

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON MAY 13TH, 2010, COMMENCING AT 9:36 A.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
PETER MILLER
KEN OFFORD
KENDALL SEVERSON
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

VICTOR PETRUK

ALSO PRESENT

DR LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent
BILL SCHULTE, Assistant Superintendent - Business
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Coordinator
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Recording Secretary

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:36 a.m.)

#53\10 P MILLER - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees be excluded.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#54\10 H SYED – That the agenda including the additional item agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#55\10 K SEVERSON – That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 8th, 2010 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, joined the meeting at 10:02 am.

STAFF INCREASES

Contract Caretakers

#56\10 H SYED - That, effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides a 2.92% increase to the contracts of contract caretakers.

CARRIED

Caretakers – Jack Stuart, Charlie Killam, Sparling, and Chester Ronning Schools

#57\10 K OFFORD - That effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides an increase of 2.92% to the contracts of the caretakers at the Jack Stuart, Charlie Killam, Sparling and Chester Ronning Schools.

CARRIED

Division Staff

#58\10 P MILLER -That effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides a 2.92% increase to the grids of: Division Office staff, Information Technology staff, Maintenance and Operations staff, Mechanics, School Secretaries, Educational Assistants, and Librarians, plus an annual health spending account of \$450.00 per person.

CARRIED

#59\10 P ZENIUK - That effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides a 2.92% increase and a health spending account of \$450.00 per person to the following employees in addition to the following market adjustments; employee number 2285–18 receive a market adjustment of \$10,000; employee number 2285-19 receive a market adjustment of \$5,000; employee number 2285-20 receive a market adjustment of \$5,000; employee number 2285-21 receive a market adjustment of \$5,000 and employee number 2285-22 receive a market adjustment of \$12,000.

CARRIED

Non Contract Bus Drivers

#60\10 K SEVERSON – That effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides a 2.92% increase to non-union bus drivers.

CARRIED

Contract Bus Drivers

#61\10 K SEVERSON – That effective September 1, 2010, the Board provides a 2.92% increase to the contracts of contracted bus drivers.

CARRIED

FISCAL MONITORING REPORT

Ms Walsh provided updated Interim Financial Statements and Budget Reports as at March 31st, 2010 and reviewed them with the Trustees.

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 10:28 am.

INELIGIBLE FEES

#62\10 K OFFORD - That the Board set the fee for ineligible transportation services at \$275.00 for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

CARRIED

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY IN BRUCE

#63\10 R HEIBERG - That the Board authorize administrative personnel to apply to the Minister of Education for approval to dispose of the property in Bruce on which the current Bruce Bus Barn is located, and to proceed with the transfer of this land to the County of Beaver for a nominal fee.

CARRIED

TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS

#64\10 H SYED - That, in accordance with Clause 32 of the School Bus Contractor's Agreement with W & J Holdings, the Board serve notice of its intention to terminate the contract for the provision of school bus service.

CARRIED

#65\10 P MILLER - That, in accordance with Clause 32 off the School Bus Contractor's Agreement with Lori Martz, the Board serve notice of its intention to terminate the contract for the provision of school bus service.

CARRIED

Percy Roberts, Director of Maintenance and Operations, joined the meeting at 11:10 am.

Trustee Miller thanked Brenda Johnson on behalf of the Flagstaff Family and Community Support Services for the cooperation provided by her and the Transportation Department during the *So You Think You Can Drive* event.

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 11:14 am.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:14 a.m. and reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Ms Walsh and Mr Roberts reviewed the financial details of the operations and maintenance portion of the Budget.

Mr Roberts left the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Ms Walsh left the meeting at 11:50 am.

Maureen Parker, Director of Curriculum, joined the meeting at 11:51 am.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Parker and invited her presentation. Ms Parker provided an overview of the Public Speaking Competition held on April 17th, 2010 at the Edgeworth Centre in Camrose.

Twelve students in total participated; six Junior High students from Bashaw, Bawlf, Charlie Killam, Hay Lakes, New Norway and Tofield, and six Senior High students from Bawlf, Camrose Composite, Daysland, Hay Lakes, New Norway, and Tofield.

The first and second place winners of both Junior High and Senior High levels of this competition advance to the Zone level public speaking in Olds on May 8th, 2010.

Chair Smith and Dr Payne thanked Maureen Parker, Diane Hutchinson and the Trustees who volunteered in the Camrose Speak – Off 2010 for the great job in organizing this competition and the significant amount of time contributed to this worthwhile event.

LEARNING INSTITUTE UPDATE

Ms Parker provided an update on the Learning Institute which will be held on August 26th and 27th, 2010. The Institute will follow a different format this year.

All teaching staff will receive training at or close to their home school location on the new student information system on either day one or day two of the institute. The schools will be responsible for developing a full day of professional development for their teaching staff on the alternate day.

Support staff will receive two full days of learning and sessions similar to day two in previous years. Librarians will have one day of library capacity building and alternately one day on the library information system – Insignia.

PUFF, PAL, and Learning Together staff will have an accreditation session for their day care program together with sessions focusing on developmental stages, literacy for ages zero to six, and sessions on supporting different types of behaviours and special needs.

Transportation and Maintenance will have their first day of professional development on Friday, August 27th, 2010 and day two, together with Information Technology staff, on Tuesday, October 12th, 2010.

Chair Smith and Dr Payne thanked Ms Parker for her contributions to the new format of the Learning Institute and the tremendous amount of work to accommodate everyone in this initiative.

Ms Parker left the meeting at 12:03 pm

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:04 pm and reconvened at 1:19 pm

Ken Riise, Principal, Forestburg School, joined the meeting at 1:19 pm

FORESTBURG SCHOOL – CTS PROPOSAL

Chair Smith welcomed Mr Riise and invited his presentation. Mr Riise presented a request for financial assistance to construct a building for the CTS program. This program has been offered at the Forestburg School for six years and continues to grow in popularity particularly with high school students. Currently, these classes are being held outside and the weather can impact instruction time. The construction of a new separate building would provide the space required to make this course available to junior high students. Some of the modules covered through the CTS program would work towards the completion of this proposed building, such as dry walling. The Parent Council would also contribute to the purchase of this building through fundraising.

Mr Riise thanked the Board for inviting his presentation.

Chair Smith commended Mr Riise and the parent council at Forestburg School for having the determination to initiate this project. She also advised that this matter would be referred to the Capital Planning Committee for further investigation.

Ken Riise left the meeting at 1:37 pm

Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, joined the meeting at 1:40 pm

BUDGET APPROVAL

#66\10 R HEIBERG - That the Board approves the 2010 – 2011 budget as presented to the Board of Trustees on March 25th and May 13th, 2010.

CARRIED

Ms Walsh left the meeting at 2:41 pm

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:42 pm and reconvened at 2:57 pm

LEARNING TOGETHER GRADUATION

Chair Smith and Trustee Heiberg together with Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, and Ray Bosh, Deputy Superintendent, will attend the Learning Together Graduation.

ASBA SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Chair Smith reminded the Trustees of the upcoming ASBA Spring General Meeting on June 7th and 8th, 2010 at the Capri Centre in Red Deer, Alberta.

Dr Payne advised that historically three Superintendents would attend this meeting however this year two will be attending.

ASBA ZONE 4 MEETING WITH MLAS

Chair Smith and Trustee Severson will be attending the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting with MLAs on May 14th, 2010 in the offices of Wolf Creek Public Schools in Ponoka.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION

Trustees have been invited to attend the retirement banquet for David King, Executive Director, on June 5th, 2010 at the Capri Centre in Red Deer, Alberta.

PSBAA is compiling a central repository on information on local election guides and information in preparation for the upcoming fall 2010 elections.

Chair Smith brought to the attention of the Trustees the PSBAA Proposed new Preamble to the rewrite of the School Act.

SETTING THE DIRECTION

Trustees reviewed the Spring Update of Phase Four of Setting the Direction. The proposed framework is currently going through the policy approval processes of government.

ASBA PROTOCOL TO ADDRESS BOARDS OPERATING SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF THEIR GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

Chair Smith provided the Trustees with a copy of the responses to survey questions submitted to ASBA on behalf of the Trustees. The responses will provide input for compilation towards a communications protocol and guiding principles document for Boards operating schools outside of their geographic boundaries.

ASBA DRUG COMMITTEE REQUEST

Chair Smith and Vice Chair Zeniuk will draft a response on behalf of the Trustees to the ASBA Subcommittee on Drug and Alcohol Awareness. The Subcommittee is preparing a list of best practices on drug and alcohol awareness.

CAPITAL PLAN COMMITTEE

Alberta Education Modular Classroom Program

#67\10 K SEVERSON - That the Capital Plan Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees the adoption of the following priorities for the Alberta Education Modular Classroom Program:

1. Tofield School
2. Sifton School
3. New Norway School

CARRIED

Commodity Purchasing Consortium

#68\10 K SEVERSON - That the Capital Plan Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees that administration be directed to sign an agreement with the Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76 to participate in the Commodity Purchasing Consortium for electrical power.

CARRIED

Playground Funding Allocations

#69\10 K SEVERSON - That the Capital Plan Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees that the Board allocate \$7,500 each to the Holden and Lougheed Playground Projects.

