



Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting ASBA Boardroom

April 16-17, 2009

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Mrs. Heather Welwood, President
Ms. Bev Esslinger, Edmonton Public
Mrs. Marilyn Bergstra, Edmonton Catholic
Ms. Carol Bazinet, Calgary Public (Thursday)
Ms. Karen Kryczka, Calgary Public alternate (Friday)
Mr. Serafino Scarpino, Calgary Catholic
Mrs. Dianne Lavoie, Zone 1
Mrs. Lynda Akers, Zone 2/3
Mr. Clayton Jespersen, Zone 2/3
Ms. Jackie Swainson, Zone 4
Mr. Doug Gardner, Zone 5
Ms. Kerry Milder Zone 6
Mrs. Sandra Bannard, ACSTA
Mr. Roy Goulet, FCSFA
Mr. Don Fleming, PSBAA

Guests

Mr. Sig Schmold, ASBA Consultant (Agenda Item B.2)
Mr. Gene Williams, Alberta Education (Agenda Item B.3)

Regrets

Mrs. Jacquie Hansen, Vice President

Staff/Consultants

Mr. David Anderson, Executive Director
Ms. Donna Engel, Director, Corporate Services (Friday a.m.)
Mr. Scott McCormack, Manager, Special Initiatives
Ms. Heather Tkachuk, Research and Policy Analyst
Mr. Terry Gunderson, ASBA Consultant (B.1)
Ms. Bobbie Garner, Administrative Assistant
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

President Welwood called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Music was provided for the national anthem as well as video clips of Canadian scenes.

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

A.1 Agenda

(a) Additions/Changes

Add:

B.2(b) Transportation Task Force Recommendations

Remove:

C.1 TIES Report

(b) Approval

MOTION #1

S. Scarpino

That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

A.2 Approval of Minutes – March 12-13, 2009

(a) Errors/Omissions

B.2(a) ASBA Policy Task Force Proposal: The first sentence should read:

J. Hansen, Chair of the ASBA Policy Task Force, reported that the education finance section of the draft proposed policy statements had been presented to Zones 2/3 and 6.

(b) Approval

MOTION #2

D. Lavoie

That the minutes of the March 12-13, 2009 ASBA Board of Directors meeting be approved as corrected.

CARRIED

(c) Business Arising

There was no business arising from the March 2009 meeting.

A.3 In-Camera Session

(a) Executive Director Interim Accountability Report

MOTION #3

L. Akers

That the meeting move *in-camera*.

CARRIED

All observers and staff, excepting David Anderson, left the meeting.

MOTION #4

J. Swainson

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

All staff and observers returned to the meeting.

MOTION #5

K. Milder

That, based on the ASBA Board of Directors' review of the information provided, the Board determines that the Executive Director's accomplishments to date relative to meeting the quality indicators as outlined in the Interim Accountability Portfolio are acceptable to the Board.

CARRIED

MOTION #6
L. Akers

That the ASBA Board of Directors commend the Executive Director on the 2008 Member Survey results of "commendable" as outlined in section 2.1.3 of the Accountability Portfolio which were:

Association Affairs	98%
Legal	96%
Labour	82%

CARRIED

(b) Transportation Task Force Recommendations

B. Esslinger, Chair, Transportation Advocacy Task Force, provided a report containing a recommendation that the Board accept seven objectives for incorporation into the Transportation Advocacy Plan. Several revisions were suggested by Directors which were included in a revised draft being presented to the Board later in the meeting.

MOTION #7
B. Esslinger

That the ASBA Board of Directors accept the revised objectives and incorporate them in the Transportation Advocacy Plan.

CARRIED

MOTION #8
D. Gardner

That the meeting recess until Friday, April 17, 2009.

CARRIED

The meeting recessed on Thursday at 8:42 p.m. and reconvened at 9:07 a.m. on Friday.

B. ADVOCACY

B.1 Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) Report

(a) ASBA Policy Task Force Presentation

H. Tkachuk provided the same presentation as had been given to the Zones which outlined the proposed changes to the structure of ASBA policy position statements. The Board was also provided with concepts around which a new process for policy development could be developed. She stressed that the policy statements required membership approval, while the process to develop policy statements required Board of Directors' approval as per GP-12.

One of the proposed concepts was the establishment of an Issues Advisory Council that would review issues submitted by school boards and external organizations and make recommendations for the dispersal of issues to the Board of Directors.

(b) Acceptance of Proposed Policy Position Statements

MOTION #9
L. Akers

That the ASBA Board of Directors approve the proposed policy position statements for circulation to Zones and boards and presentation to the membership at the 2009 Spring General Meeting.

CARRIED

B.2 ASBA Advocacy Priority Reports

(a) Draft Infrastructure Report Presentation

Mr. Sig Schmold, ASBA Consultant, gave a presentation on the background and context of the draft "Infrastructure Report: The Voice of School Boards". The report included best practices and pressure points experienced by school boards as well as results of the February 2009 on-line infrastructure survey.

Directors made several suggestions for the report:

- Include a statement that, while the government encouraged boards to develop relationships/partnerships, it did not want "P3s"
- Include an appendix on the issues associated with the Highway 2 Corridor
- Include statement that the provincial "rural" designation definition did not take into account proximity to bigger centers
- Add municipal government pressures in "Other Issues"
- Add board priorities in "Conclusion"
- Include the Minister's quote that "infrastructure is broken" on the title page
- Move issues ranking statistics to an appendix.

Directors were asked to provide any other feedback to Scott McCormack as soon as possible as it was the intention of the Infrastructure Task Force to distribute the final report at the 2009 Spring General Meeting, assuming print deadlines were met.

B.3 Provincial Budget Debriefing Presentation

MOTION #10 J. Swainson

That the meeting move *in-camera* with observers and staff present.

CARRIED

MOTION #11 C. Jespersen

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

C. RESEARCH

C.1 TIES Report

This item was removed from the agenda.

D. PARTNERSHIPS

D.1 Support for Children's Commissioner for Canada

D. Anderson informed the board that a member of the CSBA Board, at its March meeting, requested each member association to individually endorse this initiative as outlined in the Background information. During this discussion the following comments were made:

- This initiative was not in ASBA's strategic plan
- Would Alberta Children's Services be the more appropriate group to consider endorsement?
- Provinces already had a similar department – was there a need for another level of government to be involved?
- It was unclear as to exactly what action ASBA was being asked to undertake
- ASBA membership would have to be consulted prior to any decision.

Based on their comments, the Board agreed that the ASBA response was that ASBA had no official position on this issue.

E. SERVICES TO BOARDS

E.1 Office Space

D. Anderson provided a confidential verbal update on the status of ASBA office space.

F. BOARD POLICIES

G. BOARD MEMBER REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

G.1 President's Report

In addition to her written report, H. Welwood reported the following:

CSBA: As the National Director had recently left the employ of CSBA, member associations had taken responsibility for various duties of the position. ASBA was now handling financial and legal aspects. CSBA was looking at where they wanted to be in the future and had planned conference call meetings for June and July.

Education Summit: A debriefing meeting had been held. A summary of the numerous, very positive evaluations would be sent to all participants and posted online. Next steps would be undertaken, with tools being provided to communities to engage their public. The President would send out a "thank you" letter to all participants. School boards would be asked to do the same to their local participants. Staff were commended for their work in organizing this event.

ASBA Leadership Academy: As the revised dates proposed for the academy were problematic for some, Donna Engel was asked to check hotel availability for dates between August 16 and 21. Later in the meeting, she advised that the hotel would be available Monday, August 17 to Wednesday, August 19.

It was decided that the Executive Director evaluation and the Board self-evaluation discussions would be held on August 17 starting at 9:30 a.m. with just the board members attending. The alternates and Zone Chairs would attend starting on Tuesday, August 18. It was anticipated that the academy would end at approximately 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19. Board of Directors observers were welcome to attend but at their own expense.

It was noted that Ms. Karen Anderson would facilitate the Executive Director evaluation session and Mr. Godfrey Huybregts would facilitate the leadership sessions that would focus on “turning the ASBA into a ‘we’ instead of a ‘they’ organization”.

Budget: As a result of a letter H. Welwood received from the Executive Director, a note would be added to the ASBA budget regarding his 2009-2010 salary.

Alberta Average Weekly Earnings Index (AAWEI): Due to the change in determining Alberta’s AWEI and the impact it had on the government’s commitment to fund teacher salaries, a meeting of government, ATA and ASBA officials was planned.

G.2 Vice-President’s Report

Please refer to the written report.

G.3 Executive Director’s Report

In addition to his written report, D. Anderson gave an update on Mat Hanrahan. He also provided a copy of the “Inspiring Education – A Dialogue with Albertans” agenda and participant journal for the discussion sessions held throughout the province. Scott McCormack added an explanation of the process involved in these discussions.

M. Bergstra left the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

G.4 Member Reports

Edmonton Public (*B. Esslinger*): In addition to her written report, B. Esslinger spoke about her Board’s “School is _____” campaign designed to encourage people to reflect on what public education means to them (www.school4you.ca).

Edmonton Catholic (*M. Bergstra*): No report was available.

Calgary Public (*K. Kryczka*): In addition to her written report, K. Kryczka advised that Superintendent interviews would be conducted during the next week.

Calgary Catholic (*S. Scarpino*): Please refer to the written report.

Zone 1 (*D. Lavoie*): Please refer to the written report.

Zone 2/3 (*L. Akers & C. Jespersen*): Included in the written report was a concern that ASBA was not doing enough in getting information out about the various things happening to promote community development. D. Anderson responded that ASBA was looking into that.

Zone 4 (*J. Swainson*): No report was available.

Zone 5 (*D. Gardner*): Please refer to the report distributed at the meeting.

Zone 6 (*K. Milder*): Please refer to the report distributed at the meeting.

ACSTA (*S. Bannard*): Please refer to the written report.

FCSFA (*R. Goulet*): No report was available.

PSBAA (*D. Fleming*): Please refer to the report distributed at the meeting.

H. OTHER

H.1 Directors' Requests for Information

D. Anderson received clarification on the issues of insurance liability and coaches' qualifications that the request was: If a coach was not certified and a school board was sued, what would be the board's liability?

H.2 Agenda Items – Future Board Meetings

The following items were identified:

- Presentation on "Success in School for Children and Youth in Care"
- ASBIE Board Appointment (May)
- ASBIE Board Appointments – Alignment to Policy
- Viewing of Zone 2/3's "Building the Foundations of Learning" (re PO&M and IMR funding)
- Presentation on "Early Childhood Mapping Project" by Dr. Sue Lynch

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

I.1 Early Childhood Mapping Project Presentation

As Dr. Lynch was unable to attend the meeting, she would be contacted to provide the presentation at the May board meeting.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

J.1 Final Approval of 2009-2012 ASBA Strategic Plan: It was noted that this should have been listed as "Final Version of 2009-2012 ASBA Strategic Plan."

K. MEETING EVALUATION

H. Welwood noted a concern expressed in the March meeting evaluations regarding side bar conversations. Directors were also reminded to provide details for question #7. They were also encouraged to complete and return their April meeting evaluation form.

L. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #12
D. Gardner

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

President

Executive Director