



Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting ASBA Boardroom

March 13-14, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Mrs. Heather Welwood, President
Mrs. Jacquie Hansen, Vice President
Ms. Bev Esslinger, Edmonton Public
Mrs. Marilyn Bergstra, Edmonton Catholic (Thursday)
Mrs. Debbie Engel, Edmonton Catholic (alternate) (Friday)
Ms. Karen Kryczka, Calgary Public (alternate)
Mr. Serafino Scarpino, Calgary Catholic
Mr. John Lehnert, Zone 1 (Thursday)
Mrs. Lynda Akers, Zone 2/3
Mr. Clayton Jespersen, Zone 2/3
Ms. Patty Dittrick, Zone 4 (alternate)
Mr. Doug Gardner, Zone 5
Ms. Kerry Milder, Zone 6 (Friday)
Mrs. Alice Brick, ACSTA
Mr. Don Fleming, PSBAA
Mr. Martin Blanchet, FCSFA

Guests

Dr. Usha Procinsky (Agenda Item A.7)
Dr. Warren Phillips (Agenda Item B.2)

Staff/Consultants

Mr. David Anderson, Executive Director
Ms. Donna Engel, Director, Corporate Services (Thursday)
Ms. Heather Rogers, Director, Finance (A.8, A.9)
Ms. Heather Tkachuk, ASBA Staff Officer (A.4, A.6, A.7)
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 7:10 p.m. She informed the Board of the recent passing of Gerald Kujala, a former Zone 4 Director on the Board and the Chair of Wild Rose S. Div, who initiated the singing of the national anthem at Board meetings.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jacquie Hansen led the Board in the singing of O'Canada.

A. RECOMMENDED ACTION ITEMS

A.1 Agenda

(a) Additions/Changes

Additions:

C.4 **Transportation Advocacy Task Force Report**
(under Member Reports)

C.4 **Infrastructure Advocacy Task Force Report**
(under Member Reports)

C.7(g) **Trends, Innovations, and Educational
Scenarios (TIES) Report**

(b) Approval

MOTION #1
D. Gardner

That the agenda, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

A.2 Approval of Minutes – February 14-15, 2008

(a) Errors/Omissions

C.4 – Member Reports – Zone 5: the minutes should reflect that a Zone 5 report had been handed out at the meeting.

A.6 – Accountability Report – Motion #10: the spelling of the mover's name needed to be corrected.

(b) Approval

MOTION #2
S. Scarpino

That the minutes of the February 14-15, 2008 ASBA Board of Directors meeting be approved as corrected.

CARRIED

(c) Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes.

A.3 In-Camera Session

An *in-camera* session was not necessary.

A.4 Accountability Report – Team Leader

MOTION #3
L. Akers

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

CARRIED

MOTION #4
K. Milder

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

MOTION #5
S. Scarpino

That, based on the Board of Directors' review of the information provided, the Board determines that the Executive Director has met the quality indicators as outlined in the Team Leader Accountability Report; and

That the Board of Directors request the Executive Director to include this accountability report in the ASBA Executive Director Evaluation Evidence Binder for the period September 1, 2007 – August 31, 2008; and,

That the Board of Directors commend the Executive Director as Team Leader for maintaining low staff turnover during a competitive employment market.

CARRIED

D. Anderson thanked the Board of Directors for their commendations and added that he was proud of the quality work the staff provided which was of tremendous value to ASBA.

A.5 External Committee Appointments

(a) Children & Poverty Committee

K. Milder presented her recommendation based on the applications received.

MOTION #6
C. Jespersen

That the ASBA Board of Directors appoint Kathy Cooper, a trustee with Prairie Rose S. Div. #8, to the ATA Joint Stakeholder Committee on Children and Poverty for a term to expire June 30, 2009.

CARRIED

A.6 ASBA Strategic Plan (2007-2010) – Q2 Update and Implementation

MOTION #7
D. Gardner

That the ASBA Board of Directors receive the ASBA Strategic Plan 2007-2010 Second Quarter Report for information.

CARRIED

A.7 ASBA Strategic Plan (2008-2011)

Dr. Usha Procinsky presented the draft strategic plan which was based on discussions at the Board Strategic Planning session held in January. The plan was organized under ASBA mandate areas, and included end dates for the key results.

Board members requested that Strategy B1.1 be revised to read:

Research and document trends and promising practices and challenges in “Choice – Alternatives to Traditional Education”.

MOTION #8
B. Esslinger

That the ASBA Board of Directors approve the ASBA Strategic Plan 2008-2011 as revised.

CARRIED

A.8 Approval of Proposed ASBA Budget (2008-2009)

D. Anderson expressed his concern that, while ASBA currently had healthy reserves, new sources of revenue were necessary for the long term.

MOTION #9
J. Hansen

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

CARRIED

MOTION #10
K. Milder

That the meeting move out of *camera*.

CARRIED

J. Lehnrs left the meeting due to illness.

H. Rogers, Director of Finance, gave a presentation on the proposed budget which was \$64,802 higher than the previous year's budget. She also provided an information document on frequently asked questions to assist Board members in presenting the budget to their Zone/Board.

The Board instructed H. Rogers on how to offset the increase and was later provided with a revised draft budget which contained a 3.3% increase in per diems for board members, an increase in transportation allowance from \$.44 to \$.48 per kilometre (effective April 1, 2008), and a 1.5% increase in membership fees.

MOTION #11
D. Engel

That the draft budget as revised be presented to the general membership for ratification at the 2008 Spring General Meeting.

CARRIED

A.9 Appointment of External Auditor (2007-2008 Fiscal Year)

MOTION #12
D. Gardner

Given that the relationship with KPMG was reviewed in 2006/2007 and the partner in charge was rotated, the ASBA Board of Directors recommend that KPMG be appointed as the auditors for the year ending August 31, 2008.

