

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9:34 A.M.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

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

C. SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#21\09 K. Offord – That the additional items noted on the distributed continuation agenda be approved.

CARRIED

Pamela Boyson, Regional Health Promotion Coordinator of East Central Health and Shannon Horricks, Project Coordinator of Battle River Project – Building Healthy School Communities joined the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

BATTLE RIVER PROJECT – BUILDING HEALTHY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Chair Smith introduced Ms. Boyson and Ms. Horricks and welcomed their presentation. The Battle River Project – Building Healthy School communities is a three year project funded by government grants, Ever Active Schools and in-kind support from East Central Health and the Battle River Regional School Division to build and foster a healthy school environment. Ms Boyson and Ms. Horricks provided an update on the project and the positive advancement within schools in the Battle River School Division along with statistical results of two surveys administered through the project – the Shapes Survey and the Real Kids Survey which were administered to focused groups of students during the 2007 – 2008 school year.

Chair Smith advised the Board that Pamela Boyson, Regional Health Promotion Coordinator of East Central Health and Shannon Horricks, Project Coordinator of Battle River Project – Building Healthy School Communities will be attending the Administrators' Meeting in March 2009. The Board agreed that the Policy Development \ Review Committee prepare a policy to guide the Division with the implementation of building and fostering healthy school environments.

Ms. Boyson and Ms. Horricks left the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Kathryn Graff, Director of Intervention Services, joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

SETTING THE DIRECTION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION – PHASE 2

Chair Smith welcomed Ms. Graff to the meeting. Trustees Miller and Heiberg along with Mr. Ray Bosh, Deputy Superintendent of Schools and Ms. Graff attended the ASBA Meeting on Setting the Direction for Special Education in Alberta on February 5, 2009. Ms. Graff reviewed the findings of Phase 1 Community Consultation What We Heard Summary Report posted on the website. Consistent feedback to the document was received from approximately 3,500 Albertans requesting a systemic change for all students to be provided with the supports, programs and services they need to be successful. Phase 2 is currently underway and focusing on an opportunity to re-design a system that will nurture the vision and principles defined in Phase 1 while supporting an increasingly diverse student population. Ray Bosh, Deputy Superintendent of Schools will be attending the Phase 2 Consultation Meeting on Setting the Direction For Special Needs Education in Edmonton on March 20, 2009.

Chair Smith and Dr. Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, thanked Ms. Graff for her presentation and also the extra time and effort she has put forth in this initiative.

Ms Graff left the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:51 a.m. and reconvened at 11:02 a.m.

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

ASBA TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Johnson to the meeting. The Trustees reviewed the potential solutions listed in the ASBA Transportation Task Force document and identified areas of concern that applied to Battle River Regional School Division. Chair Smith and Vice Chair Zeniuk will be providing a written summarized response to the Task Force for review in April 2009.

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

ASBA 2009 FALL GENERAL MEETING – CALL FOR ISSUES

The Board of Trustees agree that transportation, particularly of preschool children, is an issue that needs to be addressed. Chair Smith will issue an invitation to David Anderson and Heather Welwood to attend a Board of Trustees Meeting of the Battle River Regional School Division to discuss this specific concern.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:01 p.m. and reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (1:23 p.m.)

#22\09 K Severson - 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 (Business) Schulte, Communications Officer Hutchinson, Treasurer Walsh and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

BOARD \ ADMINISTRATORS' RETREAT DEBRIEF

The Board of Trustees provided their perceptions of the Board \ Administrators' Retreat held at the Red Deer Lodge on February 19 and 20, 2009.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:27 p.m. and reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

BOARD RETREATS

The Board Retreat will be held at the Village Creek Inn in Pigeon Lake on October 29 and 30, 2009.

The Board \ Administrators' Retreat will be held on February 18 and 19, 2010 at the Executive Royal Inn in Nisku pending confirmation of availability.

LIAISON COMMITTEE FOLLOW - UP

Bill Schulte, Assistant Superintendent (Business) provided follow-up information on items discussed with non union support staff, caretakers and bus drivers in May \ June of 2008.

ALLIANCE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATION

#23\09 V Petruk - That the Board of Trustees request approval from the Minister of Infrastructure to dispose of the Alliance School building and land to the Village of Alliance, and to request that the Minister of Infrastructure redirect the funds that were set aside for the Alliance School partial demolition to the Village of Alliance for restoration purposes.

CARRIED

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Policy Committee will be bringing forward its report and recommendation to the March 12, 2009 Board Meeting.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Smith provided an update from the Consultative Process Committee and advised the Board of the Municipal meetings that Trustees and administrative staff will be attending in Forestburg, Ryley and Camrose.

NORQUEST COLLEGE "LUNCH & LEARN" REPORT

The Board of Trustees reviewed a written report on the NorQuest College "Lunch and Learn" presentation submitted by Dr. Warren Phillips. Dr. Phillips thanked the Board for providing him with the opportunity to attend.

ASBA AND ALBERTA COALITION FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES SYMPOSIUM

Trustee Miller will be attending the ASBA and Alberta Coalition For Healthy School Communities Symposium on March 23 and 24, 2009 at the Nisku Inn.

Any other Trustee wishing to attend this was requested to contact Shirley Fairall, Executive Secretary, Operations by March 5, 2009 to be registered.

ASBA MEETING ON ACTION PLAN FOR FIRST NATION, MÉTIS AND INUIT EDUCATION

Trustee Miller will be attending the ASBA meeting on an action plan for First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education. The attendees of this meeting will be advised of the date and time once it is scheduled.

ALBERTA EDUCATION CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION REGIONAL SESSIONS FOR ASBA AND CASS MEMBERS

Vice Chair Zeniuk and Rick Jarrett, Assistant Superintendent (Planning\System Improvement) will be attending the Alberta Education Consultation and Information Regional Sessions for ASBA Zone 4 and CASS Members on March 24, 2009 at the Red Deer Lodge and Conference Centre.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR

WILLIAM SCHULTE, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (BUSINESS)

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