



Where the world opens up

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING FOR PUBLIC DELEGATION  
PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF PARKLAND  
SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 70 HELD AT THE PARKLAND SCHOOL  
DIVISION CENTRE FOR EDUCATION IN STONY PLAIN, ALBERTA  
ON MARCH 17, 2015**

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**TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE:**

Eric Cameron, Chair	Present
Kathleen Linder, Vice-Chair	Present
Ron Heinrichs	Present
Richard Gilchrist	Present
Sally Kucher-Johnson	Present
Dorcas Kilduff	Regrets
Elsie Kinsey	Present

**ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE:**

Tim Monds, Superintendent of Schools  
Kelly Wilkins, Deputy Superintendent - Regrets  
Claire Jonsson, Associate Superintendent  
Dianne McConnell, Associate Superintendent  
Scott Johnston, Associate Superintendent  
Jordi Weidman, Director Strategic Planning & Communications  
Brenda Scott, Executive Assistant

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cameron called meeting to order 2:00 pm.

He welcomed the delegations. He gave regrets from Trustee Kilduff and Deputy Superintendent Kelly Wilkins. He informed attendees that the meeting is being recorded so that those who are unable to attend will be able to hear the presentations.

Board Chair invited Mr. Jordi Weidman, Director Strategic Planning and Communications, to facilitate the meeting.

J. Weidman introduced the Board and Senior Executive. He shared the format, guidelines and purpose of the meeting.

**DELEGATIONS**

**Mr. Victor Lauder**

Mr. Lauder shared his concerns on the potential closing of Keephills School and asked that changes to the school boundaries be considered to keep the school open.

There were no questions from the Board.

*Recess called at 2:14 p.m.*

*Meeting resumed at 2:30 p.m.*

J. Weidman reminded attendees that the meeting is being recorded.

**Ms. April McDonald**

Ms. McDonald shared information from the Facility Evaluation Report on Duffield School and expressed her concerns of the effects of additional students to the school, the Duffield/Keephills Connection and the lack of flexibility in transportation.

Trustee Cameron asked for clarification on the Facility Evaluation Report.

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

*Recess was called at 2:45 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 3:00 p.m.*

J. Weidman reminded attendees that the meeting is being recorded.

**Ms. Tanya Patterson**

Ms. Patterson shared information on her personal experiences on boundaries and transportation concerns. She requested that the Board address boundary changes to allow for more students to attend Keephills School.

Trustee Gilchrist asked for Ms. Patterson to describe the possible transportation route for her son had he attended Stony Plain Central School.

*Recess was called at 3:05 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 3:30 p.m.*

Mr. Weidman reviewed the guidelines and format for the meeting and reminded attendees that it is being recorded.

**Ms. Carrie Kause**

Ms. Kause provided a history on the various viability reports for west-end schools and Keephills School. She expressed her concerns with the lack of parent involvement in decision making for Keephills School. She shared a comparison of enrolment numbers.

*J. Weidman informed Ms. Kause that she has gone over the time limit allowed for presentations and if she would like more time she would need to request permission from the Board. The Board agreed to allow more time for Ms. Kause.*

Ms Kause requested that boundary changes for Keephills School be considered to help keep the rural school environment and encouraged Trustees to be creative in thinking of ways to keep the school open.

Trustee Kinsey asked Senior Executive for clarification on the enrolment numbers for this school year.

*Recess was called at 3:50 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 4:30 p.m.*

J. Weidman reviewed the guidelines and format for the meeting.

**Ms. Joanne Vanderwell**

Ms. Vanderwell spoke on behalf of her family who has been part of the Keephills School community for many years. She requested that changes to the boundaries be considered or that the Division request financial support from Parkland County and local businesses to keep the school open.

Trustee Cameron asked Ms. Vanderwell's for clarification on the information she provided.

*Recess was called at 4:42 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 5:00 p.m.*

J. Weidman reminded attendees that the meeting is being recorded. He informed attendees that a summary document, that includes a request for information on new boundaries and class sizes and other themes brought up on the March 4 information meeting, has been shared with Trustees and is available on the Keephills website.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer

**Keephills Community Association – Mr. Garry MacDougall**

Mr. MacDougall spoke on behalf of the Keephills Community Association. He shared information on the Condominium Agreement between the Keephills Community Association and Parkland School Division. Mr. MacDougall questioned the Alberta Infrastructure Report for Keephills School.

Trustee Gilchrist asked for clarification of the name of the report that Mr. MacDougall referenced.

*Recess was called at 5:15 p.m.  
Meeting was resumed at 5:30 p.m.*

J. Weidman informed attendees that the speaker for the Committee of Keephills Environment will be Mr. Erin White

**Committee on Keephills Environment (COKE)  
Mr. Erin White and Mr. Garry MacDougall**

Mr. Erin White spoke on behalf of the Committee on Keephills Environment. He expressed concerns around the information provided to Trustees.

Mr. MacDougall gave a brief history on the Committee's purpose and provided information on reclamation of land in the area.

Mr. White requested that the Board consider delaying their decision for one year to allow for more discussion with parents and stakeholders. He also requested that the Board shut down the Duffield/Keephills Connection program.

Trustee Gilchrist asked for more information on the reclamation of Transalta land to date.

Trustee Cameron asked Mr. MacDougall for clarification on his discussions with Transalta.

*Recess was called at 6:17 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 6:00 p.m.*

**Ms. Stacey Lauder and Mr. Tom Poleck**

J. Weidman reminded the attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

Ms. Lauder shared her concerns regarding the potential closure of Keephills School. She believes that the Board has not done enough work to address the boundary issue. (Ms. Lauder asked Trustees to review the information provided to ensure that they have the correct numbers to base their decision on.)

Trustee Gilchrist clarified school capacity numbers were revised.

*Recess was called at 6:10 p.m.  
Meeting resumed at 6:30 p.m.*

**Community Members for Keephills School Facebook Group – Mr. Tom Poleck**

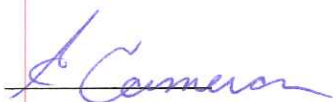
J. Weidman reminded the attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

Mr. Poleck spoke on behalf of the Keephills School Facebook Group website that he created to provide a forum for discussion on Keephills School. He asked Trustees to delay their decision for one more year. He also shared information on a volunteer survey that was posted on the Facebook page.

**Mr. Tom Poleck and Ms. Stacey Lauder**

Trustee Gilchrist asked that Powerpoint presentations be forwarded to Trustees.

Mr. Poleck spoke to the impact of the potential Keephills School closure on classroom sizes. He provided a Powerpoint presentation on classroom sizes and information on the Duffield School building.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer

*J. Weidman informed Mr. Poleck that he has gone over the time limit allowed for presentations and if he would like more time he would need to request permission from the Board. The Board agreed to allow more time for Mr. Poleck.*

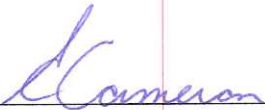
Trustee Cameron asked Mr. Polleck for further clarification of information that he provided.

Trustee Gilchrist asked for further clarification on the possibility of students returning to Keephills.

J. Weidman thanked delegations for their presentations. He reminded attendees that no decision has been made tonight to close Keephills School and that this is the information gathering phase on the process. This decision will be made at the April 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. The Board will take delegations' presentations into consideration and if there are questions that require further clarification, the Board will direct Senior Executive to provide answers at the April 8, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer