

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

May 24, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Division Office Board Room in Whitecourt, Alberta

Opening

Call to Order and Roll Call

A. Opening

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The May 24, 2022, meeting was called to order by Board Chair Barb Maddigan at 10:05 a.m.

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

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

O Canada

2. Singing of O Canada

Treaty Land Acknowledgement

3. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Christine Peck read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

4. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Nil

Acceptance of the Agenda

4634-22

5. Acceptance of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the Agenda for the May 24, 2022, Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried

Appointments and Delegations

B. Appointments and Delegations

Nil

Draft Minutes of the May 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

4635-22

C. Draft Minutes of the May 10, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

Moved by Vice-Chair Christine Peck: That the draft Minutes of the May 10, 2022, Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

Action Items

2022 – 2023 Division Budget

4636-22

D. Action Items

1. 2022 – 2023 Division Budget

Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong presented the 2022 – 2023 Division Budget to the Trustees for approval. Questions were brought forward by the Trustees and Secretary-Treasurer Spong provided clarification.

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board approve the 2022 – 2023 Division Budget as presented.

Motion Carried

NGPS Education Plan 2022 - 2025

2. NGPS Education Plan 2022 - 2025

The NGPS Education Plan 2022 – 2023 was provided to Trustees prior to the Board Meeting. Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry presented a summary with an overview of the school division, the engagement process, and the priority areas. Round table discussion.

Trustee Muir suggested that the Board Annual Work Plan be amended to include reviewing a draft of the Education Plan in April in order to give the Board more time to discuss it.

The Board would like the following amendments made to the Education Plan:

- different terminology for the term 'Big Ideas'
- include a global statement for grades 7 – 12 in key strategies
- clarify that curriculum work under strategies is K – 3 'implementation' and 4 – 6 'pilot' for language arts and math
- reword 'Outcome 2' in Learning Supports for First Nations Metis and Inuit to be stated the same as 'Outcome 1' Student Growth and Achievement
- specify and use examples for mental health supports and align with the comprehensive wellness plan
- reorder the governance strategies to put staff and student well-being first

4637-22

Moved by Trustee Gerry Steinke: That the Board approve the NGPS Education Plan 2022 - 2025 with amendments.

Motion Carried

Employee Recognition Budget

3. Employee Recognition Budget

Vice-Chair Christine Peck presented the proposed budget for the staff appreciation evening being held in the fall. The budget estimate of \$28,590 is considerably less than previous years. Changes this year include using previous décor and shortening time by having people stand to accept their recognition instead of walking on stage. Trustee Hailes questioned if this would make the celebration less personable and Vice-Chair Peck offered to take the question back to the committee. The venue has changed as well, resulting in cost savings.

4638-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board approve the employee recognition budget as presented by the Community Engagement Committee Chair, Christine Peck.

Motion Carried

Information/Reports

ASBA
ASBA Zone 2/3

E. Information/Reports

1. ASBA (Board Chair Barb Maddigan) ASBA Zone 2/3 (Trustee Jim Hailes)

The next Zone meeting is Friday, May 26 starting at 12:30 p.m. and a report will be provided at the June Board meeting.

PSBAA

2. PSBAA (Board Vice-Chair Christine Peck)

Vice-Chair Peck has been asked to take part in a video survey asking what public schools mean to the Board. The video is on the PSBAA website -- there are two questions which will be forwarded to Trustees and feedback is requested.

Standing Committee Reports

3. Standing Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee: Trustee Linda Wigton reported that the Committee discussed operations and maintenance funding and pressure in the future due to declines in enrolment. The Committee discussed advocating to government regarding fuel costs and building maintenance pressures. The Committee would like Board approval to write a letter to the Government of Alberta regarding the carbon tax issue, and the impacts on our school division budget. The Committee learned from administration that schools are receiving excellent curriculum support materials quickly and will include recognition of the government's efforts in the letter.

The Committee discussed the issues around amortization, and also the possibility of meeting with

local MLAs and other government representatives in the future to discuss advocacy strategies.

4639-22

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board approve the Advocacy Committee's plan to write a letter to the Government of Alberta regarding the carbon tax and how this issue impacts our school division budget.

Motion Carried

Community Engagement Committee: Vice-Chair Christine Peck added that the date will be changed to September 23rd for the employee recognition evening.

Policy Committee: Trustee Gerry Steinke informed the Board that the next policy changes will be presented for approval at the June 14, 2022, Regular Board Meeting.

Superintendent's Report

4. Superintendent's Report (Superintendent Kevin Bird)

Superintendent Kevin Bird presented his report to the Trustees for information.

A recent tour of the Grimshaw education complex gave considerable insight into the operations of connected facilities.

Congratulations to Alexis dancer and NGPS student Demi Potts for placing 1st in the junior fancy shawl division during an international event in New Mexico.

The Sangudo School report from the engineer identified soil type as the likely cause of the damage to the school and the freeze/thaw cycle causing sudden expansion. Next steps will be presented at the June 14, 2022, Board Meeting.

Administrative Procedure 260 regarding Off-Site Activities was amended to include clarification on insurance and the role of the Board.

Financial Reports

5. Financial Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong presented the April 2022 financial reports to the Trustees for information.

Correspondence

6. Correspondence

Nil

Board Annual Work Plan

7. Board Annual Work Plan (Trustee Gerry Steinke)

The Board Annual Work Plan is up to date. Vice-Chair Christine Peck suggested adding an Education Plan review to the Work Plan in April as previously discussed. Trustee Steinke indicated that it will be added with other amendments when the work plan is reviewed in the fall.

Motion Review Cycle

8. Motion Review Cycle

The Motion Review Cycle is up to date.

Trustee Reports

9. Trustee Reports

Trustee Hailes inquired about Board Motions and outstanding work. Trustee Hagman wondered why the format has changed from 'motion completed' to 'motion carried'. Administration will clarify for next meeting.

Trustee Hailes reported a successful evening for the Fox Creek School 50th Anniversary celebration. Thank you to the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent for attending.

Trustee Koloski reported that at the Mayerthorpe School Council meeting, the Council voiced concerns over the partnership with Lac Ste. Anne County, which limits access to facilities to their constituents only. Round table discussion.

Trustee Koloski brought forward two requests from the Sangudo School Council: Principal Pfannmuller requested a copy of the engineer's report for the school; and the Chair of the School Council wondered where money will come from in the future to keep the school operating if surplus money cannot be carried forward.

Vice-Chair Christine Peck asked the Trustees to take pictures when they are doing business in their communities and forward them to the Community Engagement Committee for posting to the website.

Trustee Wigton, Trustee Muir and Board Chair Maddigan reported that their schools are working on applications for the \$500 grant.

Trustee Sally Petryshen attended the school portion of the Fox Creek School anniversary event – very well done. Trustee Petryshen thanked Trustee Jim Hailes for the tour of Fox Creek.

Upcoming Events

10. Upcoming Events

- 2022 ASBA Zone 2/3 Awards Banquet May 27
- PSBAA Spring General Assembly June 2 - 4
- ASBA Spring General Meeting June 6 & 7
- Regular Board Meeting June 14, 2022
- Division High School 2022 Graduation Dates:
 - Hillside June 25
 - Fox Creek June 25
 - Mayerthorpe June 29
 - Onoway June 30
 - Hilltop June 30

Additional Report Items

11. Additional Report Items

Nil

4640-22

Moved by Trustee Diane Hagman: That the Board accept Information and Reports E1 – E11 as information.

Motion Carried

Topics for Future Discussions

F. Topics for Future Discussions

Nil

Requests for Information

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

- Budget Presentation
- Education Plan 2022 – 2025
- Grimshaw Education Complex Tour
- Congratulations to Demi Potts
- High School Graduation Dates

In-Closed Session

I. In-Closed Session

4641-22

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board move to closed session at 1:37 p.m.

Motion Carried

Electronic Recording stopped at 1:37 p.m.

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

4642-22

Moved by Trustee Gerry Steinke: That the Board move out of closed session at 2:55 p.m.

Motion Carried

4643-22

Moved by Trustee Gerry Steinke: That the Board encourage replacement school discussions with partner organizations in the Valleyview area and with the provincial government that will advance the concept of

sharing or adding additional facilities for the mutual benefit of students and the community-at-large.

Motion Carried

Trustee Jim Hailes left the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Adjournment

4644-22

J. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the meeting be adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer