



**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
ASBA Boardroom**

April 16, 2010

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Mrs. Heather Welwood, President
Ms. Jacquie Hansen, Vice President
Ms. Bev Esslinger, Edmonton Public
Mrs. Marilyn Bergstra, Edmonton Catholic
Mrs. Karen Kryczka, Calgary Public
Mr. Serafino Scarpino, Calgary Catholic
Ms. Dianne Lavoie, Zone 1
Ms. Lynda Akers, Zone 2/3
Mr. Clayton Jespersen, Zone 2/3
Ms. Jackie Swainson, Zone 4
Ms. Anne-Marie Boucher, Zone 5
Ms. Colleen Deitz, Zone 6 Chair (2nd alternate)
Mrs. Alice Brick, ACSTA
Mr. Roy Goulet, FCSFA
Mrs. Patty Dittrick, PSBAA

Guests

Mr. Ralph Wohlgemuth, Zone 1 Chair
Ms. Lisa Brower, Zone 2/3 Chair
Ms. Dianne Macauley, Zone 4 Chair
Ms. Val Olekshy (E.2)

Regrets

Ms. Kerry Milder, Zone 6

Staff/Consultants

Mr. David Anderson, Executive Director
Ms. Donna Engel, Director, Corporate Services
Ms. Suzanne Lundrigan, Director, Communications
Mr. Scott McCormack, Manager, Special Initiatives
Ms. Heather Tkachuk, Research and Policy Analyst
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 9:02 a.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:

J.4(d) Infrastructure Report: *Resolving Alberta's School Infrastructure Deficit – School Boards' Input Toward Solutions*

G.6 Educational Trends Report

(b) Approval

MOTION #1
M. Bergstra

That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

A.2 Approval of Minutes – March 11-12 and March 30, 2010

(a) Errors/Omissions

March 11-12, 2010:

Motion #12 (page 6): Correct "rental" reserve to "building" reserve.

March 30, 2010:

Attendance: List Jackie Swainson under "Regrets".

(b) Approval

MOTION #2
B. Esslinger

That the minutes of the March 11-12, 2010 ASBA Board of Directors meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

MOTION #3
C. Jespersen

That the minutes of the special March 30, 2010 ASBA Board of Directors teleconference meeting be approved as corrected.

CARRIED

(c) Business Arising

There was no business arising from the March 11-12 or the March 30 minutes.

A.3 In-Camera Session

Agenda Item F.1 – Executive Director Evaluation – Interim Report was discussed *in-camera*.

MOTION #4
D. Lavoie

That the meeting move *in-camera* with voting members and ASBA staff present.

CARRIED

The observers left the meeting.

MOTION #5
S. Scarpino

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

MOTION #6
J. Swainson

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

The observers rejoined the meeting.

B. ADVOCACY

B.1 Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) Report

(a) Proposed Policy Clean-up for Spring General Meeting

J. Hansen, Chair of the PDAC, announced that the proposed recommendations regarding the clean-up to the ASBA policy positions marked the completion of the ASBA policy review, although it still required ratification with a double majority threshold by the membership at the Spring General Meeting. She added that, as per board governance policy, association policies must be reviewed at least once every five years.

J. Hansen highlighted one of the proposed recommendations included under the "Personnel and Employee Relations – Education Profession" section. It was suggested that this should be considered *in-camera* at the Spring General Meeting.

MOTION #7
M. Bergstra

That the ASBA Board of Directors approve for circulation to the membership the document entitled *Proposed Recommendations for Association Policy Positions Clean-Up* for SGM 2010.

CARRIED

B.2 ASBA Advocacy Priority Reports

(a) Infrastructure Task Force

S. McCormack provided a printed copy of the Infrastructure report entitled "Resolving Alberta's School Infrastructure Deficit" and advised that both Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure had agreed to appoint a representative to serve on the ASBA Infrastructure Task Force.

(b) Transportation Task Force

S. McCormack advised that the Minister of Education had not yet responded to ASBA's offer to provide solutions to transportation funding issues as identified by school boards [see Information Item J.5(f)].

(c) High School Completion Task Force

S. McCormack advised that the task force would be meeting on April 23, 2010.

MOTION #8
M. Bergstra

That the verbal advocacy reports be accepted.

