

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

March 1, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Division Office Board Room in Whitecourt, Alberta

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### Opening

#### Call to Order and Roll Call

#### O Canada

#### Treaty Land Acknowledgement

#### Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

### A. Opening

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

The March 1, 2022, meeting was called to order by Board Chair Barb Maddigan at 10:07 a.m.

Board Chair Barb Maddigan, Board Vice Chair Christine Peck, Trustees Linda Wigton, Jim Hailes, Judy Muir, Gerry Steinke, Deb Koloski, Diane Hagman, Sally Petryshen; and Administrators Kevin Bird, Superintendent; Leslee Jodry, Deputy Superintendent; Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer; and Nancy Whittaker, Recording Secretary, were present at this time.

#### 2. Singing of O Canada

#### 3. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Christine Peck read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

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

- a) Letter from the Minister of Education regarding the budget
- b) Letter from Dana McIntosh, Board Chair Peace Wapiti School Division regarding the draft K-6 curriculum

**Acceptance of the Agenda**

4574-22

**5. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the Agenda for the March 1, 2022, Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**Appointments and Delegations**

**B. Appointments and Delegations**

**Draft Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

4575-22

**C. Draft Minutes of the February 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the draft Minutes of the February 8, 2022, Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

**Action Items**

**D. Action Items**

**2022 – 2023 School Fees**

**1. 2022 – 2023 School Fees**

2022 – 2023 Transportation Fees

An explanation behind the proposed increase in transportation fees was presented to the Trustees by Superintendent Kevin Bird. Costs are averaged over the district and there are contractual and administrative costs when adding students.

Round table discussion followed: Trustees requested more clarity on the actual cost and the alternate seat process. Superintendent Kevin Bird recommended further discussion regarding fees be in-camera due to current contracts.

4576-22

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the Board defer the topic of transportation fees to the next Board Meeting on March 22, 2022.

Motion Carried

2022 – 2023 Technology Access/Maintenance Fees

Superintendent Kevin Bird reviewed the increase to technology access/maintenance fees. Technology has seen large increases in costs. Round table discussion followed.

Administration will investigate the feasibility of allowing families to keep outdated devices as this was discussed previously.

Trustee Diane Hagman referred to a document regarding a recycling plan and would like to see the document recirculated.

Trustee Gerry Steinke asked whether an ECS child requires as much exposure to screens/devices as other grade levels. Administration will discuss this with teachers.

4577-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the 2022-2023 Technology Access/Maintenance Fees be increased from:

\$31.50 to \$32.00 per student Grades 1 – 12  
\$15.75 to \$16.00 for half-day ECS student  
\$31.50 to \$32.00 per full day every day ECS student

Motion Carried

**Information/Reports**

**ASBA**

**E. Information/Reports**

**1. ASBA (Board Chair Barb Maddigan)**

Board Chair Barb Maddigan requested that the letter from ASBA regarding charter schools and

request for input be presented by Trustee Linda Wigton.

Input is required and support is needed from administration and Trustees. The PSBAA website has a research paper which provides clarification on the charter school position. Input from Trustees is needed by March 11, 2022. Round table discussion.

Board Chairs had a meeting with the Minister of Education on February 25<sup>th</sup> regarding the education budget. Specifics were not provided but will be released by the end of March.

### **ASBA Zone 2/3**

### **ASBA Zone 2/3 (Trustee Jim Hailes)**

Reports were provided to Trustees prior to the meeting.

Trustee Hailes asked if administration is doing anything to encourage parents to be more responsive to surveys.

Round table discussion.

### **PSBAA**

### **2. PSBAA (Board Vice-Chair Christine Peck)**

Vice-Chair Christine Peck provided information from the PSBC presentations and meeting February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. During the business meeting, Trustee Judy Muir took a position on the Special Recognition Committee and Trustee Christine Peck took a position on the new Professional Learning Needs Committee.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

### **3. Standing Committee Reports**

Advocacy Committee – Trustee Linda Wigton:  
The brochure has been updated and copies were circulated to Trustees.

