

Alberta School Boards Association – Zone 5 Minutes – October 25, 2002

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Kim Salkeld called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. She welcomed everyone and asked for a quick round of introductions.

IN ATTENDANCE	Kim Salkeld	Rocky View School Division
	John Neill	Prairie Land Regional Division
	Larry Maerz	Golden Hills Regional Division
	Karen Harries	Golden Hills Regional Division
	Graham Sewell	Foothills School Division
	Danielle Poirier Heine	Greater Southern Francophone Catholic
	Anne-Marie Boucher	Greater Southern Francophone Public
	Nancy Close	Calgary Board of Education
	Faye Lippitt	Foothills School Division
	Garry McKinnon	Golden Hills Regional Division
	Doug Gardner	Foothills School Division
	Maureen Munro	Rocky View School Division
	Joanne Van Donzel	Christ the Redeemer
	John Murray	Rocky View School Division
	Kathy Smith	Golden Hills Regional Division
	Richard Craig	Canadian Rockies Public Schools
	David Anderson	Alberta School Boards Association
	Terry Patey	Rocky View School Division
	Wendy Metzger	Rocky View School Division
	Merla Bolender	Alberta Learning

Recording Secretary: Susan Wideman

Rocky View School Division No. 41

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion by John Murray:

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Wendy Metzger:

That the minutes of the September 27, 2002 Zone 5 meeting be approved as amended:

Page 3, the last bullet under Larry Maerz' report; change "\$100,000" to read "\$800,000+".

Page 5, after Treasurer's Report, insert "**John Murray – Labour Relations Report: John Murray reviewed the latest settlement updates across the province**".

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

BOARD SHARING:**Nancy Close – Calgary Public**

- New Board Chair is Gordon Dirks and Vice Chair is Carol Oliver. This is a continuation of their discussion three years ago on purpose and shared leadership.
- Have a new policy on their school closure process, which includes school update reports being presented regularly.
- Met with Calgary caucus MLAs and the Minister of Learning about various issues; it was a very good meeting and they discussed the budget with the Minister.
- Very pleased that their enrollment numbers are steady.
- Initiated a new Alumnus Award and the first recipient was Peter Lougheed.
- Participated in the Education Commission presentations.

Larry Maerz – Golden Hills

- Superintendent Garry McKinnon is retiring and will be resigning as of August 2003.
- “Reaching and Teaching” registrations are going well; it’s scheduled for April 2-5, 2003 at the Telus Convention Centre and the theme is “The Spirit of Learning”.
- Working on closure of Drumheller School; having a meeting on Monday as per Board policy. The school building will be used for other things; it is just closing as an actual school.
- Wilf Golbeck, who works for ATCO, gave an interesting presentation on utilities. It was well worthwhile to see with good information available.
- Provincial examination results were very favourable.
- An Action Committee was appointed after the labour dispute last year; they finished their report and it was presented to the Education Commission public hearings. It was an in-depth study that revealed some obvious issues as well as some not so obvious issues.

Richard Craig – Canadian Rockies

- Brian Callaghan is off to Japan for the International Students Recruitment Fair; he’s been gone since October 15 and returns on Monday.
- Presenting to the Education Commission very soon; any suggestions would be welcome.
- Completed their task force workbook and submitted to Alberta School Boards Association.
- Will be doing “work bees” with schools and the community to complete the “Doing Your Homework” booklet.
- September 30 enrollments were down by 80 students, which is mostly due to the new Catholic board in their area.
- Currently negotiating their CUPE contract.

Joanne VanDonzel – Christ the Redeemer

- Mary Stengler is the new Board Chair and Amber Link is Vice Chair. Joanne is the ASBA Zone 5 representative.
- Have had good success with their French Immersion program, which has expanded from grade 7 to grade 8 and they are preparing for a high school program.
- Working on the Education Commission booklet; they're doing a written submission.

Danielle Poirier Heine – Greater Southern Francophone Catholic

- Signed a partnership with Masters Academy where they'll share their expertise on technology in the classroom – French Language learning will be shared in return.
- Music festival for grades 5 – 8 was held on the weekend, which was very successful.
- Currently working on program offerings for gifted students.

Anne-Marie Boucher – Greater Southern Francophone Public

- Their Board Chair and Vice Chair remain the same as before.
- Will be meeting with the Minister of Infrastructure next week.
- This week met with members of school councils to discuss their roles.
- Currently involved in negotiations with support staff.

John Neill – Prairie Land

- Organizational meeting was held on Tuesday night, which resulted in no changes.
- Participated in a joint presentation to the Education Commission with five other Boards on October 16. John felt there wasn't enough time allowed – only had about 10 minutes per board.
- Conducting a transportation study to see if they can increase efficiencies in the system – once completed they'll hold a Board/Council workshop and present the findings. Their longest route is 90 minutes one way. Tom Millen, who is retired from Alberta Learning is heading up the study.

