

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON MARCH 13, 2003,
COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT

JUDY FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON
BRENDA HERDER
MICHELE MULDER
GERRY OBERG
GWENDA POYSER
BILL SEARS
WAYNE THRONDSO
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

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

G. POYSER IN THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#54/03 B. HERDER – That the agenda be approved with the distributed add-on sheet, and further that #6 under New Business 'Review of Motion #237/02' be removed from the agenda.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#55/03 B. SEARS – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 13 and 27, 2003 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

GRADE NINE STUDENTS – CITY OF CAMROSE

#56/03 M. MULDER – That the current configuration of grades for the junior high school program in Camrose be retained for the 2003-04 school year, and further that, effective with the 2004-05 school year, the grades 7-9 program for the City of Camrose be housed at the Charlie Killam School.

CARRIED

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUEST – FORESTBURG SCHOOL

#57/03 J. FITZMZAURICE-JOHNSON – That the Board defers making a decision with respect to the request from the Forestburg School Travel Club until the regular meeting in June, 2003.

CARRIED

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Pat Spelliscy, Director of Operations and Maintenance, joined the meeting at 9:12 a.m. to present his report to the Trustees with respect to the work done by the maintenance department. In addition to the routine work of the department, Mr. Spelliscy noted that the final inspection for the Forestburg School modernization project will be on April 2, 2003 and that work is progressing well on the Charlie Killam School portable classrooms project.

City of Camrose Off-Site Levy – Charlie Killam School Project

#58/03 M. MULDER – That a letter, over the signature of the Board Chairman, be written to the Mayor of the City of Camrose expressing the Board's concern about the amount of the off-site levy for the Charlie Killam School project, and further that the Board requests a review of these charges.

CARRIED

Mr. Spelliscy left the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

POLICY GBCA 'NEPOTISM'

#59/03 W. THRONDSOON – That, with the addition of the words "Board, Central Office Staff..." to guideline #1, the Board adopts policy GBCA 'Nepotism'.

CARRIED

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Brenda Johnson, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 9:27 a.m. to present her report to the Board.

Pedestrian Crossing Arms on Buses

#60/03 M. MULDER – That the Board authorizes personnel to proceed with the installation of pedestrian crossing arms on all Board-owned school buses.

CARRIED

Cost Share or Recovery – Installation of Pedestrian Crossing Arms

#61/03 M. MULDER – That the Board requests Alberta School Boards Association Legal Services to draft a letter of demand to present to the supplier of twenty-two conventional buses manufactured after February 2000 in an effort to seek cost recovery of the purchase and installation of pedestrian crossing arms.

CARRIED

Alberta Transportation – Change in the D-250 Standards

#62/03 J. FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON – That the Board directs a letter to Alberta Transportation seeking financial assistance for the purchase and installation of pedestrian crossing arms on all school buses, and expressing extreme concern about the lack of communication with respect to the changes in the D-250 standards for school buses.

CARRIED

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

COMPOSITION OF BOARD NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE (ATA)

Amendment to Motion #223/02

#63/03 P. ZENIUK – That the Board of Trustees strikes a negotiating Committee for the purpose of negotiating with the teachers in Battle River Regional Division #31, and further that this Committee be comprised of all members of the Board except those in conflict of interest.

Trustee Mulder requested a recorded vote.

For the Motion

Against the Motion

Wayne Thronson
Patricia Zeniuk
Bill Sears
Gwenda Poyser
Judy Fitzmaurice-Johnson
Gerry Oberg

Brenda Herder
Michele Mulder

CARRIED

INVESTMENT POLICY

#64/03 W. THRONSON – That the Board directs the Policy Development/ Review Committee to draft an investment policy.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:42 a.m.

MULTI-AGE, MULTI-GRADE PRESENTATION

Trustees were notified that a multi-age, multi-grade presentation is scheduled for March 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium at Heisler. Chairman Poyser and Deputy Superintendent Bosh will be visiting the school at Granum, AB on March 17, 2003. This school provides instruction in a multi-age, multi-grade setting.

CHANGE OF DATE – COMMITTEE MEETING DAY IN APRIL 2003

#65/03 P. ZENIUK – That the Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2003, rather than the fourth Thursday in the month.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (10:47 a.m.)

#66/03 B. HERDER – That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

At 11:58 a.m. all persons except Trustees were requested to leave the in-camera session, and rejoined the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Director of Transportation Johnson joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m. and left at 2:56 p.m.

Transportation appeal #4712-02 joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m. and left at 1:39 p.m.

Transportation appeal #4712-03 joined the meeting at 2:04 p.m. and left at 2:25 p.m.

The in-camera session recessed at 2:59 p.m.

SUPPORT OF TRUSTEE MULDER – NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT OF ASBA

#67/03 B. SEARS – That the Board supports Trustee Mulder's nomination for her second term as president of the Alberta School Boards Association.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RATIFICATION OF PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS – FEBRUARY 2003

#68/03 B. HERDER – That the Board ratifies the payment of the accounts for the month of February 2003.

CARRIED

EMPLOYEE #3509-01

#69/03 W. THRONDSOON – That the Board denies the request by employee #3509-01 for additional critical illness leave days.

CARRIED

MOTION TO RESCIND MOTION #34/03

#70/03 W. THRONDSOON – That the Board rescinds defeated motion #34/03, which states “That, notwithstanding policy IC ‘Attendance Areas/ Transportation’ the Board allows students #4712-02, resident in the Strome School attendance area, to access the bus transporting high school students to Daysland School.”

CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION APPEAL #4712/02

#71/03 B. SEARS – That, for the balance of the 2002-03 school year, students #4712-02 be permitted to access the Daysland high school bus from Strome.

CARRIED

MOTION TO RESCIND MOTION #42/03

#72/03 B. SEARS – That the Board rescinds defeated motion #42/03, which states “That, notwithstanding policy IC ‘Attendance Areas/ Transportation’ the Board allows students #4712-03, resident in the Strome School attendance area, to access the bus transporting high school students to Daysland School.”

DEFEATED

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Chairman Poyser noted that she attended a seminar on March 4, 2003 sponsored by ASBA on international travel and high risk field trips.

Trustee Oberg indicated that he attended the above-noted ASBA seminar as well as one on Technology on March 5, 2003 sponsored by ASBA.

Trustee Throndsון noted that he attended the Charlie Killam School Council meeting on March 12, 2003 at which time a presentation was made with respect to improvements to the school grounds at that school.

Trustee Fitzmaurice-Johnson reported on her attendance at the Administrators’ meeting on March 11, 2003 and noted that she spoke briefly with some of the principals in the City of Camrose. She also attended a Drug Response Task Force meeting in Killam.

Trustee Sears attended a meeting of the Hutterite Colony teachers on March 11, 2003.

Trustee Herder noted that she met with Halvar Jonson, MLA on February 28, 2003.

Trustee Zeniuk indicated that she plans to meet with the principal at the Hay Lakes School on March 14, 2003.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

School Review Update

Superintendent of Schools Phillips informed Trustees that the Lougheed, Bashaw and Hay Lakes Schools will be reviewed this year.

Enrolment Trends

Superintendent of Schools Phillips reviewed the enrolments in Battle River Regional Division #31 as of March 1, 2003, comparing these to the enrolments as of September 30, 2003.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Affairs

The members of the Student Affairs Committee met on March 12, 2003 to hear a recommendation for expulsion of a student and subsequent re-instatement. The Committee re-instated the student under strict conditions.

Capital Plan Committee

The chairman of the Capital Plan Committee noted the following:

- The Forestburg School modernization costs are approximately \$150,000-\$200,000 under budget. A review will be made of the initial plan and further requests from the School for the expenditure of these funds.
- Six requests were received for playground funding – Killam, Bawlf, CH-SPS, Strome, Round Hill and Sparling Schools.
- The required traffic study at the Charlie Killam School will also include the traffic at the Sifton School.
- The tender opening for the modernization of the Charlie Killam School will be held on April 2, 2003.

Killam Maintenance Shop

#73/03

B. SEARS – That the Board directs the Director of Operations and Maintenance to proceed with the construction of the maintenance shop at Killam, and further that these costs not exceed \$175,000.

CARRIED

Negotiating Committees Update

Trustee Zeniuk reported that the Support Staff Negotiating Committee met with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) on March 6, 2003 which resulted in an agreement between Battle River Regional Division #31 and CUPE effective until August 31, 2006.

Ratification of Agreement with CUPE

#74/03 P. ZENIUK – That the Board ratifies the agreement with CUPE effective until August 31, 2006.

CARRIED

Small Schools Committee

A Small Schools Committee meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bashaw School.

ASBA Zone 4

Trustee Oberg noted that there will be an ASBA Zone 4 meeting on March 24, 2003 in Camrose at the Senior Centre.

ASEBP

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte noted that there is an ASEBP Board of Directors meeting scheduled for the week of March 17th, with the second reading to rate increases on the agenda.

MEETING RECESS

At 4:11 p.m., Chairman Poyser recessed the meeting until 9:00 p.m. on March 27, 2003.