

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON MAY 24, 2007, COMMENCING AT  
9:33 A.M.**

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**PRESENT**

BRENDA HERDER  
GERRY OBERG  
VICTOR PETRUK  
CHERYL SMITH  
HAMEED SYED  
PATRICIA ZENIUK

**ABSENT**

REBECCA HEIBERG  
KEN OFFORD

**ALSO PRESENT**

WARREN PHILLIPS, Superintendent of Schools  
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent  
LARRY PAYNE, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent-Elect  
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer  
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Officer  
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

**B. HERDER IN THE CHAIR**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Herder called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- #85/07 H. SYED – That the following items be added to the agenda:
- 2:15 p.m. – Presentation of Excellence in Teaching Award to Dennis Dunlop
  - 6.17 Non-Instructional Day at Charlie Killam School
  - 6.18 Approval of 2007-08 Budget

CARRIED

**IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:35 a.m.)**

- #86/07 P. ZENIUK – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent Payne, Assistant Superintendent Gillies, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 9:57 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 9:57 a.m.

Don Gillies, Assistant Superintendent, left the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

**AMENDMENT TO POLICY 7 ‘BOARD OPERATIONS’**

- #87/07 H. SYED – That the Board approves the following amendment to policy 7 ‘Board Operations’:

Add 11.5, which reads “Trustee Monthly Expenditure forms are to be submitted monthly, no later than two months after the end of the month being claimed. These claims will not be paid if they are submitted after that period.”

CARRIED

**LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CAREER TECHNOLOGY STUDIES NEWS RELEASE**

Dr. Phillips reviewed a letter received from the Minister of Education, dated May 2, 2007, in which the Minister notes that he would like to find better ways to do things and has asked the Executive Team of Alberta Education to continue the work of that department process review, as well as to look for efficiencies as it relates to administrative interaction between the department and jurisdictions.

The section of the letter which Dr. Phillips read states: “I am also asking the leadership in our school jurisdictions to find similar efficiencies in administrative, duplicate or overlapping services. This is not about reducing classroom supports for our students. It is about imaginative solutions that could lead to cross-school jurisdictional cooperation and eliminating duplication of administrative services and supports.”

Having noted the above, Dr. Phillips then pointed out to Trustees that a news release from Alberta Education on the same day as the letter was written states that the province is providing \$4.5 million to help Alberta schools enhance and improve existing facilities and equipment used for Career and Technology Studies (CTS). However, this funding “will be allocated through conditional grants managed by Skills Canada Alberta, a not-for-profit provincial association, which showcases the promising futures to be found in trade and technology careers”.

Dr. Phillips noted that to access the \$4.5 million Boards have to apply to a third party for a government-mandated program that will require extra administrative time with no guarantee that funds will be supplied.

#88/07 V. PETRUK – That the Board directs the Superintendent of Schools to write a letter to the Minister of Education expressing its concerns over the funding arrangement for the CTS improvement grants.

CARRIED

### **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

Mr. Schulte, Secretary-Treasurer, provided Trustees with some items for consideration with respect to international travel by Battle River School Division #31 students.

The Board accepted this as information with the understanding that changes are forthcoming to administrative procedure 261 'Travel Study'.

### **ASBA REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

#### Issues, Budget and Bylaws Bulletin

Trustees reviewed the 'Issues, Budget and Bylaws Bulletin' in preparation for the spring general meeting of the Alberta School Boards Association scheduled for June 4, 2007 in Edmonton.

### **MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 10:48 a.m. and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

#### Funding Framework Review

Dr. Phillips noted that he and Imogene Walsh, Finance Manager, served on the Funding Framework Review Committees set up by Alberta Education. He further noted that the Minister has recently announced that these committees are to be disbanded and that a task force would be created to review the funding framework. Dr. Phillips indicated that these committees had done a great deal of work to date and that a lot of information from these meetings has gone forward to the ministry. The status of the review at this time is that of being "in limbo".

