

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

March 22, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Division Office Board Room in Whitecourt, Alberta

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### Opening

#### Call to Order and Roll Call

### A. Opening

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

The March 22, 2022, meeting was called to order by Board Chair Barb Maddigan at 10:04 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.

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

### O Canada

#### Treaty Land Acknowledgement

#### 2. Singing of O Canada

#### 3. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Christine Peck read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

#### Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

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

- a) Letters from Palliser School Division to the Minister of Education Adriana LaGrange and the Minister of Justice, Solicitor General and Deputy House Leader Tyler Shandro, regarding Bill 70, the COVID-19 Related Measures Act.

**Acceptance of the Agenda**

4585-22

**5. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Agenda for the March 22, 2022, Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**Appointments and Delegations**

**Draft Minutes of the March 1, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

4586-22

**B. Appointments and Delegations**

**C. Draft Minutes of the March 1, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the draft Minutes of the March 1, 2022, Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

**Action Items**

**Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent**

4587-22

**D. Action Items**

**1. Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent**

The Policy Committee met twice to review the policy. Reviews were aided by the ASBA consultants in aligning policies with the Education Act, and recommendations by the Superintendent evaluation contractor. Trustee Steinke presented the revisions to the Policy and Appendix A. Appendices B and C will be amended by the evaluation consultant.

*Randy Lovich, Director of Maintenance, joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.*

Moved by Trustee Gerry Steinke: That Policy 12, including only Appendix A, be affirmed as amended; and further, that Appendix B and Appendix C be presented with revisions at the next Board meeting.

- 4588-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 1.8 be amended to read: 'Aligns Division resources and builds organizational capacity for all students with special emphasis to support First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students.'
- Amended Motion Defeated
- 4589-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 3.1 be amended to read: 'Ensures the fiscal management of the Division is in accordance with the terms or conditions of any funding received by the Board under the Education Act or any other legislation.'
- Amended Motion Defeated
- 4590-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 3.2 be amended to read: 'Ensures the fiscal responsibility of Division operations.'
- Amended Motion Defeated
- 4591-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 4.2 be amended to read: 'Provides leadership in the supervision, evaluation, and growth of all staff.'
- Amended Motion Defeated
- 4592-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 5.3 be amended to read: 'Informs the Board and all affected persons of revisions to the Administrative Procedures Manual.'
- Amended Motion Defeated
- 4593-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 6.4 be amended to read: 'The Superintendent or his designate attends all Board meetings and makes recommendations on matters requiring Board action by providing accurate information and reports as are needed to ensure the making of informed decisions.'
- Amended Motion Defeated

*Further discussion on Policy 12 was deferred until after the presentation of the Three-Year Capital Plan.*

## **2023 – 2026 Three-Year Capital Plan**

### **2. 2023 – 2026 Three-Year Capital Plan**

Randy Lovich, Director of Maintenance, presented the Three-Year Capital Plan to the Trustees.

Priority One: Funding has been announced to move to the final design and blueprint stage for the Valleyview K-12 School. Student enrolment numbers have dropped since the initial submission and Director Lovich asked if the size of the school should be amended as he has concerns about future costs due to world events and uncertainty. Round table discussion followed regarding budget, student enrolment and school size. There are too many unknown factors at this time to recommend changes to the proposal. Trustee Sally Petryshen went on record to emphasize the need to not make changes to the project budget and size at this time.

Round table discussion followed regarding Priorities Two and Three.

Board Chair Maddigan asked for a clarification on P3 schools. Director Lovich confirmed that the Valleyview school proposal is not a P3 (Private, Public, Partnership) school. P3 schools are designed and built by the government with some control returned to the Division over time.

*Randy Lovich left the meeting at 11:19 a.m.*

## **Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent (continued)**

### **Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent (continued)**

Trustee Hailes voiced his concern about Sections 6.6 and 6.7 regarding the flow of information to the Board on controversial and sensitive matters.

Trustee Judy Muir suggested that the order of Sections 6.6 and 6.7 be reversed. Round table discussion.



