

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON MAY 12, 2005, COMMENCING AT 9:32 A.M.

PRESENT

REBECCA HEIBERG
BRENDA HERDER
GERRY OBERG
KEN OFFORD (joined the meeting at 9:45 a.m.)
VICTOR PETRUK
CHERYL SMITH
HAMEED SYED
PATRICIA ZENIUK (left the meeting at 4:59 p.m.)

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

WARREN PHILLIPS, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Deputy Superintendent (left the meeting at 12:34 p.m.)
BILL SCHULTE, Secretary-Treasurer
TIM CHAMBERLIN, Communications Officer
SYLVIA LAUBER, Recording Secretary

B. HERDER IN THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#84/05 G. OBERG – That the agenda be approved with the addition of the items noted on the distributed add-on sheet.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#85/05 H. SYED – That the minutes of the April 13 and 26, 2005 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees be approved as corrected.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORKER

#86/05 P. ZENIUK – That the request by the Tofield School for funding for the Community Outreach Worker be referred to the budget discussion.

CARRIED

HOLDEN SCHOOL COUNCIL REQUEST

#87/05 V. PETRUK – That the request by the Holden School Council for funding in the amount of \$2,000 for food for the Healthy Muffin Morning and Healthy Snack Programs at Holden School be referred to the budget discussion.

CARRIED

Finance Manager, Imogene Walsh, joined the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

Assistant Superintendents, Don Gillies and Larry Payne, joined the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

INSTRUCTIONAL BUDGET

Chairman Herder informed Trustees of a meeting with the President of the ATA Local with respect to staffing concerns for the 2005-06 school year. In response to a suggestion by the ATA Local President, the Board requested that administration prepare information regarding an early retirement incentive.

Ms Walsh presented the draft instructional budget to the Board.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 11:01 a.m.

DRAFT INSTRUCTIONAL BUDGET (continued)

Ms Walsh continued with her presentation of the draft instructional budget. Trustees provided guidelines for consideration of various items contained within the budget and a number of additional items.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:34 p.m. and reconvened at 1:28 p.m.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT – EDBERG SCHOOL REVIEW

At 1:28 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Linda White, Principal at the Edberg School, to the meeting and invited her presentation.

Ms White outlined the recommendations for the Edberg School as noted in the School review during the 2003-04 school year and noted the response to these recommendations by school staff during the school year. Her report is attached to, and forms a part of, these minutes.

Ms White left the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (1:56 p.m.)

#88/05 H. SYED – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

Assistant Superintendent, Don Gillies, joined the meeting at 2:03 p.m. and left at 2:35 p.m.

The in-camera session recessed at 2:48 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 2:48 p.m.

STUDENT ENTRANCE AGE APPEAL

At 2:48 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Kim Williams and her daughter to the meeting and invited her presentation. Ms Williams requested that the Board, contrary to its policy, consider permitting her daughter, whose fifth birth date is on January 19, 2006, to attend ECS in Battle River School Division #31 starting on September 2005. Ms Williams also requested permission, if the above-noted request is denied, for her daughter to be permitted to attend grade one in Battle River School Division #31, effective September 2006 if her daughter has completed ECS in another jurisdiction.

Ms Williams and her daughter left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT – BAWLF SCHOOL REVIEW

At 3:01 p.m., Chairman Herder welcomed Mr. Doug Bowie, Principal at the Bawlf School, to the Board meeting and invited his report on the implementation of the recommendations made in the School review during the 2003-04 school year.

Mr. Bowie provided the following information to the Trustees:

- The staff at the Bawlf School have spent a great deal of time on differentiated instruction and special education with an assessment focus.
- Bawlf School now has an ICT implementation program.
- More science experiments are happening than was previously done, using computer labs.
- The administration is in the process of sharing with staff budgeting information, the budget categories and how decisions are made.
- In terms of utilizing facilities more at feeder schools, distance and scheduling are big issues. Staff have had some discussion with the staff at Rosalind School on this issue, however it is not a big priority at this time.
- The administration at the School now has considerable evidence of teachers sharing best practices, using “teaching gems”, which provides an affirmation of teaching practices to teachers.

Dr. Phillips commended Mr. Bowie and his staff for the work done to implement the recommendations.

Mr. Bowie left the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 3:26 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

LEAVE REQUEST – EMPLOYEE #4710-03

#89/05 H. SYED – That the Board approves a leave of absence with pay for Employee #4710-03 for May 6, 2005.

CARRIED

ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE – SUPPORT STAFF

#90/05 K. OFFORD – That the Board approves the administrative practice entitled ‘Working Conditions Related to Support Staff’.

