

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

Division Office Board Room, Whitecourt, Alberta
June 20, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

OPENING

Call to Order and Roll Call

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The June 20, 2023, 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, Linda Wigton, Deb Koloski, and Diane Hagman; and Administrators Kevin Bird, Superintendent; Leslee Jodry, Deputy Superintendent; Tamara Spong, Secretary-Treasurer; and Nancy Whittaker, Recording Secretary.

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

Treaty Land Acknowledgement

2. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Christine Peck read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

- a) Yellowhead Regional Library Report added to Information and Reports by Chair Maddigan.

Acceptance of the Agenda

4. Acceptance of the Agenda

4844-23

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Agenda for the June 20, 2023, Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

DRAFT MINUTES MAY 23, 2023, BOARD MEETING

4845-23

B. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Moved by Trustee Diane Hagman: That the draft Minutes of the May 23, 2023, Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

Motion Carried

ACTION ITEMS

C. ACTION ITEMS

Nil

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

ASBA
ASBA Zone 2/3

D. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

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

Trustee Jim Hailes presented his report to the Trustees for information.

PSBAA

2. PSBAA (Board Vice-Chair Christine Peck)

Vice-Chair Peck attended the Spring General Assembly – the theme was centred on hope, optimism for the future, and moving forward with positivity. There were excellent speakers and upbeat presentations.

Standing Committee Reports

3. Standing Committee Reports

Advocacy Committee – Trustee Wigton

The Minutes of the June 13, 2023 Advocacy Committee Meeting were provided to the Trustees for information. The Committee is working on a budget funding model presentation for parents and MLAs to advocate for NGPS. Local MLAs will be invited to a Committee of the Whole meeting in September.

Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards – Superintendent Bird

The Rural Caucus discussed budget, finance, and their web page. Transportation was also a major topic, with challenges rural divisions face due to the change in walking distances. Most divisions are also struggling to find drivers. The Caucus discussed provincial insurance and increasing costs.

APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS

E. APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS

Jason Yaremchuk, Director of Information Technology, gave an update on the Evergreen Plan. Key points:

- Cycle 2 of four-year Evergreen has begun
- Balancing inequality of access – all students will have Chromebooks
- Teachers will choose from three package options
- Wi-Fi has been updated improving performance and reliability
- PowerSchool training completed for new secretaries

Questions from Trustees were answered as appropriate.

Jason Yaremchuk left the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

D. INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

Superintendent's Report

4. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bird presented his report to the Trustees for information.

One hundred thirty-five students have registered for Summer Bootcamp. Superintendent Bird recognized the major sponsors of the program: Royal Bank of Canada, Pembina Pipelines, and Woodlands County. Principal Jager in Mayerthorpe spearheads the program – it is an immense amount of work for staff but is invaluable for the students. This year the camp runs from July 3 – 7 and 10 – 14. Trustees are invited to stop by.

Financial/Enrolment Reports

5. Financial/Enrolment Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong presented the May financial and enrolment reports to the Trustees for information. Round table discussion regarding the usefulness of the financial report and the possibility of adding year-to-year comparisons.

Division Professional Learning Day

6. Division Professional Learning Day

Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry presented a slideshow outlining the Division Professional Learning Day on August 30. The theme and topics will centre on hope and optimism and is based on the quality learning environment, with approximately 58 sessions being planned. All staff will attend two sessions of their choice. The Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium is assisting with the registration process. The Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe, an expert on resiliency and workplace wellness. Trustees are invited to attend.

APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS

E. APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS (continued)

Honouring Spirit Nominees Mason Johnston, Vada Sunshine and Sunshyne Brown, along with their escorts and principals, joined the meeting at 12:58 a.m.

The students were introduced and presented with their certificates by Superintendent Bird and Board Chair Barb Maddigan. The Trustees congratulated this year's nominees and wished them well in their future plans.

The students and their escorts joined the Trustees for lunch and left when the meeting resumed at 1:24 p.m.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

D. INFORMATION AND REPORTS (continued)

Ad Hoc Committee Report

7. Ad Hoc Committee Report

Vice Chair Peck reported that the Committee met on June 12 with representatives from Sangudo School and Lac Ste Anne County regarding the revitalization and viability of the Sangudo School. Funding system, demographics, transportation, educational considerations, and collaborations with the community were discussed. Communication was the biggest concern. The meeting record will be forwarded to Trustees and the Committee will meet again on October 16, 2023.

Board Annual and Term Work Plans

8. Board Annual and Term Work Plans

The Work Plans are up to date.

Motion Review Cycle

9. Motion Review Cycle

The Motion Review Cycle is up to date.

Trustee Reports

10. Trustee Reports

Trustee Wigton

Attended the PSBAA and ASBA conferences. The ASBA was short and productive -- the business meeting was efficient with the number of by-law changes.

Vice-Chair Peck

Attended PSBAA and Ad Hoc Committee meetings. Onoway Jr/Sr High held elections last week and the same council will continue.

Chair Maddigan

Attended ASBA and provided a synopsis to the Trustees.

Trustee Muir

Attended volunteer tea at Grasmere School and volunteered at the St. Albert Casino. CUPE negotiations are complete.

Trustee Koloski

Attended the ASBA and PSBAA conferences – very interesting speakers and valuable information. There were no school council meetings this month.

Trustee Hagman

Will be attending the CSBA Congress in July.

Trustee Hailes

Attended both ASBA and PSBAA conferences. Impressed with the business sessions, and the professional development sessions with PSBAA were excellent with good variety. There have not been any school council meetings in Fox Creek for three months, for various reasons.

Upcoming Events

11. Upcoming Events

- June 24 – Hillside High Graduation (1 pm)
- June 24 – Fox Creek School Graduation (2 pm)
- June 29 – Mayerthorpe High Graduation (1 pm)
- June 30 – Onoway High Graduation (1:30/2 pm)
- June 30 – Hilltop High Graduation (1 pm)
- July 3 to 5 – CSBA Congress

Additional Reports

12. Additional Reports

Yellowhead Regional Library

Board Chair Barb Maddigan gave a report on the Yellowhead Regional Library.

- Workplace diversity and inclusion training
- Policy revisions
- Seba Beach application for membership
- Director staying for another term
- More information will be emailed to Trustees

4846-23

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the Board accept Information and Reports D1 – D12 as information.

Motion Carried

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS

F. TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS

Chair Maddigan’s Yellowhead Regional Library report will be forwarded to Trustees.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

G. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM ADMINISTRATION (BY BOARD MOTION)

Nil

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

H. MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Evergreen Plan/Technology Update
- Summer Boot Camps
- Division Professional Learning Day
- Honouring Spirit Award Nominees

CLOSED SESSION

I. CLOSED SESSION

4847-23

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board move to Closed Session at 1:46 p.m.

Motion Carried

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

Electronic Recording stopped at 1:46 p.m.

4848-23

Moved by Trustee Judy Muir: That the Board move out of Closed Session at 4:14 p.m.

Motion Carried

4849-23

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Northern Gateway Public School Board of Trustees second the ASBA Proposed Regular Position Statement – Cross-Ministerial Support – Family and Community Support Services, sponsored by St. Albert Public Schools.

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

J. ADJOURNMENT

4850-23

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the meeting be adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer