



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 11, 2012**

	Name	School	Position	Phone	E-mail
1	Randy Clarke	AB ED	Zone 5 Director	(780) 427-5382	<a href="mailto:randy.clarke@gov.ab.ca">randy.clarke@gov.ab.ca</a>
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9	Lynn LeBlanc	Aurora	Director	(780) 222-0109	
10	Leanne Anderson	BSEC	Board Chair		<a href="mailto:leannela@live.ca">leannela@live.ca</a>
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20	Judy Gray	FFCA	SEE Principal	(403) 258-2728	<a href="mailto:judy.gray@ffca-calgary.com">judy.gray@ffca-calgary.com</a>
21	Justin Kool	FFCA	SWE Principal	(403) 259-3527	<a href="mailto:justin.kool@ffca-calgary.com">justin.kool@ffca-calgary.com</a>
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26	Jim Rigby	New Hor	Superintendent	(780) 720-4477	<a href="mailto:wjrigby@shaw.ca">wjrigby@shaw.ca</a>
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31	Karen Spencer	Suzuki	Principal	(780) 468-2598	<a href="mailto:spencerk@suzukischool.ca">spencerk@suzukischool.ca</a>
32	Monica McCormack	Suzuki	Board Chair	(780) 468-2598	<a href="mailto:mccormackm@suzukischool.ca">mccormackm@suzukischool.ca</a>
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38	Constantine Pefanis	Westmount	Board Chair	(403) 444-5878	<a href="mailto:pefanis@shaw.ca">pefanis@shaw.ca</a>
39	Melanie Guglielmin	Westmount	Director	(403) 532-0560	<a href="mailto:melanieguglielmin@yahoo.ca">melanieguglielmin@yahoo.ca</a>

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Jay Pritchard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Appreciation was expressed to BSEC for hosting the extraordinary meal and school tours the night before, featuring the musical talents of New Horizons and door prizes supplied by the Calgary Girls' School. Hospitality back at the Matrix was hosted by Aurora Charter – many thanks to all!

**1.1 INTRODUCTIONS:** Attendees introduced themselves with their position and organizational affiliation.

**1.2 CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA** – No changes.

**1.3 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**#12/11/05-01** M/C to adopt the minutes of the Jan. 20/12 regular meeting as presented.  
*Teresa DiNinno*  
*Joe Frank*

**1.4 ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

**#12/11/05-02** M/C to adopt the January-April 2012 financial report as presented.  
*Megan O'Hara*  
*Justin Kool*

**1.5 SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT:** BSEC showcased their school very effectively and impressively the previous evening with a dinner and tours of their facility, of which they are justifiably proud!

**2. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**2.1 ESL:** See Ed's written report from the January 30, 2012 meeting of the ESL Advisory Committee. The next meeting will be held in 2½ weeks.

**2.2 ADMINISTRATORS' GROUP:** The next meeting will be held on May 14 at Almadina. The focus will be on PD for principals and associate principals, and the seven competencies (time expanded from 1 hour to 2), as well as potential grant proposal topics (action research training, admin peer coaching). There will also be a presentation on the new AE electronic parent information system.

**2.3 CHARTER BOARD CHAIRS (CBC):** This group has two mandates – Provincial development for directors and government relations. The most recent meeting of CBC focused upon the development of an on-line PD module for Directors (borrowing from ASBA and SSBA; ADLC will house modules/videos courtesy of Ray Battochio). As well, at yesterday's meeting a draft copy of the new charter (15-year) renewal criteria was considered. Ed Wittchen has a personal and professional relation with our new Minister and has written to him requesting 2 meetings (Association and Board Chairs).

**2.4 WORKFORCE PLANNING:** No report (the April meeting was postponed).

**2.5 DIALOGUE ON TEACHING QUALITY:** No report.

**3. UPDATE FROM ALBERTA EDUCATION**

**3.1 PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR REGULATORY CHANGE TO SUPPORT EDUCATION ACT/GETTING IT RIGHT:** Bill 18 did not pass and will likely resurface in the fall. Alberta Education has committed to involving stakeholders in the revision of the accompanying regulations, and will use data from the dialogues/surveys done previously.

**3.2 ACCESS TO FACILITIES:** There have been some changes to the School Capital Planning Manual, most notably processes for charter schools to seek emergency funding and

relocation funding. There are currently no funds available for schools that are looking at purchasing their own facilities, however purchased facilities will receive PO&M funding.

**3.3 LEASING CHANGES:** Current leases will be replaced with IMR funding, and efforts are being made to try to resolve the 3<sup>rd</sup> party lease support issue, as well as issues related to lease incentive and insurance responsibilities.

**3.4 INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FUNDING FOR CHARTERS:** Richard reported on 2 highlights from the recent budget: predictable, sustainable education funding of 1%, 2% and 2% over the next three years respectively, and inclusive education funding of \$55 per student. Charters are, however, excluded from 2 other parts of the inclusive education funding model based on a number of factors. There has been much reaction to this on the part of charter schools, who will be consulted on this in the development of Budget 2013.

**3.5 OTHER:** Lee Lucente inquired about whether talks might be resuming with the ATA and ASBA relative to collective bargaining, since the current 5-year agreement ends this August 31. Talks broke off earlier this year and have not since resumed. Further negotiations will be up to the new Minister.

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**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: SOCIAL MEDIA**

See Power Point presentation attached to minutes.

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**4. EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC) REPORT**

**4.1 BOARD PD Report/ADLC:** Covered in Item 2.3. Please note that the PD modules previously mentioned could be done individually or in group situations, or Garry could make himself available to do a module for your Board.

**4.2 CAPITAL PLANNING/LEASING:** Covered in Items 3.2, 3.3.

**4.3 INSURANCE:** Heather expressed the thanks of the committee to Reta Morgan for her leadership of this initiative to give our members better coverage at a lower price. In the end they are recommending that Lloyd Sadd be contracted to put together baseline coverage for the participating charter schools; each charter could add to that as necessary. Participants were requested to indicate their intentions on the form provided, or email Reta, by May 25.

**4.4 SCHOOL LEADERSHIP FRAMEWORK:** Thank you to Alberta Education for this opportunity. Our proposal will result in a \$50,000 pilot project to flesh out the most efficient, effective practices by which our school administrators will be able to increase their skills through various methods, including peer coaching among administrators and Superintendents, and online dialogues/blogs. Alberta Education's intent is to have a model which might be used by other jurisdictions throughout the province.

**4.5 TAAPCS RESEARCH PROJECT:** U. of C. has submitted a complex and thorough proposal to address our suggested research question, "What factors contribute to the success of charter schools in Alberta?" This will be taken to EAC to determine whether we can afford to do this research, since AE grants are frozen this year.

**4.6 CHAMPION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS AWARD:** See document from Justin Kool regarding the "Choice and Innovation Award" (CIA). There is general support for this, however the financial aspects must be considered. Preference would be given to external individuals, and a process determined for recognition (e.g. AGM, website). A sub-committee of Justin, Judy, Garry

Andrews and Karen Spencer will examine this in more depth.

**4.7 EDUCATION RESEARCH FRAMEWORK UPDATE:** Dale Bischoff will be the TAAPCS rep on this committee. No meeting has been called yet, but it is hoped that one will be held prior to the end of the school year.

**4.8 JOURNAL ARTICLES FOR *EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION*:** Some articles have been submitted by our members.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 MEETING WITH ATA:** Jay, Jim and Garry A. met with Gordon Thomas and other ATA reps to discuss their pamphlet that was circulated earlier this year. The conversation was constructive and cordial, and cleared up some misconceptions surrounding charter schools (e.g. governance). They agreed that the contents of the pamphlet were inappropriate and that their mindset on charter schools should probably advance from the 1993 stage to the present time. Jay suggested another meeting once the new School Act has been passed.

**5.2 SASKATCHEWAN CHARTER SCHOOL INQUIRY:** Brenda Beavis-Frey from the Faculty of Education in Saskatoon came to speak with Jay and visited with Garry McK. at CSS in an effort to understand the charter school movement in Alberta (which she had understood to be private schools).

**5.3 NEW ZEALAND VISITORS:** There have been a couple of inquiries made (with Ed Wittchen and Jay) by people from New Zealand who are pushing for the drafting of preliminary legislation allowing for the creation of charter schools, likely more in line with the U.S. model of transforming low-performing schools.

## **6. REMINDERS**

- Oct. 18/19, 2012 (Calgary): Entertainment – Westmount; Door Prizes – MECCS; Hospitality – Westmount; School Spotlight – CSS
- Jan. 17/18, 2013 (Red Deer): Entertainment – CGS; Door Prizes – Suzuki; Hospitality – CAA; School Spotlight – New Horizons

**7. ADJOURNMENT:** 12:28 p.m.