CARRIED

ENTRANCE AGE APPEAL – KIM WILLIAMS

#91/05 G. OBERG – That the Board adheres to policy and denies the request by Kim Williams to permit her daughter, whose fifth birthday is on January 19, 2006, to start ECS in September 2005.

CARRIED

In response to Ms Williams request about her daughter starting grade one in Battle River School Division #31 in September 2006, the Board reaffirmed its practice of accepting a student into grade one when that student has attended ECS in another jurisdiction the previous year, and whose sixth birthday falls between January 1 and February 28 of the year in which the student starts school.

MEETING WITH THE CITY OF CAMROSE COUNCIL

A meeting between the Board of Trustees and the City of Camrose Council is scheduled for June 13, 2005. Chairman Herder, Vice-Chairman Smith, Trustees Heiberg, Oberg, Zeniuk, Offord, Syed, and Petruk will attend, as well as Superintendent of Schools Phillips and Secretary-Treasurer Schulte.

Trustees requested that an additional item be added to the agenda for the above-noted meeting – use of the Camrose Community Center Track.

Dr. Larry Payne, Assistant Superintendent, joined the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW OF EDUCATIONAL, CAREER, AND PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES IN BATTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION #31

Dr. Payne reviewed draft guidelines for the review of guidance and counseling services in Battle River School Division #31 and Policy HJ.

- #92/05 R. HEIBERG – That the Board accepts the guidelines for the review of guidance and counseling services in Battle River School Division #31 and Policy HG.

CARRIED

Dr. Payne left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST – CAMROSE COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL

- #93/05 H. SYED – That the Board approves the field trip request for students from Camrose Composite High School to attend a basketball camp at Carroll College Camp in Helena, Montana from June 26 – July 1, 2005.

CARRIED

SOCIETY FOR PENSION REFORM LAWSUIT

- #94/05 R. HEIBERG – That the Board requests Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) legal services to act on behalf of Battle River School Division #31, should Battle River School Division #31 be named in the class action suit being advanced by the Alberta Society for Pension Reform Litigation.

CARRIED

Trustees Oberg, Offord and Petruk abstained from voting on motion #94/05.

ASBA SPRING GENERAL MEETING REGISTRATIONS

Trustees were notified that registrations for the Alberta School Boards Association Spring General Meeting are to be done on-line using the ASBA website. A request for caucus agenda items was made.

PILOT FOR CHANGE IN PROGRAM UNIT FUNDING

Trustees received as information a letter from the Director of Special Programs Branch at Alberta Education with respect to a Program Unit Funding pilot project.

SALE OF HEISLER SCHOOL BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- #95/05 V. PETRUK – That, subject to Ministerial approval, the Board proceeds with the sale of the Heisler School Building and grounds.

CARRIED

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM (IMP) APPROVALS

#96/05 G. OBERG – That the Board approves the upgrade to the Bawlf School computer lab in the amount of \$11,500 and the Viking School roof for the washrooms/change rooms in the amount of \$7,300, and further that these funds be taken from the 2004-05 IMP funding allocation.

CARRIED

2005-06 IMP FUNDING ALLOCATION

#97/05 H. SYED – That the Board approves the 2005-06 IMP funding allocations as noted on the attached document, in the amount of \$342,400.

CARRIED

2005-06 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET

#98/05 K. OFFORD – That the Board approves the 2005-06 Operations and Maintenance Capital items as noted on the attached document, in the amount of \$116,646.

CARRIED

PLAYGROUND ACCOUNT ALLOCATIONS

#99/05 K. OFFORD – That the Board approves the following allocations from the Playground account: Hay Lakes School playground project in the amount of \$5,000, and the New Norway School playground project in the amount of \$7,000.

CARRIED

RELOCATION OF PORTABLE CLASSROOM AT THE SIFTON SCHOOL

#100/05 G. OBERG – That the Board approves the relocation of the portable classroom at the Sifton School in the amount of \$40,000, and further that the funds for this be taken from IMP funding and the Capital account.

CARRIED

CAPITAL PLAN

#101/05 G. OBERG – That the Board approves the following Capital Plan priorities: Camrose Composite High School; Charlie Killam School; Bawlf School; Bashaw School; Sparling School; and the demolition of the unused section of the Alliance School.

CARRIED

Business Manager, Catherine Jensen, joined the meeting at 4:41 p.m. and received congratulations from the Board for receiving her School Business Official designation.

ALLIANCE SKATE BOARD PARK

#102/05 V. PETRUK – That the Board approves a portion of Lot 16MSR, Block 15, Plan 832-0665 (in SE 15-40-13-W4th) at the Alliance School be subdivided and transferred to the Village of Alliance for the construction of a skate board park on that portion of land, with the Village assuming the cost of the subdivision and any other legal costs, and further that the Village of Alliance be directed not to start construction on the skate board park until the transfer of title has been completed.