- 4594-22 Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the order of Sections 6.6 and 6.7 be reversed, and the word 'controversial' be removed.  
Amended Motion Carried
- 4595-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 6.6 be amended to read: 'Keeps the Board informed of highly sensitive issues.'  
Amended Motion Defeated
- 4596-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 8.1 be amended to read: 'Demonstrates effective organization skills, resulting in Division compliance with all legal, Ministerial and Board mandates and timelines. Demonstrates effective crisis management skills.'  
Amended Motion Defeated
- 4597-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 9.5 be amended to read: 'Monitors and ensures parents and students have a high level of satisfaction with the services provided and the responsiveness of the Division.'  
Amended Motion Defeated
- 4598-22 Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That Section 9.6 be deleted.  
Amended Motion Defeated
- 4599-22 Moved by Trustee Gerry Steinke: That Policy 12, including only Appendix A, be affirmed as amended, with additional amendment by Board motion; and further, that Appendices B and C be presented with revisions at the next Board meeting.  
Amended Motion Carried

4600-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board accept the 2023 – 2026 Three-Year Capital Plan as presented.

Motion Carried

**Information/Reports**

**ASBA**

**ASBA Zone 2/3**

**PSBAA**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**E. Information/Reports**

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

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

Coffee and Conversation had a successful turnout, and the report will be forwarded to Trustees once received.

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

The Professional Learning Needs Committee met, and Vice-Chair Peck will be forwarding surveys to the Trustees requesting feedback on possible presentations and professional development.

Round table discussion followed regarding private school research and information that is available on the website.

*Board Chair Maddigan left the meeting at 12:51. Vice Chair Christine Peck resumed the meeting as Chair.*

*Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, joined the meeting at 12:51 p.m.*

**3. Standing Committee Reports**

Community Engagement Committee

The Committee met on March 21, 2022, to discuss the teacher appreciation celebrations, ngpsTALK, Sangudo revitalization, and school tours. The Committee is waiting for costs from Communications Officer Lisa Bakos and the Board Finance Committee before making further plans for celebrations and school tours. The

Committee also discussed using ngpsTALK for the Valleyview funding announcement and the feedback received on the new school year calendar.

## Superintendent's Report

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

Superintendent Kevin Bird presented his report to the Trustees for information. CASS had an in-person meeting and group sessions were interesting and well-received. Superintendent Bird felt privileged to attend with colleagues and congratulated Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry on being recognized by the group for the work done in the Division.

Attended the community meeting in Sangudo and provided input on key issues.

Great to be able to attend sporting events again. A few clusters of Covid are being monitored. Most staff have returned but Division office staff have stepped in to instruct in a few schools where teachers are absent.

Lac Ste Anne mental health supports have developed a great funding plan on their website for struggling families and individuals.

Changes to draft Administrative Procedures AP 375 and AP 655 were reviewed. Trustee Hailes asked that future drafts be presented to the Board with a copy showing revisions.

Deputy Superintendent Jodry updated the Trustees on the work being done to prepare teachers for the new curriculum. The grade 4 – 6 curriculums for math and English language/literature will be implemented in the Fall of 2023 and the Division will be working with teachers to prepare. Plans are being shared amongst Divisions and work is progressing.

Trustee Hailes congratulated administration for their recognition at CASS and thanked central office staff for their teaching assistance in schools.

Trustee Gerry Steinke expressed concern about ongoing restrictions in schools. Superintendent Bird indicated that the Division's plan is to wait until the second week after Spring Break before scaling back remaining restrictions. Special consideration will be given to medically fragile staff and students as well as consideration for those who still have some anxiety. Trustees are asked to bring concerns forward.

Round table discussion.

**Financial Reports**

**5. Financial Reports (Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong)**

The Divisional Financial Reports, SJFR, and Student Enrolment Reports for February were presented to the Trustees for information.

Trustee Gerry Steinke asked if the funds were received from the sale of the old Division office building, and this was confirmed by Secretary-Treasurer Spong.

Round table discussion regarding Trustee expenses and school surpluses.

At the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., the Finance Ad Hoc Committee will be formed.

4601-22

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Board have the Finance Committee of the Whole as an in-person meeting.

Motion Carried

**Yellowhead Regional Library**

**6. Yellowhead Regional Library  
(Board Chair Barb Maddigan)**

**Alberta Rural Education  
Symposium**

**7. Alberta Rural Education Symposium  
(Trustee Diane Hagman)**

Trustee Diane Hagman presented her report from the Rural Education Symposium to the Trustees.



Trustee Jim Hailes asked if the Division will collaborate with other local governments on the Lac Ste Anne Mental Health initiative. Vice-Chair Peck reported that it was modeled after another municipality but there has not been a lot of up-take. It is being shared to garner more interest. Round table discussion.

Trustee Jim Hailes had an opportunity to speak with the Minister of Education to voice the Division's concerns over charter and private schools.

### **Edwin Parr Nomination and Honoring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards**

### **8. Edwin Parr Nomination and Honoring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards (Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry)**

Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry provided background information for each of the awards. The nomination for the Honoring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards is Hilltop High School student Renee Gray. She has been recognized as a respected student who celebrates her First Nations culture, volunteers, and is involved in sports and other activities.

The Edwin Parr Award nominee is Paul Marinus, automotives teacher at Hilltop High School. He has been recognized for his engaging and thoughtful lessons and his professionalism. He is well respected and contributes to the culture of the school with a positive approach.

Deputy Superintendent Jodry congratulated both individuals for their nominations.

### **Correspondence**

### **9. Correspondence**

The letters from Palliser School Division to the Minister of Education Adriana LaGrange and the Minister of Justice, Solicitor General and Deputy House Leader Tyler Shandro, regarding Bill 70, the COVID-19 Related Measures Act were emailed to the Trustees prior to the meeting. The letters request that school divisions be included in the Act, so they are not left liable for damages due to Covid 19.

4602-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: To accept the letters as information.

Motion Carried

**Board Annual Work Plan**

**10. Board Annual Work Plan (Trustee Gerry Steinke)**

The Board Annual Work Plan is up to date.

**Motion Review Cycle**

**11. Motion Review Cycle**

The motion review cycle is up to date.

**Trustee Reports**

**12. Trustee Reports**

Trustees Diane Hagman and Deb Koloski attended the Elmer Elson Elementary School council meeting in person. Kids are preparing for the arts festival coming up.

Trustees Hagman and Petryshen received invitations to the Rural Caucus Spring General Meeting (virtual) on March 31, and private school funding is on the agenda.

Trustee Deb Koloski attended the in-person council meeting at the Mayerthorpe High School. The Principal gave a tour of the graphics and 3D labs.

Trustee Jim Hailes reported that the parent council of the Fox Creek School is organizing an auction for a hot rod, in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school and benefiting the industrial arts department.

Vice-Chair Christine Peck reported that the Onoway Jr/Sr High School raised money for the people being affected by the tragedy in Ukraine. It was a huge success and was featured on Global News. Details on Facebook.



**Upcoming Events**

**13. Upcoming Events**

- School tours will be determined after the Finance meeting.
- Trustees Peck and Muir will attend the PSBC Meeting April 7 and 8
- Next Regular Board Meeting April 12

**Additional Report Items**

**14. Additional Report Items**

- a)
- b)

4603-22

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the Board accept Information/Reports E1 – E14 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**

- Presentation of Three-Year Capital Plan
- CASS Meeting
- Community Meeting in Sangudo
- Covid Update
- Valleyview New School Announcement
- Counselling Options Lac Ste. Anne County
- New Curriculum Presentation
- Alberta Rural Education Symposium
- Edwin Parr and Honoring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards

**In-Closed Session**

4604-22

**I. In-Closed Session**

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Board move to in-closed session at 2:18 p.m.

Motion Carried

*Electronic recording of the meeting discontinued at 2:18 p.m.*

Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer; Kevin Bird, Superintendent; Leslee Jodry, Deputy Superintendent; and Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, were invited to stay.

4605-22

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the Board move out of in-closed session at 4:00 p.m.

Motion Carried

4606-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the 2022-2023 Transportation Fees for Grant Ineligible Students remain the same at:

- Grades 1–12 Annual Pass: \$371.00 per student
- ECS Pass: \$185.00 per half day ECS student \$371.00 per full day every day ECS student
- Family Pass: \$927.00 maximum per family
- Replacement Pass: \$6.00 per pass

and that Alternate Seat Fees be reduced to:

- Alternate Seat Fee: \$200.00 per student
- Alternate Seat Fee ECS: \$100.00 per half day ECS student; and \$200.00 per full day, every day ECS student
- Alternate Seat Fee - Family: \$500.00





4607-22

Moved by Trustee Sally Petryshen: That the transportation fees be reduced to \$150.00 for all passes.

Amended Motion Defeated

Motion Carried


**Adjournment**

**J. Adjournment**

4608-22

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the meeting be adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Motion Carried

  
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Board Chair

  
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Secretary-Treasurer