#### Governance Review

Letters continue to be received from school boards throughout the province with respect to what is preferred, or not, with respect to the ASBA Governance Review. Chairman Herder noted that another meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2007 with representatives from each Board in the province to review the feedback submitted by the school boards throughout the province.

**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2007**

#89/07 G. OBERG – That the Board of Trustees appoints the Secretary-Treasurer to act as Returning Office for the Board during the 2007 school trustee elections.

CARRIED

#90/07 G. OBERG – That, if necessary, the Board authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer to enter into agreements with various local jurisdictions within the boundaries of Battle River School Division #31 for the purpose of conducting school trustees elections.

CARRIED

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY AT CHARLIE KILLAM SCHOOL**

#91/07 C. SMITH – That the Board approves June 28, 2007 to be a non-instructional day at Charlie Killam School in order to accommodate the move for renovations which will occur over the summer.

CARRIED

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Imogene Walsh, Finance Manager, joined the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

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**APPROVAL OF 2007-08 BUDGET**

#92/07 P. ZENIUK – That the Board approves the 2007-08 budget as presented to the Board on May 10 and 22, 2007 and reviewed on May 24, 2007.

CARRIED

**MARCH 2007 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Ms Walsh reviewed the March 2007 financial statements.

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Ms Walsh left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Trustee Oberg left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The regular meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 1:08 p.m.

### **UPDATE ON CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS**

Diane Hutchinson, Communications Officer, provided a review of the compiled results of the consultative meetings from the parents, teachers, and students meetings held earlier this year.

This information will be made available to participants at the meetings and will be posted on the Battle River School Division #31 web site.

### **RYLEY SCHOOL REVIEW ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

At 1:32 p.m. Chairman Herder welcomed James Maher, Principal of Ryley School, and Don Hoffman, Vice-Principal of Ryley School, to the meeting and invited their report with respect to the success of implementation of the recommendations from the school review held last year at the Ryley School.

Mr. Maher distributed copies of his written report with respect to the recommendations and Mr. Hoffman provided plans for further implementation of these recommendations in the 2007-08 school year. A copy of the written report is attached to, and forms a part of, these minutes.

Chairman Herder thanked Mr. Maher and Mr. Hoffman for their presentation, and noted that she is impressed with what has been done at the school this year in implementing the recommendations from the review and commended them for the goals they have set for next school year.

Mr. Maher and Mr. Hoffman left the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

### **PACE OUTREACH SCHOOL REVIEW ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

At 2:02 p.m. Chairman Herder welcomed Kevin Martin, Principal at the PACE Outreach School, to the meeting and invited his report with respect to the success of implementing the recommendations from the school review held during the 2005-06 school year.

Mr. Martin distributed copies of his written report with respect to the recommendations. A copy of the written report is attached to, and forms a part of, these minutes.

Ms Herder commended Mr. Martin and his staff for their responses to the recommendations, and thanked him and his staff for their commitment to the students at the PACE Outreach School.

Mr. Martin left the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

### **EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD**

At 2:34 p.m. Chairman Herder welcomed Dennis Dunlop, Principal at the Bashaw School, to the meeting in recognition of his selection in the Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Ms Herder congratulated Mr. Dunlop on his selection and noted that the Board is proud of the work he is doing with the students and staff at Bashaw School.

Dr. Phillips extended his congratulations and noted that this is a fitting tribute. Dr. Phillips read part of the letter that he wrote in support of Mr. Dunlop's nomination.

Ms Herder and Mr. Bosh presented Mr. Dunlop with a plaque for the school, a letter to Mr. Dunlop, a certificate and a cheque, all from Alberta Education.

Mr. Dunlop re-iterated that the success he has achieved is due to teamwork at the school.

Mr. Dunlop left the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chairman Herder adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

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BRENDA HERDER, CHAIRMAN

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WILLIAM SCHULTE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

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