27 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Facilities Committee

On February 1, 2002, the Facilities Committee met with the architect, and the principal and vice-principal of the Charlie Killam School, with respect to the modernization project at the Charlie Killam School. The architect will draft plans and another meeting will be scheduled.

ASBA Reports

The next meeting of the ASBA Zone 4 is scheduled for March 26, 2002 in Red Deer at the public school board office.

The Minister of Infrastructure, Ty Lund, attended the ASBA Zone 4 meeting held on January 28, 2002. It was noted that Alberta Infrastructure will attempt to have a representative at future ASBA Zone 4 meetings. A representative from the Student Finance Board also attended the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Small Schools Committee

The Small Schools Committee met on January 23, 2002, reviewed the terms of reference for the Committee and talked about the goals of the

Committee. Committee members also shared successes achieved in their small schools. Break out groups discussed challenges faced by small schools, regrouped and discussed how to address the identified challenges. Several committee members have volunteered to categorize the challenges and seek ways to address the challenges. Chairman of the Committee, Trustee Herder posed the question of how Committee members (who are parent School Council representatives) can obtain feedback to produce the required results without creating an extra workload for school staffs and administrators.

Dr. Philips suggested that perhaps a Division-wide meeting could be scheduled where specific topics are discussed, e.g. relationship between school and community and what can be done to enhance that relationship. Mr. Patrick McFeely, a Master's student, is interested in researching timetabling. Sparsity and Distance could be another topic for research.

Rural Education Conference in Saskatoon

A brochure with respect to the seventh national congress on rural education was distributed to Trustees. The conference will be held in Saskatoon, SK from March 10-12, 2002.

Small Schools Conference – Red Deer, May 3 and 4, 2002

#41/02

B. HERDER – That the Board permits Trustees to attend the Small Schools Conference in Red Deer on May 3 and 4, 2002, if they so wish.

CARRIED

Advocacy Council

The Advocacy Council meeting will be rescheduled from March 11, 2002 to May 13, 2002.

**MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 4:54 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. on February 28, 2002, or at the call of the chair.

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