CARRIED

2010 Capital Plan Submission

#70\10 K SEVERSON - That the Capital Plan Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees the adoption of the following priorities for the 2010 Capital Plan:

1. Bawlf School Capital Project
2. Bashaw School Modernization
3. Hay Lakes School Modernization
4. Sparling School Modernization
5. Modular CTS Unit (New Construction).

CARRIED

The next Capital Plan Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19th, 2010 at Forestburg School.

READING UNIVERSITY

#71\10 H SYED - That the Board of Trustees approves a commitment for up to \$10,000, if required, in support of the July 2010 Reading University program in Camrose and Tofield, funds to be taken from the Special Education Reserves.

CARRIED

ELECTIONS 2010

#72\10 H SYED – That, whereas the Local Authorities Election Act permits the operation of only one voting station per subdivision, the Battle River Regional Division No. 31 hereby applies to Alberta Education for an Order authorizing the Board of the Battle River Regional Division No. 31 to pass a bylaw permitting the Returning Officer to designate more than one voting station in a subdivision.

CARRIED

#73\10 P MILLER – That the Board appoints Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent – Business, as Returning Officer, and Imogene Walsh, Treasurer, as Deputy Returning Officer, for the 2010 School Board Elections.

CARRIED

#74\10 P ZENIUK – That the Board grant authority to Bill Schulte, Returning Officer to enter into agreements if necessary with the City of Camrose, Beaver County, Camrose County, Flagstaff County and any other Town or Village within the borders of Battle River School Division for the purpose of conducting School Trustee elections on behalf of the Board.

CARRIED

#75\10 K OFFORD – That the Board conduct advance polls and \ or institutional votes if necessary on the same dates and times, and at the same locations as the City of Camrose, Beaver County, Camrose County, Flagstaff County and at any other Town or Village within the borders of the Battle River School Division that the Board has contracted with to conduct School Trustee elections.

CARRIED

#76\10 R HEIBERG - That the Board approves of the City of Camrose, Beaver County, Camrose County, Flagstaff County and any other Town or Village within the borders of the Battle River School Division to provide for the attendance of two deputies at the residence of an elector, during the hours an advance voting station is open or other times as determined by the city, county, town or village that the Board has contracted with, to conduct School Trustee elections.

CARRIED

BYLAW NO. 01\2010

BEING A BYLAW TO PROVIDE THAT A VOTING STATION IS TO BE OPEN BEFORE 10:00 A.M.

Pursuant to the provisions on the *Local Authorities Election Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000*, and the amendments as of May 24th, 2006, thereto the Board of Trustees of the Battle River Regional Division #31, in the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. That to remain consistent with the other jurisdictions that the Board may contract with to hold the 2010 School Trustee elections, the Board of Trustees of the Battle River Regional Division No 31 hereby give authority for voting stations to open prior to 10:00 a.m. on election day, October 18th, 2010,
2. Opening polling stations prior to 10:00 a.m. on election day is provided for under the provisions on the Local Authorities Election Act (Sec. 46 (2)),
3. This bylaw shall come into force and effect upon the date of the passing of the third and final reading.

#77\10 P MILLER – Read a First Time This 13th day of May, 2010.

CARRIED

#78\10 R HEIBERG - Read a Second Time This 13th day of May, 2010.

CARRIED

#79\10 K OFFORD - Read a Third Time This 13th day of May, 2010.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#80\10 H SYED – That the Board of Trustees approve the third reading of Bylaw 01 2010.

CARRIED

Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction joined the meeting at 3:30 pm.

ADMINISTRATORS MEETINGS

Chair Smith, together with Dr Larry Payne and Rick Jarrett, provided an update on the Administrators Meetings held on April 13th and May 11th, 2010.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (3:50 p.m.)

#81\10 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, Assistant Superintendent - Instruction Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent - Business Schulte, Communications Coordinator Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

Mr Jarrett left the meeting at 4:02 pm.

Corinne Thompson, Chair of Viking Parent Council, and Lesli Solomon, Chair of CW Sears Parent Council, joined the meeting at 4:04 pm.

ALBERTA HOME AND SCHOOL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Thompson and Ms Solomon and invited their presentation. Ms Thompson and Ms Solomon attended the Alberta Home and School Conference, *Connections 2010*, held on April 23rd to 25th, 2010 at the Mayfield Inn.