Wendy Metzger - Rocky View

- Held their organizational meeting; there were no significant changes.
- Presented to the Education Commission last Thursday.
- Enrollment figures are up this year by about 1.5%.
- Have an upcoming "sod turning" for the new Langdon area school.
- October 28 is a division-wide professional development day, which includes support staff as well as certificated staff.
- Settled the terms of employment for support staff; a total of 7.5% was given – 4.5% the first year and 3% the second year. There is also a \$500/FTE enhancement as of November 29, which will be prorated for part time employees.

Graham Sewell – Foothills

- Organizational meeting was held and Jerry is still Board Chair with Doug Gardner as Vice Chair.
- Presented to the Education Commission as well; they were grouped with six other boards and had to travel to Lethbridge. It worked out well though; a single presentation was made by a joint effort of one top issue submitted from each board –each individual board was able to present on their own as well if they felt anything important had been left out.
- Administrators' Retreat was held in Canmore last week.
- Heritage Heights School (near Dewinton) opening has been postponed for a year, things are almost ready but Alberta Infrastructure wants them to wait until after Christmas in the hopes that prices will go down by then. Contractors are so busy right now that they're charging top dollars.
- Met with Christ the Redeemer for a social and information sharing function; they have participated in two or three of these events, which have been quite beneficial.

Chairman Kim Salkeld declared a recess at 10:15 a.m.

RECONVENE: Chairman Salkeld reconvened the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

REPORTS:**Merla Bolender - Alberta Learning:**

Thanks to all boards for responding to the Education Commission in such a short time frame, the responses are appreciated and congratulations to any new Board Chairs.

Merla reviewed her written report, as distributed. Highlights include Alberta's Commission on Learning, High School Completion Rates – by next year there'll be three years' results so boards will be able to set targets in their Three-Year Education Plan. Alberta Home and School Council Association were given a conditional grant to ensure that they are connecting with parents and can truly represent who they say they do. Parent-Child Literacy Strategy is a cross-ministry initiative, led by Alberta Learning to enhance families' literacy skills. Other highlights included Home Education Regulation, access to Jurisdiction Policy Handbooks, Policies and Guidelines for Implementing CTS Courses. Questions and concerns were addressed.

David Anderson, on behalf of Jerry Muelaner, A.S.B.A. Zone 5 Director:

Alberta School Boards Association board highlights were presented by David Anderson on behalf of Jerry Muelaner who is away in Arizona – everyone in attendance was very sympathetic to Jerry's plight.

Highlights of the written report include: Alberta School Boards Association's operating surplus of \$285,835 is due to an increase in fee for service revenues as a result of increased demands relating to the labour dispute. Michelle Mulder is currently on the education mission to Southeast Asia. The 24-member team will visit Japan, China, Vietnam, and Thailand. Edmonton Public trustees had a lunch with Alberta School Boards Association Board of Directors and made a brief presentation regarding the Alberta School Boards Association. The ASBA has requested funding from Alberta Learning for \$125,000 to support the development of a tool, which will expand the scope of board reporting to their communities regarding student outcomes beyond simply reporting student results on provincial examinations.

David Anderson – A.S.B.A. Report

The progress of ASBIE is on target to be in place for the demise of ALARIE in January. Having a program focussed specifically on education needs will be very beneficial over the short and especially the long term. Feedback they've been getting on the presentations to the Education Commission is good. The Commission is generally pleased with the presentations to date. There will be an interim report in January, to address the issues of PTR, etc. and hopefully to provide some insight and possible solutions prior to the next round of contract negotiations opening. This is an important opportunity to present the real issues in education and hopefully good things will come out of the process.

Karen Harries – CLL

Their October 16 event was well attended; "Rising above the Fracture in Education". Their next is November 27 and the keynote speaker is Ron Ghitter.

Graham Sewell – Teacher Preparation

Nothing new to report.

Kathy Smith – Regional Consortium

Held organizational meeting recently and Kathy was reelected as Chair. They are pleased to welcome Brian Callaghan to represent CASS. Due to new faces on board, they reviewed the history, etc. and came up with a booklet that covers a lot of that information. Reviewed general business and financial statements; the online annual meeting is for stakeholders to get together and provide feedback; there were 119 participants, which was very good. They have a lot of new programs being offered and they are always open to suggestions from trustees. She encouraged everyone to look at the program offerings closely as there are a number that would be interesting to trustees and they are very affordable.

Treasurer's Report

An updated Treasurer's report was tabled for review.

Motion by Wendy Metzger:

That the Revenue and Expenditure statement for the year ending August 31, 2002 be accepted as presented.

Carried

A proposed budget for the upcoming year was presented for review. Discussion included general fees and a possible increase, honoraria, and CSBA conference expenses. It was suggested that the CSBA Conference become a separate line item and the funds be carried over when actual costs are less to build up a reserve for those years that the costs are greater. The budget line item can be reconsidered each year.

