



Meeting Minutes

Central Office Boardroom, Sherwood Park

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

7:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Jacque Surgenor, Westboro Elementary

Chair

Sally Navis, Strathcona Christian Academy
Secondary

Co-Vice-Chair

Lynn Coates, Ministik School

Co-Secretary

Linda Alger, Strathcona Christian Academy
Elementary

Natalie Bos, Wye Elementary

Dan Carter, Glen Allan Elementary

Becky Galbraith, Fultonvale Elementary Junior
High

Milana Golembioski, Sherwood Heights Junior
High

Kathy Gunderson, Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Annette Hubick, Lakeland Ridge

Ruth Hunter-Moffatt, Salisbury Composite High

Kaya Kasook, École Élémentaire Ardrossan
Elementary

Sandy Stor, Bev Facey Community High

Linda Zimmerling, Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Trina Boymook, Chair, Board of Trustees

Lynne Kaiser, public representative and member
of Alberta School Councils' Association

Karen MacDonald, Director, Student Support
Services

Karen Sand, Director, Communication Services

Karla Satchwell, Associate Superintendent, Human
Resources

Bill Shields, President, Alberta Teachers'
Association Local

Eileen Zimmerman, Associate Superintendent,
Instructional Services

Welcome

Jacque called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Round table introductions were made.

Additions to the Agenda

Jacque asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Two items were added under For Information:

- Bullying presentation
- Calendar update

Motion: To accept the January 7, 2015 agenda as amended.

Moved: Natalie Bos

Seconded: Kathy Gunderson

Motion Carried

Approval of October 1, 2014 minutes

Motion: To accept the October 1, 2014 minutes as presented.

Moved: Kaya Kasook

Seconded: Milana Golembioski

Motion Carried

Approval of November 5, 2014 minutes

Motion: To accept the November 5, 2014 minutes as presented.

Moved: Natalie Bos

Seconded: Kathy Gunderson

Motion Carried

Board Report – Presented by Trina Boymook

Jacque thanked the Board for inviting her to the Meet and Greet with the new Superintendent. Board Chair Boymook shared the following:

- For the first time, the November Board Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- The rescheduled meeting took place December 4 and included the Public Comment Session. There were two School Councils that spoke and two members of the community. Very positive outlook on the public involvement. This will be discussed at the next Board Meeting to see what the thoughts were of all of the trustees.
- The Board approved a public consultation for Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan to see what interest there is in moving to the full-day Kindergarten model that is presently in use in the rural communities. 14 of the 25 schools that offer Kindergarten are offering full days. The results of this consultation will be what will decide the next steps in the process.
- The Board approved the fall budget of \$190,854,870. This includes a \$2,866,322 deficit that will be covered by reserves.
- New timelines have been approved for the boundary review for the new K-9 school in Fort Saskatchewan. The public consultations will begin in January and a final decision made by the Board by the June 18, 2015 Board meeting.
- The Board approved the 2015-2016 division calendar at the December 18 meeting. They approved the status quo version.
- The new Superintendent is Mark Liguori. He will officially be taking over the job on February 2, 2015. He was previously the Assistant Superintendent for Edmonton Public Schools.

ATA Report – Presented by Bill Shields

Bill Shields provided a verbal report with the following highlights:

- Bill also said that he appreciated being invited to the Meet and Greet with the new Superintendent.
- As January unfolds, there is a lull for the elementary schools, but the high schools are in full swing getting ready for Diploma Exams.
- The ATA wants to applaud the effort of the committee that worked on the school calendar consultation.
- February 5-6 is Teachers' Convention. The ATA would like to invite the COSC Chair and one other member of the COSC group to come to the lunch on February 6, 2015 to hear the guest speaker.

Future Action Item:

- Karen Sand to send invite to COSC members to have their name included in the draw for the second COSC member to attend the Teachers' Convention luncheon.

For Information

Strathcona County School Traffic Safety Partnership (STSP) – Presented by Jacque Surgenor & Karen Sand

- The meeting was held and there was overwhelming support for there to be both a rural and urban representative from the COSC group. The group is creating a tool kit for schools to use, letting parents know where to go and what steps to follow. A general email address is being set up to give a central location for requests for information.

- The Way to Be! program was looked at. This will help students learn about traffic safety and share this information with their parents. A variety of modules are available and different ones can be chosen to deal with the issues at individual schools. Creators are hoping to make it public in the spring.
- It was brought to the Strathcona County Council to change school zones to all day rather than select times. This was turned down by the council. The STSP group was disappointed.

ASCA Workshop Update – Presented by Jacquie Surgenor

- An ASCA presenter is coming to the February COSC meeting to share an “Understanding Inspiring Education” presentation. The presentation is 1 ½ hours long. COSC members were asked to gather information from their principals on how the school is supporting Inspiring Education.

Education Act Regulations – Presented by Karen Sand

- The 16 proposed Regulations that will accompany the new *Education Act* are available for review on the Alberta Education website (<http://education.alberta.ca/department/policy/education-act.aspx>).
- Stakeholders can provide comments until the end of January.
- The Alberta Education information does not specifically include a breakdown of what the current regulations are and what is changing. Karen said she would see if she could find anything, and she will specifically pass along a breakdown relative to the School Councils Regulations.

Bullying Presentation Invitation – Presented by Jacquie Surgenor

- Westboro Elementary is hosting a Bullying presentation facilitated by SAFFRON on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is open to all.

Calendar Update – Presented by Karla Satchwell

Karla Satchwell provided a short update on the 2015-2016 division calendar approved by the Board of Trustees in December. The approved calendar is similar to the current calendar model with early dismissal days on the first Wednesday of each month. Other key dates include:

- August 31 First day for students
- November 9-13 Fall break
- December 21-January 1 Winter break
- February 1 First day Semester Two
- March 29-April 4 Spring break
- June 28 Last day for students
- June 29 Last day for school staff

New Business

Inclusive Education – Presented by Karen MacDonald, Student Support Services

- Karen MacDonald gave a presentation about Inclusive Education. The look of education has changed a lot over the last decade.
- An inclusive school is one where all students have the same opportunities to be involved in a regular classroom or program. All children are represented by all stakeholders.
- We used to focus on what the student couldn't do and now education focuses on strengths.
- Until 2006, funding was based on the specific number of students requiring special needs. Now all jurisdictions are given a block of funding to support all students who have diverse needs. This allows jurisdictions and schools to determine what individual students require.
- Funding is distributed based on the students in the school and the plans of the school.
- There are blocks of funding for mild/moderate disabilities. System Special Education programs are funded centrally. A list of EIPS System Special Education programs is available on the division website.

- School and Student Support Services staff have the expertise to help determine a child's needs. Schools use this knowledge to decide if they want additional teachers/ EAs, to purchase resources, etc.
- Karen referenced a document from Alberta Education that outlines additional information about where Inclusive Education is going. "Indicators of Inclusive Schools: Continuing the Conversation" 2013.
- COSC members in attendance also referenced a recent TED Talk about inclusive education.

Future Action Item:

- Karen Sand to send the following links to COSC members:
 - Alberta Education's "Indicators of Inclusive Schools: Continuing the Conversation" 2013.
 - List if EIPS System Special Education programs.
 - Link to the inclusive education TED Talk.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

The next meeting will take place February 4, 2015.