Ms Thompson provided a synopsis of the weekend events and sessions she attended including:

- College of Alberta School Superintendent's presentation to Council Members and Trustees exploring encouragement of positive parental participation in support of student learning;
- Deputy Minister Keray Henke's accolades about the Student Speak Out initiative and redefining the Alberta Fine Arts Program;
- 'Be a Trustee' session from which participants came away with a strong respect and greater understanding of the role of a Trustee;

- District Success and Parent Engagement Session by CASS which talked about the connection between parent engagement and student achievement, with the following benefits:
 - the school has a better understanding of parent needs,
 - opens two way communication,
 - leads to meaningful parent bond and communication contributions in and outside of the school, and
 - parents can be involved in decisions that impact the students learning.
- Lastly, Association Board Elections and Resolutions.

Ms Soloman advised that the focus of the conference was on relationship building and that became a working model for the weekend along with frank and open discussion. Applying the information she gleaned from the Conference to her role as Parent Council Chair, Ms Solomon recommends:

- we need to build on relationships because parent involvement is so important creating a two way street, building a respectful approach to teachers with parents and teachers working together, supporting each other,
- we need to take steps to eliminate the apathy of distrust (between school staff and parents),
- we need to take a step further than being school volunteers.

Ms Thompson's and Ms Solomon's proposed steps for next school year:

- reach out to new teachers and new parents to begin building relationships,
- involve parents and let parents know they can be involved at the schools at any level,
- share an agenda with teachers that will put learning ahead of everything else,
- expand the relationship building out to the community to start building respectful partnerships with our community, with business leaders, and town council,
- make meetings more social with a little less content to build relationships to effect change,
- build a network with the other parent council chairs within Battle River School Division.

Ms Thompson and Ms Solomon sincerely thanked the Board for its sponsorship of their attendance at the conference.

Chair Smith thanked Ms Thompson and Ms Solomon for their initiative in presenting to the Board, and for being such strong advocates for kids and schools within Battle River School Division.

Dr Payne applauded the speakers for their passion, enthusiasm, and support for public education, their communities, the staff and their children.

Ms Thompson and Ms Solomon left the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction joined the meeting at 4:31 pm

ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR

Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, reviewed the results of the Accountability Pillar as at March 31st, 2010. Alberta Learning has congratulated Battle River School Division for outstanding results in five areas that have improved or improved significantly: Safe and Caring Schools, Education Quality, PAT Acceptable results, Citizenship, and Parental Involvement.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, and Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, provided an update on the Leadership Retreat on April 26th to 28th, 2010 in Pigeon Lake.

GROWING TO GREATNESS MEETINGS

Chair Smith and Trustees Severson, Miller and Heiberg reported on their attendance at the Growing To Greatness meetings held at Ryley, École Sifton, and Killam Schools on April 12th, April 14th, and April 19th, 2010.

Rick Jarrett left the meeting at 4:47 p.m.

CITY OF CAMROSE MEETING

Chair Smith and Trustee Severson, along with Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, and Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent, Business, met with members of the City of Camrose on April 16th, 2010 to discuss the Camrose Community Joint Use Agreement.

COLONIES MEETING

Bill Schulte provided an update on the recent Hutterite Colonies Meeting held on April 14th, 2010 at the Norseman Inn. Six existing Colonies along with four new Colonies were invited to review school curriculum, discuss achievement test results, alternative courses, staffing, start up dates for new Colonies, contracts, and grant rates for 2009 \ 2010.

Dr Payne commended Mr Schulte for the work he has done to coordinate and facilitate this meeting.

ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Trustees reflected on their meeting with Elk Island Catholic School Board on April 22nd, 2010 at O'Shea's in Camrose.

BOARD COMMITTEE DAY DEBRIEF

The Trustees discussed their participation at a Committee of the Whole meeting on April 22nd, 2010 in preparation for the Three Year Plan Review Process.

Trustees will meet with schools individually on May 25th and 26th, 2010 to review their Three Year Plans.

ASBA ZONE 4 MEETING

Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustee Offord discussed their attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting on April 26th, 2010 at the Red Deer Catholic Regional Division Office.

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Zeniuk and Trustees Offord and Miller will attend the ASBA Zone 4 Meeting in Red Deer on May 31st, 2010 and the Edwin Parr Awards Banquet on the same evening at the Black Knight Inn in Red Deer, Alberta.

CONTINUATION OF MEETING BEYOND 5:00 PM

#82\10 K OFFORD – That the regular meeting continue beyond 5:00 pm.

CARRIED

INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Miller reported on his attendance at the Skills Canada Conference on May 12th and 13th, 2010 at the Edmonton Expo Centre.

Trustee Heiberg reported on her attendance at School Council Connections 2010 on April 23rd to 25th, 2010 at the Mayfield Inn and the Skills Canada Conference on May 12th and 13th, 2010 at the Edmonton Expo Centre.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (5:10 p.m.)

#83\10 P MILLER - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera and that all persons except Trustees be excluded.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 5:14 pm.

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