Motion by John Neill:

That the proposed budget be accepted as presented.

John Neill withdrew his motion.

Motion by Richard Craig:

That the Zone 5 Executive meet on the evening prior to the next Zone 5 meeting at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed budget and handbook revisions.

Carried

Chairman Kim Salkeld declared a recess at 12:05 p.m.

RECONVENE: Chair Salkeld reconvened the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION:

David Anderson, ASBA – Education Taxation

David Anderson presented a brief history of education taxation in Alberta and how it currently operates. Numerous questions were addressed.

Chairman Kim Salkeld thanked David for his interesting and timely presentation.

Discussion ensued regarding the planned Zone 5 Executive meeting.

Motion by Faye Lippitt:

That the planned Zone 5 Executive meeting be changed from the evening before to the morning of the next regular Zone 5 meeting, specifically 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. directly before the next Zone 5 meeting.

Carried

John Murray – Labour Relations

John Murray reviewed the latest settlement updates across the province.

Motion by John Murray:

That the reports be accepted as presented for information purposes.

Carried

ELECTION OF ZONE 5 EXECUTIVE

Chairman Salkeld thanked Faye Lippitt and Doug Gardner for their efforts as the nominating committee for this year, they were very thorough. Doug Gardner extended thanks to Susan Wideman for her efforts as well. Chairman Salkeld and Vice-Chair Neill handed the meeting over to Faye and Doug to handle the elections.

Zone 5 Chair

Kim Salkeld was nominated for the position of Zone 5 Chair.

Doug Gardner called twice more for nominations for the position of Zone 5 Chair.

Motion by John Murray:

That nominations cease.

Carried

Kim Salkeld was declared to be, by acclamation, Zone 5 Chair for the 2002/2003 term.

Zone 5 Vice Chair

John Neill was nominated for the position of Zone 5 Vice-Chair.

Doug Gardner called twice more for nominations for the position of Zone 5 Vice-Chair.

Motion by Kathy Smith:

That nominations cease.

Carried

John Neill was declared to be, by acclamation, Zone 5 Vice-Chair for the 2002/2003 term.

Appointment of the Treasurer

Darrell Couture will act as Treasurer for the 2002/2003 term.

Appointment of the Secretary

Susan Wideman will act as recording secretary for the 2002/2003 term.

CLL Representative

Kathy Smith and Nancy Close volunteered to serve as the CLL Representative. Kathy Smith withdrew her name in favour of Nancy Close. Doug Gardner called for any other volunteers for the position of CLL Representative however, none were received.

Nancy Close was declared to be, by acclamation, the CLL Representative for the 2002/2003 term.

CRC

Joanne Van Donzel and Kathy Smith volunteered to serve as the CRC Representative. Joanne withdrew her name in favour of Kathy Smith. Doug Gardner called for any other volunteers for the position of CRC Representative however, none were received.

Kathy Smith was declared to be, by acclamation, the CRC Representative for the 2002/2003 term.

Teacher Preparation

Graham Sewell volunteered to serve as the Teacher Preparation Representative. Doug Gardner called for any other volunteers for the position of Teacher Preparation Representative however, none were received.

Graham Sewell was declared to be, by acclamation, the Teacher Preparation Representative for the 2002/2003 term.

Edwin Parr Selection Committee

Lori Czerwinski, Anne-Marie Boucher and Terry Patey volunteered to serve as the Edwin Parr Selection Committee. Doug Gardner called for any other volunteers for Edwin Parr Selection Committee however, none were received.

Lori Czerwinski, Anne-Marie Boucher and Terry Patey were declared to be, by acclamation, the Edwin Parr Selection Committee for the 2002/2003 term.

Edwin Parr Banquet Organizer

Wendy Metzger was volunteered to serve as the Edwin Parr Banquet Organizer. Doug Gardner called for any other volunteers for the position of Edwin Parr Banquet Organizer however, none were received.

Wendy Metzger was declared to be, by acclamation, the Edwin Parr Banquet Organizer for the 2002/2003 term.

Labour Relations

John Murray volunteered to serve as the Labour Relations Representative. Doug Gardner called for any other nominations for the position of Labour Relations Representative however, none were received.

John Murray was declared to be, by acclamation, the Labour Relations Representative for the 2002/2003 term.

NEW BUSINESS:

Reminder that the Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting is coming up in November, which is a good opportunity to meet other trustees, learn, etc.

John Murray advised that ASBABA will also be meeting at the Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting, on the Sunday morning of, all interested trustees are welcome to attend.

Board Showcasing schedule – Chairman Kim Salkeld suggested that this item be deferred until after the Executive meeting in order to review this issue.

NEXT MEETING:

Chairman Kim Salkeld advised the next Zone 5 meeting would be November 29, 2002 at the Executive Royal Inn, with a starting time of 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by John Murray:

That the meeting adjourns at 2:20 p.m.

Carried