CARRIED

B.3 Task Force Reports

(a) **Governance Task Force**

S. McCormack provided the draft Terms of Reference for the task force and requested direction on them. He advised that the task force was meeting April 23 to compile previously gathered information for presentation at the Board's May meeting. As well, the task force was determining what it should present at the Spring General Meeting.

MOTION #9
S. Scarpino

That the ASBA Board of Directors approve the Governance Task Force's Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

(b) **First Nation, Métis and Inuit Student Success Task Force**

D. Lavoie, Chair of the task force, reported that she had reviewed the 24 applications received for the task force, which had a projected completion date of May 2013.

MOTION #10
M. Bergstra

That the ASBA Board of Directors appoint the following individuals as members of the First Nation, Métis and Inuit Student Success Task Force:

- Beatrice Wright, trustee, Holy Family Catholic, (Zone 1)
- Darrell Ghostkeeper, Living Waters CRD, (Zone 2/3)
- Rob Reimer, trustee, Wetaskiwin RPS, (Zone 4)
- Ron Kenworthy, trustee, Golden Hills, (Zone 5)
- Kathy Cooper, trustee, Prairie Rose, (Zone 6)
- Cindy Olsen, trustee, Edmonton Catholic, (Metro Boards)
- Brian Callaghan, Superintendent, Canadian Rockies (Administrator)

CARRIED

C. RESEARCH There were no Research items.

D. PARTNERSHIPS

D.1 External Committee Representation

(a) **CAREERS...The Next Generation Advisory Committee**

MOTION #11
S. Scarpino

That the ASBA Board of Directors appoint Lori Brooks, a trustee with Westwind S. Div. #74, as the ASBA representative on the CAREERS...The Next Generation Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2011.

CARRIED

(b) ATA Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty

MOTION #12

J. Hansen

That her recommendation for a representative on the Children and Poverty Committee be deleted from the agenda.

CARRIED

J. Hansen explained that she needed to reconsider her recommendation to ensure there was no duplication of appointments and asked the Board's indulgence to discuss this appointment at the end of the meeting.

E. SERVICES TO BOARDS

E.1 Friends of Education Award

D. Anderson briefed the Board on the difficulty boards had in submitting names/organizations for the award that were truly provincial in scope and met the award's criteria. D. Engel advised that several of the Zones had already instituted a local Zone "Friends of Education" award. It was suggested that a question be added to the application on the extent and effect of the nominee's contributions outside of a Zone.

It was suggested that nominations be pre-screened to determine whether they met the award criteria and were eligible for the ASBA award. If they were deemed ineligible, there would still be sufficient time for the nominating board to include the information required.

Directors were encouraged to highlight the provincial nature of this award at their Zones.

MOTION #13

B. Esslinger

That the Friends of Education Award remain available as listed in the ASBA Awards booklet.

CARRIED

E.2 Presentation re "Guide to Essential Conditions ..."

Ms. Val Olekshy, Executive Director of the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortia, provided an overview of the redrafted document "A Guide To Support Implementation: Essential Conditions" which was created in response to the government's need to determine if grant money made a difference in student learning.

The Board raised the following points regarding the document:

- School boards and trustees were not mentioned anywhere in the document even though, ultimately, the school board was responsible for student success. The term "jurisdictional" leadership implied central office staff, not trustees.

- A more accurate title for the document would be "A Guide to Support Implementation of Positive Change in Alberta's Schools"

At Ms. Olekshy's request, D. Anderson agreed to appoint an ASBA staff member to assist in adapting the guide as per the board's suggestions. H. Welwood advised that the final draft would be brought to the Board for consideration of their support.

E.3 Protocol re Boards Operating Schools Outside of their Geographical Boundaries

D. Anderson informed the board that, in reference to the ASBA policy on "Schools Outside Electoral Jurisdiction", both the Minister and Deputy Minister supported the development of a protocol being undertaken by ASBA, with input from Alberta Education. This issue was referenced in the report by Steve Cymbol entitled "*Educational Choice for Albertans*" which was presented at the 2008 Fall General Meeting.

Directors commented that protocols were just guidelines or suggestions and that only the government could strengthen them through legislation or regulation. In addition Directors felt that this issue needed to be addressed as part of the *School Act* Review.