Trustee Jim Hailes asked if the Board was going to submit a resolution at the ASBA annual general

meeting regarding mental health. Trustee Wigton indicated that there will be more than one resolution presented at the fall general meeting and that work is ongoing.

The Advocacy Plan was presented by Trustee Wigton. Curriculum was not added to the Northern Gateway plan as it is an ongoing discussion at the provincial level.

Round table discussion.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **4. Superintendent's Report (Superintendent Kevin Bird)**

Superintendent Kevin Bird presented his report to the Trustees for information. Covid plans for medically fragile students continue. Parents are asked to make appointments during school hours so that plans are not compromised. Administration is confirming this has been communicated to parents.

The Division received a sizable grant of just over \$47,000 from the Royal Bank to fund the summer bootcamps. Pembina provided a \$15,000 grant to support student certification safety training.

Round table discussion regarding resources for "bus days" and fees for bootcamp and safety courses.

## **Correspondence**

### **5. Correspondence**

## **Board Annual Work Plan**

### **6. Board Annual Work Plan (Trustee Gerry Steinke)**

Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry informed the Trustees that a candidate has been selected for the Edwin Parr Award which will be presented to ASBA by the deadline. Waiting for feedback from schools regarding the Indigenous Awards. The Friends of Education Award is part of the ASBA

zone meeting and may be combined with the Edwin Parr ceremony. Deadline will be confirmed.

## **Motion Review Cycle**

### **7. Motion Review Cycle**

The motion review cycle is up to date.

## **Trustee Reports**

### **8. Trustee Reports**

Trustee Christine Peck attended the Get Real Movement meeting via Zoom. Inclusivity workshop was beneficial, and Trustee Peck suggested a professional development session for Trustees.

Trustee Linda Wigton had a question about messaging to parents regarding graduation this year. Superintendent Bird has been working with principals and an administrative procedure has been created. Information will be presented at the next Board meeting and parents will be notified soon.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **9. Upcoming Events**

School Tours – Doodle Poll will determine dates and alternate dates for school tours.

*Electronic recording of the meeting discontinued at 12:09 p.m.*

## **February 2022 ASEBP Trustees'**

### **10. February 2022 ASEBP Trustees' Report**

The report was presented to the Trustees for information.

## **Additional Report Items**

### **11. Additional Report Items**

Board Chair Barb Maddigan read the letter from Dana McIntosh to the Minister of Education regarding the draft K-6 curriculum.

Trustees had a round table discussion regarding concerns about the roll out, lack of resources, and whether our District should respond.

4578-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board write a letter to the Minister and our MLAs regarding our concerns with the roll out of the new curriculum.

Motion Carried

4579-22

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Board accept the Information Items E1 – E11 as information.

Motion Carried

**Topics for Future Discussions**

**F. Topics for Future Discussions**

**Requests for Information**

**G. Requests for Information**

**Meeting Highlights**

**H. Meeting Highlights**

- Technology Fees
- Covid Update
- Grants for Bootcamps and Safety Training
- Letter from Board Chair of Peace Wapiti School Division regarding draft K-6 curriculum

**In-Closed Session**

**I. In-Closed Session**

4580-22

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board move to in-closed session at 1:33 p.m.

Motion Carried

Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer; Kevin Bird, Superintendent; and Leslee Jodry, Deputy Superintendent were invited to stay.

4581-22

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the Board move out of in-closed session at 2:29 p.m.

Motion Carried

4582-22

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: As a cost-savings item that the Board forego the Board Evaluation.

Motion Defeated

4583-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board enter into an agreement with M<sup>2</sup> Educational Consulting to perform the Board evaluation.

Motion Carried

**Adjournment**

**J. Adjournment**

4584-22

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the meeting be adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Motion Carried

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer