

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON MAY 8, 2003, COMMENCING AT 9:06 A.M.

PRESENT

JUDY FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON
BRENDA HERDER
MICHELE MULDER
GERRY OBERG
GWENDA POYSER (left the meeting at 3:10 p.m. and returned at 3:21 p.m.)
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

Following the call to order, Dr. Phillips, Superintendent of Schools, announced that Ms Joannie Zimmer has been appointed as Division Principal for the 2003-04 school year.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

#105/03 M. MULDER – That the agenda be approved as presented with the distributed add-on sheet.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#106/03 B. SEARS – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 10 and April 23, 2003 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR STUDENTS (Industrial Alliance Pacific)

#107/03 G. OBERG – That the Board provides a basic fee of \$1.20/student for basic student accident insurance for each student during school hours or at any school approved/supervised activity, and further that the insurance coverage include ECS students registered in Board-operated programs, those students registered in privately-operated ECS programs offered in cooperation with the Board, and to Home Education students registered with the Board, to the extent that the insurance company will permit such coverage at the rates established for the students registered in regular school programs, and further that, in addition to the basic coverage, the insurance coverage provides an additional \$0.10 per insured student for the IAP Kids Plus Enhanced Option Package.

CARRIED

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Director of Operations and Maintenance Spelliscy joined the meeting at 9:22 a.m. to update the Trustees with respect to the work of the maintenance department, noting that modernization work on the elementary wing of the Hay Lakes School has begun, the sound panels have been installed in the Edberg gymnasium, the shower room at C. W. Sears School has been converted to a special needs room, the modernization work at Charlie Killam School is progressing and that a walk-through is scheduled for Camrose Composite High School.

Mr. Spelliscy left the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Director of Transportation Johnson joined the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

Request for Grade Four Student to Ride High School Bus

#108/03 M. MULDER – That, notwithstanding policy IC ‘Attendance Areas / Transportation’ and for the balance of the 2002-03 school year, student #4707-05 be permitted to occasionally ride the high school bus from Sedgewick to Killam.

CARRIED

Heisler Attendance Area

Ms Johnson presented a map with some ideas for consideration by the Trustees with respect to the Heisler School closure.

Ms Johnson left the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

DRAFT POLICY IC ‘ATTENDANCE AREAS / TRANSPORTATION’

Trustees initiated a discussion with respect to the proposed amendments to policy IC ‘Attendance Areas / Transportation’.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:18 a.m. and reconvened at 10:33 a.m.

Ray Bosh, Deputy Superintendent, and Don Gillies, Assistant Superintendent, joined the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (10:35 a.m.)

#109/03 J. FITZMAURICE-JOHNSON – 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, Deputy Superintendent Bosh, Assistant Superintendent Gillies, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 1:59 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 1:59 p.m.

Mr. Gillies left the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

SPEECH THERAPY

Mr. Bosh presented information with respect to the need in Battle River Regional Division #31 for speech language therapist services.

#110/03 M. MULDER – That Battle River Regional Division #31 administration be authorized to investigate hiring a speech and language therapist at no net cost to the Board.

CARRIED

LOUGHEED SCHOOL REVIEW

At 2:10 p.m., Chairman Poyser welcomed Jim Rubuliak, Division Principal, Dennis Dunlop, Principal at Bashaw School, and Lane Moore, Principal at the Lougheed School to the meeting and invited the presentation of the report on the Lougheed School review.

The review team consisted of Jim Rubuliak, Dennis Dunlop, and Kathy Young, Principal at Killam School.

Quoting from the review: “All three members of the school review team enjoyed being at Lougheed School, learned a great deal about the school’s operations, and expressed confidence in the learning and

teaching there. Lougheed School administration, staff, and volunteers serve the community and its students well.”

Commendations

1. Lougheed School is to be commended for the positive manner in which school staff, students and other stakeholders worked with the review team and shared important perceptions. The members of the review team came away with the conclusion that the Lougheed School is a good school that operates as a “family unit” and is committed to meeting the educational needs of its students.
2. The staff, students, parents, and community are proud of the school and student accomplishments. During the past year several positive new approaches and initiatives have resulted in considerable school improvement (e.g. Precision Reading, Differentiated Instruction, Student Behavior Plan, Positive Referral System).
3. Upon entering the building, it is evident that Lougheed is a safe and caring school with welcoming displays, a warm reception at the school office, student work on exhibit, learning themes, clear school expectations, colorful posters, and a clean environment. During breaks and other non-instructional time, staff members are seen engaging and mixing with students.
4. Extra-curricular activities, particularly athletics and music, are very well thought of by stakeholders. Students in these programs are achieving at high levels and are being instilled with a great sense of accomplishment and “Lynx Pride”. The majority of students look forward to participating in the junior high band program and speak highly of it.
5. Healthy relationships exist among students, staff and community. There is a real sense of “pride, respect, and success” which are the three philosophical pillars of Lougheed School. Students and staff have been working hard at accomplishing these components in all aspects of schoolwork. Students generally feel they have a voice and feel they belong.
6. The daily physical education program along with optional study and support time for junior high students near the end of the day is well received. Students at Lougheed School can receive additional support from staff upon request if there is a perceived need.
7. Lougheed School staff is to be commended for the collaborative approach used in setting goals, discussing programs, action planning, student achievement, sharing practices, and focusing on students. They reflect on their practices and show a willingness to improve programs and delivery practices.
8. There has been considerable growth with respect to administrative practices and organization at the school this year.
9. The majority of staff and students feel the school is receiving good leadership. The principal is easily accessible to stakeholders and is responsive to the needs of students, staff, parents and community members in the “small school” environment.
10. Teachers and support staff are to be commended for being positive role models and providing solid instruction, support for students, a safe and nurturing environment and opportunities for extra-curricular

student activities. Staff have a willingness to “go the extra mile” for their students.

