

**ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION ZONE 4**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**held on December 4, 2017 hosted by**

**Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools**

**commencing at 10:00 a. m.**

Phone: 780-352-6018

**1. Call To Order**

- a. Treaty Blessing – *Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools*
- b. Approval of Agenda
- c. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting Minutes dated 2017 November 6 - *attached*

**2. Reports**

- a. Zone 4 Chair Report C. Huelsman
- b. Zone 4 Financial Report - *attached* C. Huelsman
- c. ASBA Zone 4 Director Report - *no written report* C. Peacocke
- d. ASBA President Report M. Martin
- e. Labour Relations Report – *attached* D. Scott

*Motion to go In Camera (if needed)*

*Motion to come out of In Camera (if needed)*

- f. Alberta Education Report M. Ebbers
- g. Central Alberta Regional Consortium Report - *no report* L. Jess
- h. Zone 4 Edwin Parr Committee Report Clearview, Wetaskiwin, Wolf Creek
- i. Zone 4 Award Committee Report K. Becker and M. Tryon
- j. Student Wellness Initiative Report D. Macaulay
- k. Friends of Education Committee Report
- l. Zone Language Representative – *to be elected*

*Lunch*

**Executive Committee Meeting – 12:30 p. m.**

*Please note that there will not be a presentation from Wetaskiwin this meeting.*

**3. Old Business**

Zone Budget Surplus

Letter to Minister Eggen regarding Written Director Report

**4. New Business**

ASBA Fall General Meeting Feedback

**5. Adjournment**

**Next meeting** – the next meeting will be held on January 22, 2018 hosted by Clearview Public

*Merry Christmas*



*Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!*

## **ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION ZONE 4**

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, Red Deer, Alberta  
held on November 6, 2017 at 10:00 a. m.

M. Ebbers	Alberta Education
P. Rijavec	Alberta Education
M. Martin	ASBA President
H. Tkachuk	ASBA Chief Officer Association Business
L. Skori	Battle River School Division
H. Bilton	Chinook's Edge School Division
C. Butler	Chinook's Edge School Division
C. Huelsman	Chinook's Edge School Division
J. Knispel-Matejka	Chinook's Edge School Division
B. Scott	Clearview Public Schools
K. Smyth	Clearview Public Schools
A. LaGrange	Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools
C. Leyson	Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools
D. Lonsdale	Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools
M. Hollman	Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools
N. Buchanan	Red Deer Public Schools
B. Christie	Red Deer Public Schools
D. Macaulay	Red Deer Public Schools
B. Manning	Red Deer Public Schools
C. Peacocke	Red Deer Public Schools
L. Woodward	Red Deer Public Schools
K. Becker	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
J. Pettifor	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
L. Ware	Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools
D. Scott	Wild Rose School Division
G. Thompson	Wild Rose School Division
M. Tryon	Wild Rose School Division
T. Bratland	Wolf Creek Public Schools
B. Buchanan	Wolf Creek Public Schools
P. Hansen	Wolf Creek Public Schools
L. Henry	Wolf Creek Public Schools
L. Jess	Wolf Creek Public Schools
K. Lowry	Wolf Creek Public Schools

## **Red Deer Catholic Presentation – T. Bouchers, Dr. D. Khatib**

Dr. D. Khatib presented the current data and trends on the division growth within Red Deer Catholic. They currently have 2100 students with immigrant children moving into the division. Statistics on Historical ELL Growth and School ELL Historical Data was provided. Each school has a person in their school that leads the ELL program. Statistics for ELL coded students was provided. Coded refugee students total 37 within the division that require significant supports. There are hundreds more ELL students that are not coded. The division employs interpreters for the many different languages as over seventy countries are represented within the division. Five years of funding is provided by Alberta Education for students to complete their studies. There is an additional count for ELL students in April each year. The Division applied for an ATA Educational Grant to make a twenty minute video describing the journey that ELL students had, the supports for their families, hopes and dreams and student advice for teachers from the students. Ms. Bouchers outlined the challenges with the cultural aspects for the family.

*Factors Influencing ELL Students in Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools – Complex English Language Learners (CELL's), students who are not only ELL but also have some kind of learning disability, delay in learning is different, complexity of emotional and learning difficulties hard to identify and work with, these factors work to prolong the length of formal schooling.*

*Family separation and reunification – families have been separated anywhere from a few months up to ten years, family members need to learn their roles again along with the expectations of a new country – cultural differences and perspective, counselling intervention needs to be available, Central Alberta Refugee effort and other support agencies support these families. The need to be culturally sensitive for the families was identified.*

*Teacher and classroom accommodations – high school redesign and flexibility of programming, differentiation of teaching strategies, assistive technology, ACOL data and measures (graduation), parent involvement (translation and translator), division resource website for teachers. Listening, speaking, reading and writing resources are provided for teachers.*

The division works closely with outside agencies and provides school brochures in three different languages. They ensure that age appropriate placement is provided along with a neighborhood school enrollment model.

There was an opportunity for questions from the presentation.

Student to student interpretation is acceptable, student to adult interpretation is not acceptable.

C. Huelsman thanked the group for their presentation.

**RECESS:** 12:03 p. m.

**RECONVENED:** 12:35 p. m.

## **Call To Order**

Chair C. Huelsman called the meeting to order at 12:35 a. m. and thanked Red Deer Catholic for hosting the meeting.

## **Treaty Blessing**

The Treaty Blessing was recited by Red Deer Catholic Trustee M. Hollman.

## **Approval of the Agenda**

Additional agenda items were called for.

**#104/17 Motion by L. Henry to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED**

## **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the 2017 September 25 Regular ASBA Zone 4 meeting were presented and reviewed.

**#105/17 Motion by M. Tryon to approve the minutes of the 2017 September 25 Alberta School Boards Association Zone 4 meeting as presented. CARRIED**

## **Reports**

### **Zone 4 Chair Report – C. Huelsman**

C. Huelsman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

*Housekeeping items* – please bring your name plate to meetings, please add the contact information for Zone representatives to the sign in sheet, a list of the meeting dates will be emailed out, invite MLA's to the monthly meeting your Division is hosting, the MLA's can be added to the agenda first thing in the meeting or over lunch time.

### **Zone 4 Financial Report - C. Huelsman**

At the 2017 September 25, meeting the Zone surplus was discussed at length. Funds have been saved from the Edwin Parr evening due to lower catering costs.

A copy of the financial report was included in the agenda package. C. Huelsman spoke about membership fees for 2017/18 and the effect on the budget if fees were/were not charged. There was discussion regarding waiving the membership fees. It was felt that the membership fees should not be waived and that there are opportunities to be creative with the surplus funds and to maintain \$5,000 (five thousand dollars) in reserves.

It was suggested to cover the costs for the Edwin Parr interviewers from some of the surplus. As the costs affect Boards every three years it was decided not to pursue this expense.

The Zone will continue to sponsor the Career Expo in Red Deer for 2017/2018.

Chair C. Huelsman requested the Executive Committee members take this to their boards for discussion and bring back ideas for use of the surplus dollars to the December meeting.

**#106/17 Motion by M. Tryon that ASBA Zone 4 membership fees for 2017/18 be set at \$800 (eight hundred dollars) per board. Carried**

**#107/17 Motion by J. Knispel-Matejka to receive the ASBA Zone 4 Financial Report as presented. Carried**

### **ASBA Zone 4 Director Report – C. Peacocke**

A copy of the ASBA Zone 4 Director report was provided with the agenda.

ASBA is hosting a PD session for newly elected trustees, new board chairs and other interested trustees from January 14 – 16, 2018 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Edmonton.

*Public School Board Council Representatives* – Red Deer Public Board Chair B. Manning spoke to the resolution that was passed at the May ASBA Board of Directors meeting, *“Given Directors’ C. Peacocke and T. Henkel indicated intention to step down from their positions as their boards’ alternate to Public School Board Council, the ASBA Board of Directors determines that no conflict of interest exists with respect to fully participatory roles as ASBA Directors.”*

Red Deer Public Board brought forward their concerns regarding the fact that their ASBA / PSBA council representative received a letter from ASBA asking her to make a choice of either one or the other director positions. It was felt that the different views of the councils resulted in a conflict of interest to ASBA's position as they represent the views of all boards (public, separate and francophone). Red Deer Public wrote a letter to the ASBA Board of Directors asking them to reconsider the statement. The ASBA Board reconsidered and they are still in agreement with the statement. Ms. Manning asked if there was concern for this statement at the Zone level. There was discussion.

There was a comment that it is a mistake to draw lines in the sand and we should be working together. PSBA is saying that it should be one system and we need to work together with ASBA as the umbrella organization with other parties as it is dangerous to draw those lines in the sand.

ASBA President M. Martin commented that the ASBA Board of Directors appreciated Red Deer Public bringing this forward. ASBA believes every member board has the right to participate in each organization.

D. Macaulay commented that she sees this as supporting one organization over the other and it is wrong.

ACSTA President A. LaGrange commented that we do have one publicly funded system with three dimensions. When we are looking at that we have an organization that has a different structure to eliminate one of the elements, where would the voice be.

PSBA and ACSTA are both observers at the ASBA Board of Directors table.

M. Martin commented on the potential for conflict of interest and asked if there could be a bylaw that is elegant in its simplicity that could be drafted.

Red Deer Public, Clearview and Chinook's Edge have tendered their resignations from PSBA. There was a comment that we need to work together as there are a lot of things coming at boards that boards need to speak as one voice, this pulls us apart and Red Deer Public appreciates being able to work on a bylaw if one is drafted.

There was discussion regarding a potential bylaw and what it would look like.

H. Tkachuk commented that ASBA bylaws are set out and trustees have a fiduciary duty. A set of bylaws couldn't set out the interests and deal with eligibility as there are a number of whether or not the criteria can be met. This is subject for further discussion. A bylaw amendment would need to be brought forward from the Zone level for consideration at the Spring General Meeting.

D. Macaulay commented that we also have to be aware that C. Peacocke voluntarily stepped down and feel the Zone writing a letter would not help.

C. Huelsman reminded the membership that we are ASBA and carry one voice to government. She requested the membership speak to their boards and to contact H. Tkachuk if they have questions regarding the bylaws and policies.

There were comments regarding Bill 63 in Saskatchewan. We need to stay united and get our parents behind us.

C. Huelsman thanked Red Deer Public for putting this discussion on the table.

**#108/17 Motion by T. Bratland to adopt the Zone Director report as presented. Carried**

**ASBA President's Report - M. Martin**

ASBA President M. Martin thanked new trustees for their willingness to step up and sit as a trustee.

*Consultation* – the province undertook a massive consultation for the *School Act* as well as zone based consultation. Those amendments will come forward within the month.

*Fall General Meeting* – registrations are now at 398, out of 465 trustees. 132 new trustees are registered for the new trustee orientation. A second offering of a new trustee orientation in January has been set along with the Leadership Academy. From the membership feedback, ASBA is offering a separate fee for the Fall General Meeting and Spring General Meeting. At the Fall General Meeting all business will be conducted on the Monday. She commented that she is proud of the work that the ASBA staff has done. There are three outstanding speakers at the Fall General Meeting. The awards are on Sunday evening and the MLA breakfast will follow on Monday. There has been a call for interest emailed out today. Check on ASBA website for other calls for interest.

*Bill 24* – follow through of Bill 10 formalizing GSA's and protocol.

**#109/17 Motion by H. Bilton to accept the ASBA President's report as presented. Carried**

**Labour Relations Report**

No report at this time.

**CARC Report**

No report at this time.

**Alberta Education Report – Dr. M. Ebbers**

Dr. Ebbers congratulated both returning and new trustees and commented that Alberta Education recognizes the role that trustees play.

She highlighted the engagement sessions on Access to Education, Age of Entry, School Fees and School Transportation.

*During the September sessions* – what we heard conference, at the end of the session there was assurance that the Minister would consider all of the impact, the intent was to table the discussion this fall, there will be legislative changes that occur. The link to the video on what we heard will be forwarded at a later date.

Superintendents were sent the Indigenous links to be sent out. All students will learn about Truth and Reconciliation.

*High school redesign* – 80% of province has switched over.

Consultation process happened two weeks ago inviting trustees and central office staff to attend. November 14 – report through OCDE organization, promising practices for Indigenous students, how it might influence policy work. There was also a session on TEBA.

*For New Trustees* – Dr. Ebbers can be your avenue to the Minister. She sometimes has to go back and get the information and then it is sent out through the Zone.

*Department changes* – First Nation Metis Inuit division has been brought into Field Services along with Francophone Field Services to save on some costs. The remaining portion of this division has been left as a directorate.

ACSTA President A. LaGrange asked about the curriculum redesign regarding Catholic education. ACSTA has been working with Alberta Education. The document was drafted as a result of a request from Alberta Education. That document was FOIPed by the Edmonton Journal. The Premier didn't understand what was included in the document. The ACSTA President tried to correct misconceptions of what was in the document and no one returned her call from the Premier's office. Our children are going to be political footballs in this. Dr. Ebbers will take back the message.

There was discussion regarding the issues with Superintendents and Trustees that Dr. Ebbers could take back to the department.

**#110/17 Motion by L. Jess to accept the Alberta Education report for information. Carried**

**Labour Relations Report** - *no report at this time*

**CARC Report** – *no report at this time*

**Edwin Parr Committee**

B. Manning left the meeting at 2:06 p. m.

There was discussion regarding where the Edwin Parr banquet will take place for 2018.

**#111/17 Motion by L. Jess to host the Edwin Parr evening in Innisfail at the Innisfail Library Learning Commons. Carried**

**Zone 4 Awards Committee** – *K. Becker and M. Tryon*

K. Becker encouraged trustees to be aware and keep their eyes open when they hear of or see potential recipients that are award worthy. The criteria for the awards is posted on the ASBA website.

**Student Wellness Initiative** – *D. Macaulay*

The committee is working on focussing on Zone 4. Trustees were encouraged to contact Ms. Macaulay if they have any questions.

**First Nations Metis Inuit Committee**





<b>2017 October 31</b>		<b>Payable to</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$19,695.83</b>		
Credits			
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$19,695.83</b>		
<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$19,695.83</b>		
<b>Cheques Issued after October 31</b>			
	\$464.00		Red Deer Catholic - Nov lunch inv
	<b>\$464.00</b>		
<b>Deposits after September 30</b>			
Deposit	\$2,400.00		Membership Fees
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$21,631.83</b>		

ASBA Zone 4  
Labour Relations report

1. At the Alberta Education System Excellence Division Fall 2017 Engagement Session in Edmonton on November 9, 2017 part of the day was on TEBA. They went through time lines and bargaining process. They have asked that all boards have discussions regarding central issues, concerns and proper workings so that their reps can bring the thoughts forward at the Jan 9, 2018 meeting.
2. At the TEBA organizational meeting held on Nov 21 after the ASBA conference an election was held for the 6 positions that trustees hold on the TEBA board of directors. The elected people are as follows:
  - a. Category A, boards over 35,000 students
    - i. Terry Harris, Edmonton Catholic
    - ii. Michael Janz, Edmonton Public
    - iii. Linda Wellman, Calgary Catholic
  - b. Category B, boards between 7,000 students to 35,000
    - i. Norma Lang, Rocky View (acclaimed)
  - c. Category C, boards under 7,000 student
    - i. Tammy Henkel, High Prairie
  - d. Category D, a member from category B and C or at large
    - i. Daryl Scott, Wild Rose
3. A financial statement was also handed out and reviewed which each TEBA rep received a copy off. This report can be shared with your board in an in-camera session.
4. Next meeting for the TEBA reps is Jan 9, 2018

# Alberta School Boards Association

## ZONE 4

Connie Huelsman, Zone Chair, [chuelsman@cesd73.ca](mailto:chuelsman@cesd73.ca)  
Shawn Russell, Zone Secretary/Treasurer, [srussell@cesd73.ca](mailto:srussell@cesd73.ca)  
4904 – 50 Street, Innisfail, Alberta, T4G 1W4  
Phone: 403-227-7070 Toll Free: 1-800-561-9229

October 30, 2017

Honourable David Eggen  
Minister of Education  
228 Legislative Building  
10800-97th Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Eggen:

**RE: ALBERTA EDUCATION FIELD SERVICES DIRECTORS REPORT**

We recently met as a zone in Ponoka on Monday September 25, 2017 and the Field Services reporting process was discussed.

In the past, zones received a consistent written report from the department presented by a government representative. This was such a nice clean way to ensure that communication was accurate and standardized. Our zone is respectfully asking that this type of instrument could be considered again. We truly appreciate the representative coming to our meetings as it is so nice to discuss issues freely. We feel that with both a written and verbal mechanism would enhance two way communications with your department.

We look forward to your response!

Sincerely



Mrs. Connie Huelsman  
Board Chair Zone 4 ASBA  
[chuelsman@cesd73.ca](mailto:chuelsman@cesd73.ca)