



Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting ASBA Boardroom

February 8-9, 2007

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Mrs. Heather Welwood, Vice-President
Mr. Gerry Gibeault, Edmonton Public
Ms. Carol Bazinet, Calgary Public (Thursday)
Mrs. Lois Burke-Gaffney, Calgary Catholic
Ms. Wendy Olson-Lepchuk, Zone 1
Mr. Gerry Steinke, Zone 23
Ms. Karen Holloway, Zone 4
Mr. Doug Gardner, Zone 5
Mrs. Marjorie Moncrieff, Zone 6 (observer)
Mrs. Jacquie Hansen, ACSTA
Mrs. Judy Muir, PSBAA
Mr. Martin Blanchet, FCSFA (Friday)

Regrets

Mrs. Maureen Kubinec, President
Ms. Debbie Cavaliere, Edmonton Catholic
Mrs. Patricia Aitchison, Zone 6

Guests

Mr. Bob Hawkesworth, President, AUMA (A.2.5)
Mr. John McGowan, CEO, AUMA (A.2.5)

Staff/Consultants

Mr. David Anderson, Executive Director
Ms. Donna Engel, Manager, Corporate Services
Ms. Suzanne Lundrigan, Manager, Communications
Mr. Keith Wagner, ASBA Consultant (C.3)
Ms. Marian Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Note: Any enclosure, report or other document to which a motion relates in whole or in part becomes an integral and official part of these minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Welwood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m..

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Mrs. L. Burke-Gaffney led the Board in the singing of O'Canada.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Mrs. Jacquie Hansen was officially installed as the ACSTA Observer on the ASBA Board of Directors.

A. RECOMMENDED ACTION ITEMS

A.1 Agenda

(a) Additions/Changes

Addition:

Property Taxation Issue (to be discussed following approval of agenda) as Agenda Item A.2.5.

Deletion:

A.5 Executive Director's Accountability Report – Service Program Manager (deferred to the March 2007 Board meeting)

(b) Approval

MOTION #1
G. Gibeault

That the agenda, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

On behalf of the Board H. Welwood offered congratulations to Calgary Board of Education on receiving the 2007 Conference Board of Canada Spencer Stuart National Award for Excellence in Governance.

A.2 Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2007

(a) Errors/Omissions

A.5 2006-09 Strategic Plan – Addition of Key Results. Rerword to read:

The Board gave formal direction to the Executive Director (see Motion #4.5) for administration to complete the work associated with the three strategic key results identified in the December 2006 minutes, rather than include them in the 2006-09 strategic plan. The key results related to the development of (1) financial information guidelines, (2) school fees and fundraising policy advisories, and (3) an anaphylaxis policy advisory.

MOTION #4.5 (K. Holloway):

That the ASBA Board of Directors direct administration to do this work without including the three strategic key results in Strategic Priority #1.

CARRIED

(b) Approval

MOTION #2
C. Bazinet

That the minutes of the February 8-9, 2007 ASBA Board of Directors meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

(c) **Business Arising**

A.7 – Representation at Board Meetings: It was clarified that a bylaw change would be necessary to grant voting privileges at the Board of Directors table to a Zone Chair who attended a Board meeting if the Zone Director and the Zone alternate could not attend.

A.2.5 Property Taxation Issue

D. Anderson summarized the Board's desire at their January 2007 meeting to release the draft property taxation agreement to school boards for consultation and input prior to the Board approving it.

Mr. Bob Hawkesworth, President, and Mr. John McGowan, Executive Director of the AUMA, joined the meeting to provide information on the process used by AUMA to approve the agreement.

MOTION #3
K. Holloway

That the meeting move *in-camera*.

CARRIED

MOTION #4
K. Holloway

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

MOTION #5
G. Steinke

That the ASBA Board of Directors approve the joint agreement on property taxation as amended.

CARRIED

A recorded vote was requested:

For:

L. Burke-Gaffney
G. Gibeault
G. Steinke
K. Holloway
H. Welwood

Against:

C. Bazinet
W. Olson-Lepchuk
D. Gardner

S. Lundrigan advised that both AUMA and ASBA would communicate the new model to their respective memberships and key external audiences in the next few days and that presentations would be made at upcoming Zone meetings. School boards would be asked to ratify the agreement at the 2007 Spring General Meeting on June 4. AUMA members would be asked to ratify the agreement at their November meeting.

A.3 Governance Review Information Package

S. Lundrigan provided the Board with a Facilitator's Guide and a Participant Workbook which were developed as a result of the Board assuming responsibility and direction for the Governance Review.