11. Teachers and administration take the time to reflect on their teaching and share practices on an informal basis.
12. The School Council and Loughheed School staff are to be commended for working jointly on projects such as the Career Fair and activities for students scheduled for May 1, 2003.

Recommendations

1. Loughheed School requires a comprehensive review of their special education program and delivery model in order to best serve the needs of all students (regular, mild-moderate and severe disability students). This might involve research and collaboration with stakeholders and the support of BRRD Special Education staff.
2. School staff should strive to continue improving communication with part-time people, the custodian, maintenance staff, the family school liaison worker, and staff members new to the school.
3. Perhaps a staff handbook or other processes might be utilized to provide support and information for new teachers in becoming acclimatized to the culture of the school and provide continuity for the students. This would also be helpful for established teachers and would assist with school consistency for all.
4. Look at methods of enhancing instructional leadership so the principal could spend more time in classrooms observing students learning and the art and craft of teaching; all leading to further improvement of teaching and learning. This includes formalizing the Professional Growth Plan process in accordance with BRRD Policy GCNA.
5. A school-wide ICT Outcomes plan should be developed jointly by teachers in order to formalize implementation at each grade level.
6. It is suggested that Loughheed School formalize the structure of P.D. and have a focused approach communicated to all staff. This would include professional development plans that are correlated with the Staff Development Plan and fit the needs of teachers, support staff and students.
7. It is recommended that students have increased access to counseling (personal, academic and career). An increased emphasis on student portfolios and career displays in the school would be beneficial.
8. A big challenge facing Loughheed School is declining enrolment and unstable class sizes. It is recommended that a thorough review of programs and program delivery be undertaken.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 2:48 p.m. and reconvened at 3:10 p.m.

At 3:10 p.m., Vice-chair Herder assumed the chair as Ms Poyser was absent.

Ms Poyser returned at 3:21 p.m. and re-assumed the chair.

TRANSITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS – HEISLER SCHOOL

Director of Transportation Johnson joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m. and further reviewed proposed attendance area boundaries for the Heisler area.

School of Choice

- #111/03 M. MULDER – That the families of students affected by the closure of the Heisler School receive school bus transportation to their indicated Battle River Regional Division #31 school of choice, as indicated by September 30, 2003, for the duration of their children’s schooling. CARRIED

Alteration of Boundary – Rosalind School

- #112/03 W. THRONDSO – That the attendance boundaries be altered such that the following lands be included in the Rosalind School attendance area:

East half of Sections 23, 14, 11 and 3-43-17-W4M;
That portion of NW 3-43-17-W4M that lies east of the Battle River;
That portion of NE 33-42-17-W4M that lies east of the Battle River;
All of Sections 24, 13, 12 and 1 and 2-43-17-W4M; and
The North half of Sections 34 and 35-42-17-W4M. CARRIED

Alteration of Boundary – Strome School

- #113/03 P. ZENIUK – That the Strome attendance area be altered such that the boundary follow a line from the center of Section 23-42-15 southward to the center of Section 2-42-15. CARRIED

Heisler Attendance Area

- #114/03 W. THRONDSO – That the Heisler attendance area be divided such that a portion of the former attendance area become a part of the Daysland School attendance area, and a second portion become a part of the Forestburg School attendance area, as indicated on the attached map, and specifically:

from the centre of Section 21-43-15-W4M westward to the center of Section 19-43-15-W4M; then southward to the northerly edge of Section 6-43-15; then westward to the center of the northerly edge of Section 3-43-16; then south through the correction to the center of Section 33-42-16; then westward to the County of Flagstaff boundary. CARRIED

Disposal of Heisler School Building

- #115/03 B. SEARS – That Battle River Regional Division #31 seek further information from Alberta Infrastructure, and, pending approval from Alberta Infrastructure, the Capital Plan Committee meet with representatives from the Village of Heisler to explore the disposal of the Heisler School.

CARRIED

SUMMER SCHOOL FEES

- #116/03 G. OBERG – That junior high school students taking summer school courses be charged a fee of \$150 per course.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Development / Review Committee

Trustee Mulder served notice that, at the regular meeting of the Board on June 12, 2003, a motion from the Policy Development / Review Committee with respect to policy HGCB 'Travel Study' will be presented that modifies the current policy by limiting student travel to national boundaries.

ASBA Zone 4

Trustee Oberg reported on his attendance at the ASBA Zone 4 meeting on April 28, 2003.

Mr. Oberg noted that three resolutions will be brought forward to the Spring General Meeting. Trustees reviewed, and provided feedback of support on, the resolutions.

MOTION FOR THE MEETING TO GO BEYOND 4:30 P.M.

- #117/03 P. ZENIUK – That the regular meeting proceed beyond 4:30 p.m.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (4:37 p.m.)

- #118/03 W. THRONDSO – 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

The in-camera session recessed at 4:57 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 4:57 p.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 4:57 p.m. until May 22, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.