

**SUMMARY OF THE BOARD ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING OF
GREATER ST. ALBERT RCSSD NO. 734
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustees Crockett, McEvoy, Proulx, Radford, and Tremblay

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Trustee Shaw

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

D Keohane, superintendent; D Schlag, secretary-treasurer, D. Quick, assistant superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Crockett called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.; Trustee Proulx offered the opening prayer.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

4.6 ATA Induction Ceremony – Trustee Tremblay to attend

4.7 Merits of a Community Conversation on Catholic Education (Crockett)

Other Reports: We Day discussion (Crockett); Rural Symposium (Radford)

MAKER SPACES PRESENTATION

Kelly Liusz Moser from the Albert Lacombe Catholic Elementary School Learning Commons provided Trustees with an overview of the contrast between a Learning Commons and a traditional Library. Ms. Moser shared a one page handout of Learning Commons Guidelines from Inspiring Education with Trustees and provided materials for Trustees to sample an activity explored by students in the Learning Commons Maker Spaces; using only materials available in the cup provided, figure out the best way to launch an army figurine with loft and distance.

Ms. Moser explained that Maker Spaces was a pedagogical strategy to differentiate learning, putting the student at the centre of the learning, to meet circular outcomes in fun, imaginative, and collaborative ways. She explained that she had been transforming the “library” and developing various techniques, using the “station approach” over the last three years to encourage deeper learning, with a goal to promoting intellectual freedom and increasing the problem solving capacity of students. The various stations focused on technology, building, creation, challenge, literacy and writing, and learning. Ms. Moser answered questions from Trustees and explained that schools within the District were at different levels of transition to a Learning Commons and the employ of Maker Spaces.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Crockett provided a written report from her attendance at the March 18, 2016 ASBA Zone 2/3 Meeting. Trustee Crockett provided an overview of parent comments from her attendance at recent school council meeting on WE Day. Trustee Radford provided a verbal report and shared some notes with Trustees from the RURAL Symposium that she attended.

POSSIBLE MEETING DATES & TIMES for 2016-17

Trustees reviewed a potential schedule for 2016-17 with fewer meeting dates but more hours than the current year as a possible format for next year, but after discussion preferred to go back to the current format of one evening Advocacy Committee meeting per month and two Regular afternoon meetings similar to what is in place now rather than the proposed all day format. Suggestions were offered and a new option will be presented for consideration and discussion prior to the end of the year.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION on CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Trustee Crockett shared ideas that were circulated during her attendance at a “think tank” type of meeting on Catholic Education with the Trustees.

TRUSTEE DEVELOPMENT / BOARD ADVOCACY

Governance Rules – Motions and Amendments

Secretary-treasurer Schlag provided a video with lawyer Kevin Feehan, explaining the essence of a motion and when an amendment was in order, stressing that only 3 levels at a time could be dealt with.

Trustee Proulx offered the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.