

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON OCTOBER 9, 2003,
COMMENCING AT 9:35 A.M.**

PRESENT

BRENDA HERDER
MICHELE MULDER (left the meeting at 11:12 a.m. and returned at 11:33 a.m.)
GERRY OBERG
GWENDA POYSER
BILL SEARS
WAYNE THRONDSO (left the meeting at 10:57 a.m. and returned at 11:27 a.m.)
PATRICIA ZENIUK

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

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

G. POYSER IN THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

#251/03 G. OBERG – That the agenda be approved with the distributed add-on sheet, the addition of information item #12 (Letter from the Auditor General of Alberta), the deferral of the Disposition of Reserve Lands in the Beaver Ward, and with no report from the Director of Operations and Maintenance or the Director of Transportation.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

#252/03 B. SEARS – That the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 11 and September 25, 2003 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:38 a.m.)

#253/03 M. MULDER – That the regular meeting recess in order to allow the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Phillips, Chief Deputy Superintendent Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Schulte, Communications Officer Chamberlin, and Recording Secretary Lauber be excluded.

CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 10:25 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

RATIFICATION OF PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS, SEPTEMBER 2003

#254/03 W. THRONDSOON – That the Board ratifies the payment of the accounts for September 2003.

CARRIED

CRITICAL MINIMUM ENROLMENTS

Superintendent Phillips noted that the following schools/programs had enrolments below the critical minimum enrolments noted in policy FL: Alliance School and Edberg and Strome junior high school programs. Dr. Phillips pointed out that both Edberg and Strome Schools had a higher overall enrolment this year. A trustee and superintendent will attend a meeting in Alliance with respect to the enrolments at that School.

REQUEST FROM CAMROSE KODIAKS HOCKEY TEAM

#255/03 G. OBERG - That the Board supports the Camrose Kodiaks Team in its "Read with the Kodiaks" program, and further that a donation of \$500 be given to the project to be used for the purchase of books for prizes.

CARRIED

FEE STRUCTURE – PACE OUTREACH SCHOOL

#256/03 G. OBERG – That the school fees for the PACE Outreach School be \$100 for a full year, or \$50 per semester.

CARRIED

Trustee Thronson left the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

FEE STRUCTURE – COLONY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

#257/03 M. MULDER – That, with respect to the fees for Colony students accessing high school courses, the Board adheres to policy IN, with the initial fee set at \$35/student (10 credits at \$3.50 per credit); however there would be a rebate if a student accesses fewer than 10 credits.
CARRIED

COMMISSION OF ART WORK FROM STUDENTS

#258/03 M. MULDER – That the Board approves the concept of commissioning one piece of art work per year from Battle River Regional Division #31 high school students, and further that the Superintendent provides a mechanism for the commissioning.
CARRIED

Trustee Mulder left the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

REVIEW OF COMMON USAGE OF BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31 NAME

#259/03 B. SEARS – That the Board approves that: the popular name of Battle River Regional Division #31 be “Battle River School Division #31”; the “branding”, i.e. the name on the building and letter head be changed to reflect this; the logo be changed to reflect our mission, and to incorporate the change in the popular name; and further that the Executive Committee work with the Superintendent of Schools to implement the above-noted approvals.
CARRIED

Trustee Thronson returned to the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

LEARNING COMMISSION

Dr. Phillips and Mr. Smith will determine a process for facilitating Board discussion on the report from the Learning Commission.

Trustee Mulder returned to the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

#260/03 W. THRONDSO – That the Superintendent or designate, plus a Trustee serving on the French Immersion Committee, attend the Sifton School staff meeting on October 20, 2003 and the Sifton School council meeting in October, to discuss the proposal and solicit feedback from the school community; that, subject to a positive response from the school community, the French Immersion Program be housed at Sifton School, effective September 2004; and further that a final decision on the location of the French Immersion program be made no later than November 13, 2003.

CARRIED

FIBER MANAGEMENT PLAN

#261/03 W. THRONDSO – That the Board seeks tenders to complete an assessment of the amount and location of asbestos within Battle River Regional Division #31 schools, to indicate the risk associated with the asbestos, and to provide recommendations for a fiber management plan for the School Division.

CARRIED

#262/03 W. THRONDSO – That a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Infrastructure, copied to the MLAs in Battle River Regional Division #31 and the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA), advising the Minister of the order to clean up the asbestos at the Charlie Killam School, informing the Minister of the associated costs and seeking emergent funding.

CARRIED

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

ASBA BOARD-TO-BOARD RELATIONSHIPS WORKSHOP

Trustees received information with respect to a Board-to-Board Relationships workshop sponsored by ASBA.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustees reviewed the information items contained in a folder that was circulated to the Trustees during the meeting.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Chairman Poyser noted that a new communications folder has been placed in each of the Trustees' mailboxes.

Trustee Zeniuk noted that she visited Hay Lakes, Round Hill and Charlie Killam Schools and met with each of the principals at these Schools. Ms. Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Children's Advocacy workshop on October 1, 2003.

Trustee Sears received an invitation to attend the awards ceremonies at the Tofield and Ryley Schools.

Vice-Chairman Herder noted that she was invited to attend the Bashaw School awards ceremony, however was unable to attend. She attended the annual volleyball tournament in Rosalind, the Bawlf School Council meeting and the first meeting, along with Trustee Zeniuk, on the consultation process involving the communities of Bawlf, Rosalind and Round Hill.

Trustee Oberg attended a consultation meeting with the Daysland and Strome communities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met to clarify the agenda for the consultation process.

Capital Planning Committee

Members of the Capital Planning Committee have been dealing with the issue of asbestos in the crawl space at the Charlie Killam School. It is expected that the work on the modernization at Charlie Killam School will be complete by the first week of November, 2003. The modernization work at the Hay Lakes School is proceeding well. The Committee had further discussions with respect to the allocation of the extra funds at Forestburg School.

Allocation of Extra Funds at Forestburg School

#263/03

B. SEARS – That the Board allocates \$99,000 of the remaining funds from the Forestburg School modernization project for the following projects:

1. Stucco:
 - Elementary (\$20,000)
 - Senior High (\$20,000)
 - Brick Facia (\$11,700) \$51,700
2. Nine New Doors – Senior High 6,000
3. Lino – 3 rooms – Senior High 10,000
4. Whiteboards, drywall – 3 rooms, Senior High 4,500
5. Elementary workroom upgrade 3,000
6. Speaker and intercom switch and wiring in old office 500
7. Parking bollards for front sidewalk 1,000
8. Concrete pads and bollards for dumpster 6,000
9. Blinds for offices, library and counseling office 4,500
10. Shelves in various classrooms 5,000
11. Ten double lockers 1,500
12. Computers for front office 5,000

CARRIED

ASBA Reports

Michele Mulder noted that she sent out her written report to the Trustees with respect to the president's report for the provincial ASBA.

Chairman Poyser noted that she attended the ASBA Zone 4 meeting in Innisfail on September 22, 2003. The next Zone meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2003 in Stettler.

Alberta School Employees Benefit Plan (ASEBP)

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte noted that ASEBP is holding an information session in Edmonton on October 20, 2003.

Drug Response Task Force

Trustee Zeniuk reported on her attendance at the Drug Response Task Force meeting held on October 7, 2003. This Committee is preparing to go to the Provincial Government's Standing Policy Committee on October 21, 2003.

MEETING RECESS

At 2:24 p.m., the regular meeting recessed until 9:30 a.m. on October 23, 2003.