CARRIED

Ms Jensen left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

CAMROSE AND DISTRICT LABOR MARKET SURVEY REPORT

#103/05 H. SYED – That, with respect to the Camrose and District Labor Market Survey Report, the Board accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, which state:

- 1) That the report be distributed to:
 - a. The MLAs involved in the Rural Development Study
 - b. Battle River secondary school administrators
 - c. College representatives from NAIT, Red Deer College, Lakeland College and others as deemed appropriate
 - d. Augustana Faculty of the University of Alberta
 - e. Reeves of the Beaver, Flagstaff and Camrose Counties
 - f. Camrose Chamber of commerce
 - g. City of Camrose
 - h. Officials of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation
- 2) That the Board arranges a meeting with the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation to discuss the opportunities outlined in the report in conjunction with the need for modernization of the Camrose Composite High School;
- 3) That Battle River School Division #31 undertake to conduct the same survey that was used in the Labor Market Study with its senior high school students; and further that
- 4) Battle River School Division #31 participate in the formation of a “trades council” that would look at the opportunities to promote and attract trades training within the Battle River School Division #31 boundaries.

CARRIED

TRANSFER OF SURPLUS FUNDS – ROUND HILL SCHOOL

#104/05 C. SMITH – That the Board allows the transfer of funds from Round Hill School to the Rosalind School, as requested by the Principal of the Round Hill School.

CARRIED

DAYSLAND SCHOOL CTS LAB EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

#105/05 C. SMITH – That, due to the failure of the equipment, the Board authorizes an expenditure of up to \$6,000 to cover the replacement of large equipment for the Daysland CTS (Fabrication) Lab from the Contingency fund.

CARRIED

Trustee Zeniuk left the meeting a 4:59 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustees reviewed the information items contained in a folder that was circulated at the Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Affairs Committee

The members of the Student Affairs Committee upheld three recommendations for expulsion of students at meetings held on May 2 and 3, 2005.

MOTION TO CONTINUE THE MEETING BEYOND 5:00 P.M.

#106/05 K. OFFORD – That the regular meeting continue beyond 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

Negotiating Committee – ATA

The Negotiating Committee will meet with the ATA Local Committee on May 25, 2005. May 30 and 31, 2005 are also scheduled, if needed.

Support Staff Liaison Committee

Dates will be set for meetings with the Division's support staff.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on May 4, 2005 to set the agenda for today's meeting and to review expense accounts. The Board Chairman had a meeting with the Chairman of the ATA Local bargaining committee to ensure that the ATA Local understands the process Battle River School Division #31 had with respect to the ASBA New Teacher Bargaining Model process.

Small Schools Committee

A consultative meeting was held in Daysland on April 21, 2005; and meetings are scheduled on May 24, 2005 with the Tofield and C. W. Sears Schools, and on May 18, 2005 with the City of Camrose elementary schools.

ASBA Zone 4 Report

The April ASBA Zone 4 meeting was held in Camrose. Battle River Online personnel provided an excellent presentation.

Chairman Herder noted that a book entitled "Under a Prairie Sky" was purchased by the President of Zone 4 in appreciation of a presentation done by Ron Woodward, President of Red Deer College at the Zone 4 meeting. The book was presented to Battle River School Division #31 to give to an elementary school. Trustees determined to present this book to the Killam School library in recognition of the Edwin Parr nominee for Battle River School Division #31, who is a teacher at Killam School. Mr. Woodward will receive a thank you noting the above.

A number of Trustees attended the ASBA Special Meeting on April 30, 2005 in Edmonton with respect to the New Teacher Bargaining Model, which was approved by a 59% weighted ballot and is now in the hands of the Minister of Education.

The next Zone 4 meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2005 in Red Deer, and will be followed by the Edwin Parr banquet and awards. Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Vice-Chairman Smith, and Trustees Oberg and Offord will attend.

Drug Response Task Force

Vice-chairman Smith reported on her attendance at a meeting of the Drug Response Task Force held on May 10, 2005.

Administrators' Meeting

Trustee Offord reported on his attendance at the Administrators' Meeting held on May 10, 2005.

Alberta School Employees Benefit Plan (ASEBP)

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte noted that the next meeting of the ASEBP Board of Directors is scheduled for May 19, 2005.

Performing Arts Center

Vice-chairman Smith noted that the consultant for the construction of a new Performing Arts Center is recommending that the new facility be located on the grounds of the Camrose Composite High School. The next meeting of the steering committee for this will be held on May 20, 2005.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 5:33 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. on May 26, 2005.

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