



SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 7, 2010
Capri Centre, Red Deer

MINUTES

- ATTENDANCE:** As per registration list.
- CALL TO ORDER:** President Heather Welwood called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:** President Heather Welwood provided her opening remarks to the assembly.
- MINISTER'S ADDRESS:** Honourable Dave Hancock, Minister of Education, provided a taped video address to the assembly.
- CHAIR:** Vice-President Jacquie Hansen assumed the Chair's position for the meeting.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS:

(Note: These require a simple majority)

Appointment of Parliamentarian:

MOTION #1 A-M. Boucher (Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 - Public)
B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)

That Kevin Feehan be appointed Parliamentarian.

CARRIED (93%)

Approval of Rules of Procedure:

MOTION #2 D. Lavoie (Holy Family CRD #37)
K. Milder (Holy Spirit RCSR #4)

That the Rules of Procedure be adopted.

CARRIED (98%)

Approval of Minutes (Fall General Meeting 2009):

MOTION #3 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)
M. Bergstra (Edmonton Catholic)

That the minutes of the 2009 ASBA Fall General Meeting be approved as distributed.

CARRIED (100%)

Appointment of Balloting Committee:

MOTION #4 C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)
D. Lavoie (Holy Family CRD #37)

That, according to Bylaw No. 9, Section 10, the Balloting Committee shall be chaired by Heather Rogers, Ballot Committee Chair.

CARRIED (98%)

Receipt of Emergent Issue:

J. Hansen, Chair of the Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC), advised that the PDAC had ruled that Emergent Issue 18EM/SGM10 (Safe Learning Environments) had not met the requirements to be eligible for consideration.

MOTION #5 L. Brower (Elk Island Public Schools RD #14)
J. Boisvert (Elk Island CSRD #41)

That 18EM/SGM10 (Safe Learning Environments) be accepted as an emergent issue and added to the Order Paper.

DEFEATED (62%)*

(* Required a 2/3 majority vote)

Adoption of Order Paper:

MOTION #6 B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)
S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)

That the Order Paper, excluding Emergent Issue 18EM/SGM10, be adopted.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION #6

S. Shavers (Grande Prairie Public SD #2357)
J. Trettler (St. Albert PSSD #6)

That a question and answer period following the Communications Protocol and Guiding Principles Update be added to the Order Paper.

CARRIED (75%)

VOTE ON MOTION #6 AS AMENDED

That the Order Paper, excluding Emergent Issue 18EM/SGM10 and as amended, be adopted.

CARRIED

PROPOSED BUDGET

(Note: This requires a double majority of 60%)

1B/SGM10 ASBA Budget 2009-2010
MOTION #7 L. Akers (Grande Yellowhead Public S. Div. #77)

B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)

That the Alberta School Boards Association adopt the budget appended hereto for the period September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards: 98
% of Students: 98.23)

Jackie Swainson assumed the Chair.

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS:

(Note: These require a double majority of 60%)

2A/SGM10 Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 4.4(b) (Election of Board of Directors)

MOTION #8 D. Lavoie (Holy Family CRD #37))
A-M. Boucher (Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 - Public)

That the Alberta School Boards Association amend Bylaw No. 4.4(b) to read as follows:

(b) The President, the Vice-President, the Zone Directors and the Metro Directors shall be elected for terms of approximately 18 months and shall be eligible for re-election for one successive term of approximately 18 months. The President, Vice-President, Zone Directors, and the Metro Directors may be elected to a previously held position for more than two terms provided such re-election occurs approximately 18 months following conclusion of the first two terms.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 98
% of Students 99.49)

3A/SGM10 Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 4.5 (Election of Board of Directors)

MOTION #9 C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)
M. Bergstra (Edmonton Catholic)

That the Alberta School Boards Association amend Bylaw No. 4.5 to clarify eligibility for the position of ASBA President, Vice-President, Zone or Metro Director, or alternate by adding sub-section (e) as follows:

(e) An individual occupying any of the following positions shall not be eligible to concurrently hold the position of President, Vice-President, Zone or Metro Director, or alternate:

(i) Zone Chair/Vice-Chair

(ii) Appointed representatives of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (Zone 7), the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (Zone 8), and the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities - Zone 9) who attend Board of Directors meetings as observers

(iii) *The President or Vice-President of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (Zone 7), the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (Zone 8), and the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities - Zone 9).*

AMENDMENT TO MOTION #9

(Requires a simple majority to pass)

T. Riley (Medicine Hat SD #76)

J. Trettler (St. Albert PSSD #6)

That the words "or alternate" be deleted from proposed Bylaw No. 4.5(e).

DEFEATED

(% of School Boards 12)

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION #9

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 97

% of Students 98.33)

4A/SGM10 Amendment to Schedule A: Bylaw No. 6 – Zone Executive

MOTION #10 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)

B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)

That the Alberta School Boards Association amend Schedule A: Bylaw No. 6 to clarify eligibility for the positions of Zone Chair and Zone Vice-Chair by inserting a new sub-section #3 to read as follows and renumbering subsequent sub-sections:

3. *The position of Zone Chair or Vice-Chair shall not be held by:*
 - (i) *the ASBA President, Vice-President, Zone or Metro Director, or alternate*
 - (ii) *the President or Vice-President of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (Zone 7), the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (Zone 8), and the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (Federation of Francophone School Authorities - Zone 9).*

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 98

% of Students 99.53)

5A/SGM10 Amendment to Bylaw No. 9 – Representation and Voting at General Meetings

MOTION #11 J. Stitzenberger (Grande Yellowhead Public S. Div. #77)

Ft. McMurray Public

That the Alberta School Boards Association amend Bylaw No. 9 to set out the criteria for electronic voting by inserting a new sub-section 10 to read as follows and renumbering subsequent existing sub-sections:

10. *Electronic voting shall include:*

- (a) *A means of identifying whether the member board voted in favour or against the motion on the electronic display of the vote completion;*
- (b) *A means of changing the electronic vote by the member board, prior to the closing of the vote; and*
- (c) *A means of identifying the electronic vote cast by each member board is provided to each member board.*

The assembly agreed to hear a report by David Anderson, ASBA Executive Director, on the options currently available that would accommodate the proposed amendment regarding electronic voting. These were:

- (1) Provide a list of how each board voted (only available after a vote was counted);
- (2) Use voting device and voting cards simultaneously; and
- (3) Use voting device and standing vote.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION #11

(Requires a simple majority to pass)

T. Riley (Medicine Hat SD #76)
Black Gold RD #18

That the ASBA be directed to study the issue of electronic voting and report back to the next general meeting.

DEFEATED

(% of School Boards 20)

AMENDMENT TO MOTION #11

(Requires a simple majority to pass)

D. Nelson (Buffalo Trail Public Schools RD #28)
G. Westgard (Prairie Rose S. Div. #8)

That a new sub-section be added as 10(d) to Bylaw 9 to read as follows:

- (d) *A visual means of identifying the time available prior to the closing of the vote.*

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 54)

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO MOTION #11

(Requires unanimous consent)

F. Kreiner (Greater North Central Francophone ER #2)
Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 (Public)

That Section 10(a) read: "*A means of identifying whether the member board voted in favour or against the motion.*"

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 100)

VOTE ON MOTION #11 AS AMENDED

DEFEATED

(% of School Boards 66

% of Students 52.58)

Lynda Akers assumed the Chair.

POLICY POSITION POSTPONED TO 2010 SGM

6P/SGM10: Revise Weighting of Diploma Exams

MOTION #12 N. Major (Lethbridge SD #51)
D. Peterson (Livingstone Range S. Div. #68)

Beginning in the 2010/2011 school year, in calculating students' final marks for all subjects with diploma exams, the weighting for all such exams should be 30% of the final mark, with the remaining 70% to be determined by the school awarded mark.

The assembly agreed to hear a presentation by Dr. John Rymer, Executive Director of Learner Assessment, Alberta Education, which provided a historical perspective of the weighting of provincial/diploma exams.

VOTE ON MOTION #12

DEFEATED
(% of School Boards 55)

UPDATE - COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES – Q & A SESSION:

Suzanne Lundrigan, ASBA Director of Communications, provided background information on the development of a draft protocol to guide school boards through a private school's request to offer an alternative program when the school board was not the private school's resident board. Delegates were provided with a document outlining the protocol which included a list of frequently asked questions on the issue of alternate programs.

Other speakers included Heather Welwood, ASBA President, Mr. Steve Cymbol, ASBA consultant, and Mr. Rick Hayes of Alberta Education. Following the presentations, the assembly recessed for lunch and to hear the keynote speaker, Mr. Jim Bottomley.

S. Lundrigan encouraged delegates to email any questions to her at slundrigan@asba.ab.ca.

MOTION #13 Grande Prairie Public SD #2357
Medicine Hat SD #76

That the process of developing the protocol be stopped and the committee disbanded.

The Parliamentarian ruled that Motion #13 was out of order and that delegates would need to approve an extraordinary motion to bring the matter forward which required a 2/3 majority vote to pass.

When asked if they wished to entertain an extraordinary motion to bring the matter forward, the assembly voted 54% in favour and therefore an extraordinary motion was not considered.

Jacquie Hansen assumed the Chair.

POLICY REAFFIRMATIONS, AMENDMENTS AND DELETIONS

7P/SGM10 Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA)

MOTION #14 H. Welwood (Northern Lights S. Div. #69)
M. Bergstra (Edmonton Catholic)

That the Association policy on the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) on page 2-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be deleted.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 97
% of Students 92.7)

8P/SGM10 Membership Fees

MOTION #15 B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)
D. Lavoie (Holy Family CRD #37)

That the Association policy on membership fees on page 3-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be deleted.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 97
% of Students 92.5)

9P/SGM10 Curriculum Content – Applied Math

MOTION #16 M. Bergstra (Edmonton Catholic)
K. Milder (Holy Spirit RCSR #4)

That the Association policy on curriculum content – applied math on page 5-2 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

*Admission to Post-Secondary Institutions
Alberta Education, Alberta Advanced Education and post-secondary institutions should collaborate to establish appropriate entrance requirements for students. Such entrance requirements should only require more advanced courses and course sequences when the knowledge content of such courses/course sequences is a prerequisite to the knowledge content of first year courses.*

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 98
% of Students 99.33)

Jackie Swainson assumed the Chair.

10P/SGM10 School Act Amendment to Provide for Electronic Meeting Attendance

MOTION #17 A-M. Bouchard ((Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 - Public)
C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)

That the Association policy requesting a *School Act* amendment to provide for electronic board meeting attendance on pages 8-1 and 12-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be deleted.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 100
% of Students 100)

11P/SGM10 Small Schools by Necessity

MOTION #18 A-M. Bouchard (Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 - Public)
S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)

That the second paragraph of the Association policy on small schools by necessity on page 9-3 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

Small schools by necessity are an important component of the social infrastructure that is necessary to achieve economic diversification; spur growth in Alberta's agriculture industry; and improve the quality of life in Alberta.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION #18

(Requires a simple majority to pass)

J. Trettler (St. Albert PSSD #6)
C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)

That the word "*agriculture*" be deleted and the word "*industry*" be replaced with "*industries*".

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 87)

VOTE ON MOTION #18 AS AMENDED

DEFEATED

(% of School Boards 56)

12P/SGM10 Provincial Initiatives

MOTION #19 M. Bergstra (Edmonton Catholic)
D. Lavoie (Holy Family CRD #37)

That the Association policy on provincial initiatives on page 10-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

Provincial Initiatives

Given the huge financial and human investment involved in managing change and implementing new initiatives, Alberta Education should establish a consultative process that assesses, monitors and minimizes the workload and cost to school boards.

CARRIED

(% of School Boards 100)

Lynda Akers assumed the Chair.

13P/SGM10 Program Enhancement
MOTION #20 K. Milder (Holy Spirit RCSR #4)
 B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)

That the Association policy on program enhancement on page 14-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be amended to read as follows:

Program Enhancement
The Alberta School Boards Association shall collaborate with education stakeholders and Alberta Education on ways to improve methodologies for delivering programs to students in rural schools.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO MOTION #20
(Requires a simple majority to pass)

G. Rice (Edmonton Public)
 D. Nelson (Buffalo Trail Public Schools RD #28)

That the phrase "in rural schools" be deleted.

CARRIED
 (% of School Boards 100)

VOTE ON MOTION #20 AS AMENDED

CARRIED
 (% of School Boards 93
 % of Students 94.7)

14P/SGM10 Prohibition of Tobacco Products
MOTION #21 C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)
 A-M. Boucher (Greater Southern Francophone RA #4 - Public)

That the Association policy on the prohibition of tobacco products on page 19-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be deleted.

CARRIED
 (% of School Boards 98
 % of Students 98.79)

15/SGM10 Pedestrian Student Safety
MOTION #22 B. Esslinger (Edmonton Public)
 K. Milder (Holy Spirit RCSR #4)

That the Association policy on pedestrian student safety on page 19-1 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be deleted.

DEFEATED
 (% of School Boards 7)

17AA/SGM10 Advocacy re Funding of Teacher Salary Increases in Memorandum of Understanding
MOTION #23 H. Welwood (Northern Lights S. Div. #69)
 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)

That the Alberta School Boards Association call upon the provincial government to honour its commitment to fully fund increases in

teacher compensation called for in the November 2007 Alberta Government-ATA Memorandum of Understanding.

CARRIED
 (% of School Boards 100
 % of Students 100)

Jacque Hansen assumed the Chair.

16/SGM10 Education Profession
MOTION #24 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)
 C. Jespersen (Pembina Hills RD #7)

That the last bullet in the Association policy on the education profession on pages 13-1 and 13-2 of the *ASBA Governance Handbook* be reaffirmed.

MOTION #25 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)
 Edmonton Public

That the meeting move *in-camera* with only registered delegates and ASBA staff present.

(Note: Requires a simple majority to pass) **CARRIED**
 (% of School Boards 97%)

MOTION #26 S. Scarpino (Calgary Catholic)
 Ft. McMurray Public

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

(Note: Requires a simple majority to pass) **CARRIED**
 (% of School Boards 85%)

VOTE ON MOTION #24 **DEFEATED**
(Note: Requires a double majority to pass) (% of School Boards 15)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.