CARRIED

A.10 Directors' Requests for Information

There were no requests for information.

A.11 Agenda Items – Future Board Meetings

Upon review of the items listed on the revised agenda, the Board agreed to remove *(c) Leadership Roles for Board Alternates*, but acknowledged that there may be a need to revisit it at some later date.

The remaining items were:

- ASBA 100th Anniversary Celebration Costing
- Subsidizing Service Costs
- Adequacy of Funding (Discussion)

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

B.1 Building Classroom Assessment Capacity Committee

Dr. Warren Phillips, former Superintendent of Battle River and current ASBA representative on the Building Classroom Assessment Capacity Committee, presented the committee's draft Visionary Statement and Necessary Conditions which they requested ASBA provide input on its direction.

Board input included the following:

- the “Necessary Conditions” did not flow properly
- under the ‘Teachers’ section, there should be a statement that teachers would give recognition to diploma exams and a statement that there needed to be more commitment by the teachers to in-service training
- there was no indication of funding at the committee level
- include under “School Authorities” that school boards were responsible for developing professional development policies for their teachers

Dr. Phillips agreed to provide the Board with the final Vision and Necessary Conditions statement once it was available for the Board to consider.

B.2 Board Leadership Session

D. Anderson sought feedback on whether the session, scheduled for August 20-23 in Banff, should be expanded to include Board alternates and Zone Chairs. He added that the session would focus on leadership and also include a brief business meeting, the Board’s self-evaluation, and the Executive Director’s evaluation. Directors expressed their desire to set aside time for communication/media training during the session.

General consensus was that including alternates and Zone Chairs and perhaps even observers, would be acceptable, depending on the extra costs involved. D. Anderson advised that he would provide cost analyses based on ASBA absorbing the entire cost and based on shared costs.

C. INFORMATION ITEMS

C.1 President’s Report

H. Welwood revised her written report to indicate that instead of attending the Zone 6 meeting on March 12, she had attended Gerald Kujala’s funeral. As well, she assured the Board that she had requested a meeting with the new Minister of Education, the Hon. Dave Hancock. She also advised that she would be on vacation March 20 – April 7.

(a) CSBA Update

Please refer to the written report.

C.2 Vice-President’s Report

J. Hansen highlighted the Halifax, Nova Scotia school board situation from her written report and briefed the Board that the Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) had met in the morning to:

1. review the Board of Directors policies with the aim to streamline them;

2. finalize the "Call for Issues" for the 2008 Fall General Meeting; and
3. expand the PDAC to include a representative from each zone and metro board to develop a more streamlined policy development process.

Board members concurred with the establishment of a working committee and felt that the members should be a Director, an alternate or some other person knowledgeable on policy development from each zone and metro board.

C.3 Executive Director's Report

D. Anderson added the following to his written report:

Fiscal Accountability Training Sessions: Under the direction of Mat Hanrahan, ASBA was offering several fiscal accountability training sessions throughout the province. He stressed the importance that all trustees, Superintendents and Secretary-Treasurers should attend one of these sessions, and requested Directors to attend their local session and one other session.

The sessions were scheduled as follows:

<u>April</u>		<u>May</u>	
2	Peace River	5	Calgary
3	Grande Prairie	6	Red Deer
7	Ft. McMurray	7	Lethbridge
8	Edmonton		
9	Edmonton		
18	St. Paul		

Arrangements were also being made to hold a session in Medicine Hat and for Metro Boards.

Pan Canadian Interactive Literacy Forum: C. Bazinet and B. Esslinger volunteered to attend the Literacy Forum being held at the Shaw Convention Centre in Edmonton April 14-16, 2008.

C.4 Member Reports

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

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

Calgary Public (*C. Bazinet*): Please refer to the written report. K. Kryczka provided copies of recent correspondence between CBE and Minister Liepert regarding private school funding and CBE's need for IMR funding. She added that CBE felt their concerns had not been addressed by the Minister.

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

Zone 1 (*J. Lehnert*): No report was available.

Zone 2/3 (*L. Akers & C. Jespersen*): In addition to their written report, L. Akers distributed Grande Yellowhead lapel pins.

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

Zone 5 (*D. Gardner*): In addition to his written report, D. Gardner advised that Foothills S. Div. was hosting a Technology Conference on April 14, 2008. He requested that Directors encourage school boards in their area to submit "best practices" information to the Foothills board.

Zone 6 (*K. Milder*): K. Milder reported that committee appointments had been made at the last Zone 6 meeting.

ACSTA (*A. Brick*): Please refer to the written report and Annual Report.

PSBAA (*D. Fleming*): Please refer to the written report.

FCSFA (*M. Blanchet*): Please refer to the written report.

**Transportation Advocacy
Task Force**

B. Esslinger reported that the task force had reviewed a report by Sig Schmold on transportation issues and would present an advocacy plan to the Board for its approval.

**Infrastructure Advocacy
Task Force**

B. Esslinger reported that the task force had reviewed ASBA infrastructure policies and suggested that the President meet with the new Minister to discuss related issues and concerns.

C.7 Reports

The following reports were highlighted:

C.7(f) Correspondence from Deputy Minister: An e-mail letter addressed to D. Anderson by the Deputy Minister regarding the lump sum payment to teachers as a result of the memorandum of agreement between the government and the ATA was distributed to the Board for their information.

C.7(g) Trends, Innovations, and Educational Scenarios (TIES) Report. D. Gardner distributed information on Special Education which included statistics and webpage addresses for related reports, as well as a profile on Foothills Academy, a special education school.

D. MEETING EVALUATION

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

E. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #13
K. Milder

That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2.10 p.m.

President

Executive Director