MOTION #14

B. Esslinger

That the ASBA Board of Directors direct the Executive Director to develop a protocol regarding boards operating schools outside of their geographical boundaries.

CARRIED

H. Welwood clarified that the Board of Directors would consider the draft protocol prior to it being presented at a general meeting.

E.4 Participation of CASS and ASCA in ASEBP

D. Anderson reiterated that in order for non-school board employees to participate in the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan, approval was required by the ATA, ASBA, and ASEBP Board of Trustees.

MOTION #15

C. Jespersen

That the ASBA Board of Directors support the participation of CASS and ASCA employees in the ASEBP.

CARRIED

D. Anderson also advised that the ASEBP Board of Trustees would ensure that no additional costs would accrue to school boards if this participation was approved.

F. BOARD POLICIES

- F.1 Executive Director Evaluation – Interim Report** This was discussed during the *In-Camera* session (agenda item A.3, Motion #6).
- F.2 Board Meeting Date – December 2010** As indicated in the briefing note, two events were scheduled on or near the same dates as the current December meeting dates (December 9-10, 2010).

MOTION #16
A-M. Boucher

That the January 2011 Board strategic planning session be extended one day to allow for a combined December/January board meeting.

CARRIED

June 2010 Board Meeting Date: It was also noted that the June 2010 Board meeting date conflicted with a Zone 2/3 meeting. As a result, the June Board meeting would most likely be conducted via conference call.

G. BOARD MEMBER REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- G.1 President’s Report** H. Welwood reported on the following meetings she had recently attended or would soon be attending:

Deputy Minister’s Teaching Quality (April 8-9): At this meeting, all of which the Minister attended, it was rumoured that the *School Act* may be on the Spring 2011 legislature agenda. Other issues discussed were extending teacher preparation programs to the board level as well as assessment and curriculum. H. Welwood added that the “Four Partners” (ASBA, ASCA, ASBOA and CASS) had requested a meeting with the Minister on assessment.

ASBA/PSBAA Executive: This meeting was confirmed for April 22nd.

- (a) CSBA Update** Ms. Andrea Prupas was appointed the new Managing Director of CSBA. Due to the significant narrowing of CSBA’s focus, provincial associations would be more heavily relied upon to undertake lobbying efforts.

- G.2 Vice-President’s Report** To supplement her written report, J. Hansen provided documents from the 2010 NSBA Conference she had attended.

- G.3 Executive Director’s Report** In addition to his written report, D. Anderson advised that he had met with the Deputy Minister regarding the proposed tripartite agreement that the government hoped would replace more money for teacher salaries. His comment to the Deputy Minister was that there was not enough trust in the system because of the government’s failure to fund future AAWEI increases.

Library Access Policy & Guidelines: D. Anderson reminded the Board of his request at the February meeting for them to provide him with input on this document (see I.2) that he would provide to the ASBA representative, Karen Prokopowich, on the School Library Advisory Committee.

G.4 Member Reports

Edmonton Public (*B. Esslinger*): Please refer to the written report.

Edmonton Catholic (*M. Bergstra*): Please refer to the written report.

Calgary Public (*K. Kryczka*): Please refer to the written report.

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

Zone 1 (*D. Lavoie*): Please refer to the Zone 1 Chair's verbal report below (G.5).

Zone 2/3 (*L. Akers/C. Jespersen*): Please refer to the written report and the Zone 2/3 Chair's verbal report below (G.5).

Zone 4 (*J. Swainson*): Please refer to the Zone 4 Chair's verbal report below (G.5).

Zone 5 (*A-M. Boucher*): Please refer to the written report and to agenda item G.5(a) below.

Zone 6 (*K. Milder*): A report was not available.

ACSTA (*A. Brick*): The ACSTA Retreat was held last weekend.

FCSFA (*R. Goulet*): R. Goulet advised that 87% of parents who attended the amalgamation consultations were in favour of the two southern Alberta francophone boards merging.

PSBAA (*P. Dittrick*): Please refer to the report distributed at the meeting.

G.5 Zone Chair Reports

Zone 1 (*R. Woghlemuth*): The ASBA budget presentation was well received by the Zone. He stressed the importance of school boards that had to draw from their reserves due to inadequate provincial funding to consistently refer to their budget as a "deficit" budget. L. Akers added that the social media presentation at the last Zone meeting on the use of Facebook and Twitter to connect with the electorate was very good.

Zone 2/3 (*L. Brower*): The Zone had recently changed the way it organized their advocacy presentations. They would now conduct a survey in the fall to identify three top issues and then choose an advocacy committee in October. That way trustees could work on issues that appealed to them. She added that the Zone was looking forward to the Governance Task Force findings.

Zone 4 (*D. Macaulay*): The Zone had a good discussion on their bylaws. H. Welwood apologized for having to schedule, out of necessity, the Board Chairs meeting on the same day as the March 22nd Zone meeting.

(a) Amalgamation of Southern Alberta Francophone Boards

A-M. Boucher provided the background of the process and an update on the amalgamation of the two southern Alberta Francophone school boards which was initiated by their trustees. Following 14 consultation sessions held with their school communities, each of the two boards involved met on April 8 and formally decided to request the Minister to dissolve both boards and establish one Francophone Regional Authority for the Greater Southern Francophone Education Region #4 in time for the start of the 2010-2011 school year.

G.6 Educational Trends Report

S. McCormack advised that some restructuring had been instituted to focus the group's efforts to update and summarize the activity taking place with regard to trends each stakeholder had identified. The intent was to monitor and discuss trends as they emerged and impacted the education sector. The "Discussion Notes" of April 14th reflected this shift.

He added that the "ASBA Visioning Futures" meeting had been put on hold pending the conclusion of the Education Minister's *Inspiring Education* initiative.

MOTION #17
A-M. Boucher

That the ASBA Board of Directors accept the Educational Trends report.

CARRIED

H. OTHER

H.1 Directors' Requests for Information

Weighting of Diploma Exams: J. Swainson advised that on April 15th CTV News aired a segment showing a group of students presenting a petition to the Minister asking Alberta Education to change the weighting of diploma exams.

H.2 Agenda Items – Future Board Meetings

The following items were identified:

- Presentation on “Balanced School Year” (research by Zone 1)
- Presentation by the Society for Safe and Caring Schools re FNMI

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

I.1 Annual Report Input

S. Lundrigan spoke to moving to an electronic annual report resulting in a cost savings of approximately \$10,000. In addition to this boards will be sent a personalized value statement as a motivator to visit the ASBA website to view the annual report.

The 2009-2010 annual report would identify the top ten accomplishments of ASBA. In addition to those listed in the briefing note, Board members suggested the following:

- Add: Building of leadership capacity
- Include “Tripartite agreement” under “Effective Partnerships”
- Highlight work re public engagement and governance handbook, approach to policy
- Task forces have been fairly significant
- “Stop the Cuts” was an effective partnership with ATA – confirm the amount of savings

I.2 Access to Electronic Board Package

D. Anderson advised that plans were on track for the deployment of electronic access to board packages. On Thursday evening of the May meeting, directors would receive a demonstration on accessing the board package electronically. He instructed board members to bring their laptop and ether net cables to connect to the internet if they had not already downloaded the package to their computer. Paper copies would be available for those who wanted them. However, a date would be set to eliminate future paper copies.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

J.4(b) ASEBP Report: D. Anderson informed the board that he and H. Welwood would be meeting with ASEBP trustees to discuss fiscal constraints facing boards and increased premiums due to the addition of new plans.

Photos: S. Lundrigan reminded Directors that a Board photo would be taken on Friday, May 14. Directors were to meet in the Sutton Place Hotel lobby at 8:30 a.m. and walk to the shoot location.

Spring General Meeting: The theme of the SGM was “2010 A Governance Odyssey”.

K. MEETING EVALUATION

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

L. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #18

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

MOTION #19
M. Bergstra

That the meeting reconvene to appoint an ASBA representative to the Children and Poverty Committee.

CARRIED

H. Welwood called the meeting back to order.

D.1(b) ATA Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty

MOTION #20
D. Lavoie

That the ASBA Board of Directors appoint Jennifer Wrzosek, a trustee with Grande Prairie Catholic, as the ASBA representative on the ATA Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty for a term to expire June 30, 2012.

CARRIED

MOTION #21
J. Hansen

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

President

Executive Director