A list of tasks associated with the review and a timeline were included in the Facilitator's Guide in Appendix *i* which outlined the following:

Task 1: Establish Terms of Reference (January 21, 2007)

Tasks 2–4: Establish workplan and research questions and finalize Facilitator's Guide and Workplan (February 7, 2007)

Task 5: Launch consultation (February 14, 2007)

Task 6: Zone presentations (as early as possible - March/April)

Task 7: Collect data (submission deadline May 1, 2007)

Task 8: Data compilation (May 10, 2007)

Task 9: Review of report and findings by the Board of Directors (May 12, 2007)

Task 10: Board representatives meeting (by June 15, 2007)

Task 11: Document results of board representatives' session.

Task 12: Board of Directors review all relevant data and suggestions collected and formulate specific recommendations (June 25, 2007).

Task 13: Draft report developed.

Task 14: Board of Directors review draft report on a conference call (July 10, 2007).

Task 15: Final report distributed to school boards in advance of special general meeting to consider recommendations.

Task 16: Special General Meeting to consider bylaw changes (if needed) (September 15, 2007).

It was noted that observers would be invited to the special Board of Directors governance review meetings.

S. Lundrigan then directed the Board's attention to the draft Participant Workbook which included an invitation to participate, instructions to complete the focus group questions (in the Facilitator's Guide), and background material.

Board members indicated they were satisfied with the framing of the focus group questions, but suggested that the invitation letter emphasize that the "parking lot" issues would be dealt with as well as the key questions related to: (1) membership, voting and fees, (2) how the association makes policy, and (3) the role of the ASBA Directors and Zones.

Board members were also provided with a list of duties and tasks for which they were responsible in order to complete the governance review.

S. Lundrigan advised that a Board Chairs E-mail would be sent to Board Chairs outlining the revised governance review process with the Facilitator's Guide and Participant Workbook attached.

Board members whose terms expired following the June 4, 2007 Spring General Meeting were asked to continue on the Board for the purpose of completing the Governance Review.

A.4 In-Camera Session

An *in-camera* session was not required.

**A.5 Executive Director's
Accountability Report –
Service Program Manager**

This item was deferred to the March Board meeting.

A.6 Insurance Board Appointments

(a) ASBIE Board of Directors

D. Anderson advised that a vacancy existed on the ASBIE Board of Directors with the recent appointment of Ms. Nieta World as the ASBIE Principal Attorney.

MOTION #6

D. Gardner

That Mr. Joe Henderson, Secretary-Treasurer of Wolf Creek School Division, be appointed as a Director to ASBIE for a 3-year term ending August 31, 2009.

CARRIED

**A.7 Directors' Requests for
Information**

There were no requests for information.

**A.8 Agenda Items – Future
Board Meetings**

The following items were identified:

- Plant Operations and Maintenance Issues – Discussion with Ministers of Infrastructure and Education
- Presentation by Auditor General re Education Findings of annual report
- Approval of ASBA Advocacy Plan (2006-2009) - (Revised)
- Support of CASS Self Governance Proposal
- ASBA Labour Disruption Plan and Labour Update
- Presentation on Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP)
- Presentation on Teachers' Unfunded Liability

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

**B.1 Attendance at CSBA
Congress 2007**

D. Engel updated the Board on Congress matters, and stated that the theme was "Connecting Leaders and Vision". A Metro Boards Conference was being planned for July 3 in conjunction with the Congress.

Board members would be recruited to assist with introducing and thanking presenters as well as welcoming and hosting delegates. Zones had been contacted to assist in organizing events and/or providing articles for the delegates.

Board members eligible to attend Congress in 2007 as per policy GP-14(5) were:

Maureen Kubinec	President
Heather Welwood	Vice-President
Carol Bazinet	Calgary Public
Debbie Cavaliere	Edmonton Catholic
Wendy Olson-Lepchuk	Zone 1
Gerry Steinke	Zone 23
Doug Gardner	Zone 5

All Board members were encouraged to promote CSBA Congress at their zone/board.

B.2 General Meeting Format

G. Steinke expressed his concern that, with the new bylaw requirement to start the annual general meeting business session at 9:00 a.m., there was not time to begin the general meeting with an inspirational keynote speaker. He suggested that a keynote speaker be included at the start of the business session and that a "working lunch" be arranged to speed up the flow of the business meeting. A formal lunch with award presentations could then be planned for the Tuesday.

Another suggestion was made to schedule a keynote speaker for 45 minutes on the Monday morning, and provide a box lunch to each delegate to bring into the business meeting so a lunch break would not be necessary, thus speeding up the flow of the business meeting.

Other comments made regarding the annual general meeting were:

- Hold meeting away from the downtown area
- Replace caucus meetings with a plenary discussion of a few identified common issues
- Encourage a better rate of return of conference evaluation forms by having some kind of draw associated with their return.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS

C.1 President's Report

No report was available as the President was on vacation.

C.2 Vice-President's Report

No report was available.

C.3 Executive Director's Report

In addition to his written report, D. Anderson informed the Board of the following:

Funding Framework Recommendations: The Severe Special Needs Funding and Transportation Funding recommendations had been approved at the February 7th meeting of the Minister's Advisory Committee on the Funding Framework. D. Anderson suggested that the issues of choice and walk limits/ride times in transportation funding needed to be discussed outside the Funding Framework review.

Three other recommendations would soon be provided to stakeholders regarding CEU Funding, CTS, and Enrolment Growth using the same feedback process.

D. Anderson also advised that the Deputy Minister was thinking about a broader review on school board funding and infrastructure with a broader consultation sample. The Deputy's staff had also noticed the inconsistencies in ASBA policies regarding targeted funding.

Full-time Kindergarten: D. Anderson commented that, while ASBA continues to press for full-time kindergarten, the Minister was focusing more on at-risk students.

Unfunded Teachers' Pension: D. Anderson reported that the Minister had talked about solving the pension issue and using that to recruit and retain teachers.

ASBA Board Charter: D. Anderson informed the board that their annual review of the Charter would be scheduled as a separate meeting, not added on to a Board meeting. Once he had met with Dickson Wood, a meeting date for the review would be finalized.

Rural Education Congress: As K. Holloway was unable to attend the Congress being held March 25-27 in Saskatoon, W. Olson-Lepchuk agreed to attend on behalf of ASBA.

GLA Update: D. Anderson reminded the Board of ASBA policy 8.D.04 requesting a moratorium on implementing GLA reporting and that Alberta Education engage in a full consultation process with stakeholders. He reported that a stakeholder committee had been established and good progress was being made. He added that he would be meeting with the Deputy Minister on March 2 to discuss the "reporting to government" aspect of the issue.

K. Wagner joined the meeting to provide a verbal update to supplement the GLA report included as C.9(e) of the Information Items. He expressed his concerns on the following issues:

- Vertical vs. horizontal enrichment
- Determining a provincial standard of curriculum for each grade level
- Ability and capacity to define grade levels of work

C.4 Member Reports

Edmonton Public (*G. Gibeault*): Please refer to the written report.

Edmonton Catholic (*D. Cavaliere*): No report was provided.

Calgary Public (*C. Bazinet*): Please refer to the written report.

Calgary Catholic (*L. Burke-Gaffney*): In addition to her written report, L. Burke-Gaffney advised that both parties had ratified their teachers' collective agreement.

Zone 1 (*W. Olson-Lepchuk*): In addition to her report, W. Olson-Lepchuk stated that she felt there was a need for professional development for Zone Chairs on structuring meetings that were beneficial, productive, and worthwhile. D. Anderson added that the practice and expectation of the ASBA Executive to attend each Zone meeting needed to be reviewed.

Zone 23 (*G. Steinke*): Please refer to the written report. Highlighted was the Zone's concern regarding the vagueness of the *Municipal School Reserve Act* and the need to advocate for improvements.

Zone 4 (*K. Holloway*): In addition to her report, K. Holloway highlighted the Zone's concerns regarding the ASBA Omnibus Motion, Challenge Day, and whether "Best Practice" sessions could be included at ASBA general meetings.

Zone 5 (*D. Gardner*): A verbal report was provided in which the Minister's "Four Corners Tour" was highlighted.

Zone 6 (*M. Moncrieff*): A verbal report was given to highlight an interesting presentation given by a Hutterite teacher in January, a partnership with Lethbridge Public, a workshop planned for March 29 on interest based bargaining and communications during bargaining, and a new teacher induction program.

ACSTA (*J. Hansen*): Please refer to the written report.

PSBAA (*J. Muir*): Please refer to the written report.

FCSFA (*M. Blanchet*): In addition to his report, M. Blanchet advised that each francophone board would be requesting that the FCSFA be granted full member status on the ASBA Board of Directors.

Board members were encouraged to review the various reports, documents, correspondence and conference brochures included in their agenda package.

C.9 Reports

C.9(e) GLA Reporting

Keith Wagner gave a verbal update on the status of GLA to supplement this report (see C.3 – Executive Director’s Report).

C.9(i) ASEBP Report

G. Gibeaut highlighted that for 2007-08 the Experience Adjustment System of surcharges and discounts would be based on individual board experience rather than pooled experience, as a more direct and transparent method to determine premiums.

Transfer of School Issue: D. Anderson advised that a school board had requested ASBA representation to discuss the principle of Alberta Education giving precedence to private schools over charter schools. He asked board members to let him know if they saw any problems with ASBA doing this.

Governance Review Contact List: H. Welwood alerted board members to the confidentiality of the Board Chair contact information provided to them.

D. MEETING EVALUATION

Directors were encouraged to complete and return their meeting evaluation form.

E. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #7
G. Steinke

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

President

Executive Director