

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

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Division Office Board Room in Whitecourt, AB

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### **Opening**

### **A. Opening**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

#### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting was called to order by Chair Wigton at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Linda Wigton, Vice Chair Barb Maddigan, Trustees Diane Hagman, Jim Hailes, Judy Muir, Christine Peck, Anita Portsmouth, Gerry Steinke, Sherry Jeffreys and Administrators: Kevin Bird, Superintendent; Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent; Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer; and Nicole Draves, Recording Secretary, were present at this time.

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, and Malcolm Heaven, Network Administrator, were present at this time.

Trustee Portsmouth gave her resignation as a Trustee, she will attend as a visitor

#### **Oh Canada**

#### **2. Singing of Oh Canada**

#### **Treaty Land Acknowledgement**

#### **3. Treaty Land Acknowledgement**

Trustee Barb Maddigan read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement

**Additions/Deletions  
to the Agenda**

**Acceptance of Agenda**

4482-21

**Appointments and  
Delegations**

**Draft Minutes of the  
August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Regular Public Board  
Meeting**

4483-21

**4. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

Include names of presenters be included – Gerry Steinke

Move National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to In-Closed Session – Jim Hailes

**5. Acceptance of Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the agenda for the September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted with amendments

Motion Carried

**B. Appointments and Delegations**

Presentations to the board made by:

Group presentation: Nadine Szybunka, Becky Hull, Rose Nantes, Bobby Jean Yeoman, Conni Benson, Nicole Climie, Chantel Fediuk & Alana Simpson

Individual Presentations: Sarah Mitchell, Blaine Couture, Tammy Baxter, Samantha Steinke, Debora Van De Light & Kate Habke

See appendix A for topics discussed

**C. Draft Minutes of the August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Regular Public Board Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Muir– that the draft minutes of the August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

**Action Items**

**Locally Developed Courses**

4484-21

**Approval of Board Gathering**

4485-21

**Provincial & School Division Responsibilities Re: Health Mandate**

4486-21

**D. Action Items**

**1. Locally Developed Courses**

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – That the Board approve to reauthorize the use of the following Locally Developed Courses acquired from the Alexis Band from September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – August 31, 2025: (at no cost to the Board) Nakoda/Nakota Language and Culture 12Y (2021) 15 (5 credits), Nakoda/Nakota Language and Culture 12Y (2021) 25 (5 credits) and Nakoda/Nakota Language and Culture 12Y (2021) 35 (5 credits). Resources used to teach the course are listed in the Learning Resources of the Course Details.

Motion Carried

**3. Approval of Board Gathering**

Moved by Trustee Hailes – That the board approve expense for gathering

Motion Carried

**4. Provincial & School Division Responsibilities Re: Health Mandate**

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the board, by way of letter, communicate to both the Premier and Education Minister that the Board of Trustees of the Northern Gateway School Division fundamentally disagree with school boards being given decision making opportunities to set local COVID 19 management practices that differ from Provincial rules.

Motion Carried

**Delegate Presentation Discussion**

4487-21

**5. Delegate Presentation Discussion**

Moved by Trustee Steinke – That Northern Gateway not require mask wearing in schools in alignment with Provincial medical advice. Further, the Board requires that schools honor those who choose to wear masks.

Motion Defeated

**Information/Reports**

**ASBA**

**ASBA Zone 2/3**

**PSBAA**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Policy Committee Report**

**Audit Committee Report**

**E. Information/Reports**

**1. ASBA**

Chair Linda Wigton reported that there was an ASBA Chair meeting today that she was unable to attend.

**ASBA Zone 2/3**

Trustee Hailes advised the Board of the next meeting on September 24

**2. PSBAA**

Trustee Peck shared a video about public schools with the board.

**3. Standing Committee Reports**

**Policy Committee Report**

Policy 15 & 16 will be shared at the next regular Board Meeting

**Audit Committee Report**

The committee is currently working with the policy committee on the terms of reference. The 2021 Audit plan has been received. Field audits will commence the week of October 25 and be presented November 15 to the Audit Committee

**Superintendent's Report**

4. **Superintendent's Report**

Staffing update: Mr. Arnold Marira joined the team this week as our HR Manager. If you would like to meet him, please let us know.

We are not getting the COVID 19 reports from AHS this year, relying on school illness reporting. Community, family and staff/student illness reports from the schools.

**Financial Reports**

5. **Financial Reports**

Financials will be presented to the board at the October board meeting

**Correspondence**

6. **Correspondence**

N/A

**2020-2021 Suspension Report**

7. **2020-2021 Suspension Report**

Report was presented to Trustees for information

**Board Annual Work Plan**

8. **Board Annual Work Plan**

Work plan was reviewed

**Motion Review Cycle**

9. **Motion Review Cycle**

The motion review cycle is up to date.

**Trustee Reports**

10. **Trustee Reports**

Trustee Steinke reported division in the communities over masking

Chair Wigton reported that the Chamber of Commerce meetings have moved to online/virtual for the time being. The Chamber won an award this year for their work.

Trustee Muir attended the Grasmere School Council Meeting. The school will be planting

donated tulip bulbs, which were donated by Fortis.

Trustee Hagman attended the school tours with Superintendent Bird and Deputy Superintendent Jodry. During the tours they were able to personally distribute the mugs to school staff

**Upcoming Events**

**11. Upcoming Events**

The next regular Board meetings were reviewed  
School Awards dates were reviewed.

**Additional Report Items**

**12. Additional Report Items**

Nil

4488-21

Moved by Trustee Hailes– that the Board accept Information/Reports E2-E8 and E10 as information.

Motion Carried

**Topics for Future Discussions**

**F. Topics for Future Discussions**

Updates to the Trustee Handbook are being completed by Board Chair Linda Wigton & Vice Chair Maddigan.

**Requests for Information**

**G. Requests for Information**

N/A

**Meeting Highlights**

**H. Meeting Highlights**

1. NGPS Trustee Anita Portsmouth resigns
2. Locally Developed Courses
3. Provincial and School Division Responsibilities

4. Masking Presentation from Community Members
5. Masking Discussion

**In-Closed Session**

4489-21

**I. In-Closed Session**

Moved by Vice Chair Maddigan – that the Board move into Closed Session at 2:44 p.m. and Kevin Bird, Superintendent; Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent and Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer were invited to stay.

Motion Carried

Electronic recording of meeting discontinued at 2:44 p.m.

4490-21

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – that the Board move out of Closed Session at 3:15 p.m.

Motion Carried

**Adjournment**

4491-21

**J. Adjournment**

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys– that the meeting be adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Motion Carried

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer