

Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of Northern Gateway Public Schools

May 4, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Division Office in Whitecourt, AB via Zoom

Opening

A. Opening

Meeting to be recorded – started at 10:03 a.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The May 4th, 2021 meeting was called to order by Chair Wigton at 10:03 a.m.

Chair Linda Wigton, Trustees, Barb Maddigan, Diane Hagman, Jim Hailes, Sherry Jeffreys, Judy Muir, Christine Peck, Anita Portsmouth, Gerry Steinke Administrators Kevin Andrea, Superintendent, Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent, Tamara Spong, Secretary Treasurer and Wendy Robertson, Recording Secretary.

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, was present at this time.

Treaty Land Acknowledgement

2. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Trustee Barb Maddigan read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

D.1.) Connections to Municipal Councils regarding new school

E.6.) Contributors to Education Award

E.7.) Letter from Education Minister
Letter from Edmonton Catholic

J.1.) Personnel
2.) Leadership Staff

Acceptance of Agenda

4. Acceptance of Agenda

4416-21

Moved by Trustee Hagman– that the agenda for the May 4th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

Appointments and Delegations

B. Appointments and Delegations

Nil

Minutes of the April 13th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

C. Minutes of the April 13th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

4417-21

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys– that the minutes of the April 13th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

Action Items

Locally Developed Courses

4418-21

D. Action Items

Locally Developed Courses

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – that the Board approve to authorize the use of the following Locally Developed Course acquired from the Edmonton School Division from September 1st, 2021 – August 31st, 2023; (at no cost to the Division); Fire Rescue Services (2019) 15 (3 credits). Resources used to teach the course are listed in the Learning Resources of the Course Details.

That the Board approve to reauthorize the use of the following Locally Developed Courses acquired from the Calgary School Division from September 1st, 2021 – August 31st, 2025; (at no cost to the Division); Chamber Ensemble (2021) 13 (3 credits), Chamber Ensemble (2021) 15 (5 credits), Chamber Ensemble (2021) 25 (3 credits), Chamber Ensemble (2021) 25 (5 credits), Chamber Ensemble (2021) 35 (3 credits), Chamber Ensemble (2021) 35 (5 credits), Film and Media Art (2021) 15 (3 credits), Film and Media Art (2021) 15 (5 credits), Film and Media Art (2021) 25 (3 credits), Film and Media Art (2021) (5 credits), Film and Media Art (2021) 35 (3 credits), and Film and Media Art (2021) 35 (5 credits), Resources used to teach the course are listed in the Learning Resources of the Course Details.

Motion Carried

Additional Action Items

Connections to Municipal Councils regarding new School

Additional Action Items

Connections to Municipal Councils regarding new School

4419-21

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board enter into an initial discussion with our Municipal partners relating to the new school build in Valleyview.

Motion Carried

Information/Reports

E. Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA

ASBA/PSBAA

ASBA: (Linda Wigton)

The SGM Business Session will be held as a virtual meeting on Monday, June 7th, and the Professional Development Session will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 8th.

ASBA is looking to form a 6 member Ad Hoc Committee on Superintendent Evaluation and Contract Obligations. Two members would be from Zone 2/3 – so if anyone is interested please let me know.

ASBA Zone 2/3: (Jim Hailes)

- Written report provided for information
- Draft ASBA April 23 Meeting Minutes forwarded to all trustees.
- Position Statements were included with minutes.
- Coffee Conversation – May 11th, 2021 – Registration is due May 4th.
- Edwin Parr Virtual Celebration June 2nd, 2021 – please use the link to Register. All trustees can participate.

PSBAA: (Christine Peck)

- April 16 @ 9:00 – PSBC meeting highlights attached.
- Environmental Surveys have been sent out to Admin Teams to complete. Larger school divisions are saying they take a lot of time to complete.
- Future topics will be sent to Boards to prioritize.
- Norm Dray, Executive Director, Public Schools of Saskatchewan spoke about the Theodore decision and PSS' commitment to advocate for public education. Would like a mandate of Catholic Schools defined.
- Budget Discussion – members were briefed on the budget and the impact the pandemic has had on it. No equity is not being built because of no in person events.
- PSBAA could be moving from its current location.
- First Vice President Gerry Steinke spoke to the Bylaw review process and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the areas of responsibility under the Bylaws' sub-heads. Once the proposed draft bylaws revision is complete, it will be distributed.
- May 27th – PD Sessions – registration required. No fee.
- Letters between PSBAA Cathy Hogg and the Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange re: concern regarding feedback on the new K-12 Curriculum. Minister LaGrange has stated "all school divisions will be able to provide feedback on the curriculum whether they choose to pilot or not."

4420-21

Moved by Trustee Peck – that the Board Chair write a letter to the Minister of Education asking that any feedback to the Department of Education from NGPS staff on the draft K-6 curriculum be given the same weight and consideration as feedback from teachers who are piloting the draft curriculum in the 2021-22 school year.

Motion Carried

Standing Committee Reports

Standing Committee Reports

Policy Committee:

- Policy Committee met on April 30th, 2021. Changes were made to Policy 5 and 6. Next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2021. All changes will be brought to the May 25th Board meeting.

Communications Committee:

- Meeting has been scheduled for May 6th. No Committee Chair for this committee yet.

Audit Committee:

- Tender for new Auditor has been advertised. Deadline was April 23, 2021. Six proposals were received. Secretary-Treasurer and Audit committee to review and will bring forward a recommendation to the Board.

Advocacy Committee:

- Maurice Fritz presentation at the last Zone meeting was excellent. Sent out a video on it, I recommend you look at it.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Written report provided for information.

Addition to report:

Hilltop Grades 7 – 12 were sent home and reverted to at home online program until May 15 – due to the absenteeism of staff members and students.

4421-21

Moved by Trustee Hailes– that the a letter of appreciation be sent to David Quick and Debbie Vance for their years of service.

Motion Carried

4422-21

Moved by Trustee Muir – That the Board of Trustees send out a thank you to all staff for all the work done during COVID.

Motion Carried

Finance

Finance

No reports.

Reports

Reports

Town Hall Meeting – MLA Getson – April 14:

- Written report provided.

Meeting with Lac Ste. Anne County/Town of Onoway:

- Meeting regarding lack of Policing at the Onoway community.
- I received numerous letters from the Community members concerned about the lack of access to the Onoway Ball Diamonds. I contacted the Superintendent and Trustee Muir and we were able to set up a meeting with the other municipalities.
- We discussed this issue – it was decided a 10 year lease between the County and Northern Gateway for the ball diamond zone would solve the issues and a joint use agreement will accompany this lease and it is currently being dealt with by Administration from the County and Northern Gateway.

- Also discussed the lack of access to the track at the Onoway High School. The Director of Maintenance will order a pedestrian gate to be installed on the south end of the fence to allow easy access.
- We discussed the issue of the Student Resource Officer. Both municipalities are willing to support us with a bid to push for more RCMP presence around the community and school. At this point both municipalities pay \$180,000 for policing that they feel could definitely be picked up as well. So however we decide to move forward with that, whether we write a letter to the K Division pushing for more of a presence in our school area, both municipalities are willing to support us with our requests. At this point, the County will instruct their Peace Officers to do more regular patrolling of the school areas to make sure they are seen. Very positive meeting.

NSBA Conference:

- Written reports provided.

ASCA Conference – April 23-25:

- Written report provided.

Rural Caucus Conference:

- Written report provided.

Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, left the meeting at 11:59 p.m.

Jason Yaremchuk, Director of Information Technology, entered the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Correspondence

Correspondence

Attached for information:

- a) Contributors to Education Award
 - Wolf Creek Public Schools shared their criteria and nomination forms package.
 - Award is to recognize someone in the community.
 - Also received some information from Grande Prairie Public Schools; they have a luncheon where they invite the recipient's of the nominations to attend.
 - We have to be careful not overlap with schools or towns doing their appreciations/awards.

4423-21

Moved by Trustee Maddigan– That the Board form a “Contributing to Education Award” Ad Hoc Committee” with the following members:

Anita Portsmouth
Sherry Jeffreys
Judy Muir

Motion Carried

- b) ASBA Board Chairs Meeting – May 5 @ 8:00 am
- c) CSBAA – July 7-9, 2021 - Virtually
- d) St. Alberta Public School Letter
- e) Letter from Education Minister
- f) Letter from Edmonton Catholic

Edmonton Catholic provided a 170 page response to Alberta Education’s Draft Curriculum K-6.

In consideration for the nature of this pandemic school year, next year NGPS will engage staff in a full review of the curriculum.

4424-21

Moved by Trustee Muir – That Northern Gateway ensure continuity of learning amid continued impacts of the pandemic, and in the best educational interest of students and staff, NGPS will not participate in the pilot of the draft K-6 Curriculum in the 2021-22 school year. Over the course of the year, the division will undertake a review of the draft curriculum and provide feedback to Alberta Education.

Motion Carried

**School Updates:
Videos**

School Updates: (Videos)

School Videos were previously viewed before the Board meeting.

School Videos have been place on School Websites and on Social Media and NGPS Facebook page for the public to view.

4425-21

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board send the video “A Year of Covid in Northern Gateway” to the Minister of Education and the Premier.

Motion Carried

Jason Yaremchuk, Director of Information Technology, left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Board Annual Work Plan

Board Annual Work Plan

Provided for information.

Motion Review Cycle

Motion Review Cycle

Provided for information.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

- May 5 – Teacher Induction
- May 11 – Coffee Conversation (Tentative)
- May 27 @ 1:00 p.m. – In Pursuit of Excellence in Governance
Registration is required. Via Zoom.
- June 3 @ 9:00 June 4 @ 4:00 p.m.
PSBAA Spring General Assembly via Zoom
- ASBA SGM – June 7, 2021 via Zoom

Additional Report Items

Additional Report Items

Nil

4426-21

Moved by Trustee Peck– that the Board of Trustees accept Information/Reports E1- E12 as information.

Motion Carried

Topics for Future Discussion

F. Topics for Future Discussions

Nil

Requests for Information

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

1. Locally Developed Courses Approved
2. Meeting with Municipalities – re: new school in Valleyview
3. Thank you letter to all staff from the Board
4. Discussion on draft Curriculum
5. High School Graduation Dates
6. School Video Updates

In-Camera Items

I. In-Camera Items

4427-21

Moved by Trustee Maddigan– that the Board move into In-Camera at 2:00 p.m., Tamara Spong, Secretary Treasurer was invited to stay.

Motion Carried

Electronic recording of meeting discontinued at 2:00 p.m.

Kevin Andrea, Superintendent, Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent, Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer and Wendy Robertson, Record Secretary, left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

4428-21

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board move out of In-Camera at 2:41 p.m.

Motion Carried

4429-21

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board of Trustees accept the information/reports as information.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

J. Adjournment

4430-21

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys - that the meeting be adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer