

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

Division Office Board Room, Whitecourt, Alberta  
September 12, 2023

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## **OPENING**

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

## **A. OPENING**

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

The September 12, 2023, meeting was called to order by Board Chair Gerry Steinke at 1:00 p.m.

Present at this time: Board Chair Gerry Steinke, Board Vice-Chair Diane Hagman, Trustees Jim Hailes, Judy Muir, Barb Maddigan, Linda Wigton, Deb Koloski, and Christine Peck; 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 Diane Hagman read the Treaty Land Acknowledgement.

### **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

### **3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

- a) Delete presentation by Beth Jager
- b) Additional Action Items:
  - i. Transportation Issue – Trustee Wigton
  - ii. Education Act Updated Publication – Board Chair Steinke
- c) Add to Closed Session: Meeting with MLAs

### **Acceptance of the Agenda**

4875-23

### **4. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Barb Maddigan: That the Agenda for the September 12, 2023, Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

**Motion Carried**

**APPOINTMENTS AND**

**B. APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS**

Presentation by Beth Jager – Summer Boot Camps is rescheduled to October 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

**DRAFT MINUTES JUNE 20, 2023, BOARD MEETING**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

4876-23

Moved by Board Vice-Chair Diane Hagman: That the draft Minutes of the June 20, 2023, Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

**Motion Carried**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**D. ACTION ITEMS**

**Results Review**

**1. Results Review**

4877-23

Moved by Trustee Deb Koloski: That the annual Results Review dates be set for November 29 and November 30, 2023.

**Motion Carried**

**Posting of Agenda Package**

**2. Posting of Agenda Package**

4878-23

Moved by Trustee Christine Peck: That the Policy Committee be directed by the Board to review current policy and bring recommendations to the Board on how agendas and attachments are made available to the public.

**Motion Carried**

**Transportation Issue**

**3. Transportation Issue**

4879-23

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Northern Gateway Board of Trustees approve transportation provision for students who live in the Sangudo School catchment area and who are presently enrolled at Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School, grade 7 – 9 program.

Round table discussion whether this item is an emergent issue and the potential ramifications.

Point of Order: Trustee Hailes raised a point of order that the topic indicated in Trustee Wigton's motion is out of order because it is not an emergent issue.

Chair Steinke ruled that the item is in order for placement on the Agenda and is open for debate.

4880-23

Moved by Trustee Christine Peck: That the Board overrule the Chair regarding placement of the transportation issue on the Agenda.

**Motion Defeated**

Round table discussion:

- Clarification was given that the students be transported from Sangudo School and not from their home.
- Superintendent Bird confirmed that this is regarding Mayerthorpe students who attend Mayerthorpe Jr Sr High School from the Sangudo catchment area. The current student count is 12 – 18 on existing transportation routes – no additional cost anticipated.
- Potential ramifications for setting a precedent – effect on small schools is unknown.
- Need to consult with parents and work with the Sangudo group before the Board makes a commitment.
- Information needed from the Transportation department.

4881-23

Moved by Vice-Chair Diane Hagman: That the Motion (4879-23) be deferred until the Board can gather more information, community engagement and feedback and until after the Sangudo Community Engagement Committee meeting on October 16, 2023.

**Motion Carried**

**Motion Deferred**

The item will be added to the agenda of the Sangudo Community Engagement Ad Hoc Committee meeting on October 16, 2023.

#### **Copies of Education Act**

#### **4. Copies of Education Act**

The Education Act has been updated and new copies will be purchased for the Trustees as requested.

**INFORMATION AND  
REPORTS  
ASBA  
ASBA Zone 2/3**

4882-23

**PSBAA**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**E. INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

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

Trustee Maddigan indicated that the Board had not formally agreed to nominate Marilyn Dennis as ASBA President since the Board was delaying action until after the Board Organizational Meeting.

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Board of NGPS put forward a nomination for Marilyn Dennis as President of ASBA.

**Motion Carried**

There will be a report of Zone 2/3 at the October 17th Board meeting.

**2. PSBAA (Trustee Christine Peck)**

Trustee Peck attended the PSBC meeting in Medicine Hat on August 10 – 12. Mandate letters have been forwarded to Trustees for review and comment. *Trustee Peck asked Administration to forward the NGPS 3 Year Capital Plan to Troy Tait.*

**3. Standing Committee Reports**

Advocacy Committee – Trustee Wigton

The Committee is creating a one-page paper for budget discussions. Helpful for Trustees when meeting with parent councils – outlines how budgeting is done.

Reviewing internal advocacy document and will share with the Board at a future meeting.

ASBA has online session on September 27<sup>th</sup> to review mandate letter.

Meeting with MLAs scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Committee recommends that congratulations be sent to all MLAs including Todd Loewen on recent appointments.

4883-23

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board send letters of congratulations to the MLAs, the Minister of Education and the Premier, on their recent appointments.

**Motion Carried**

#### Community Engagement Committee

Trustee Peck requested that the former Committee stay as the organizing Committee for this year's Employee Recognition Evening.

4884-23

Moved by Trustee Christine Peck: That the Board extend an invitation to the three MLAs that represent our Division, to attend the Employee Recognition Evening on September 29, 2023.

**Motion Carried**

The Committee decided to mail/courier the gifts and recognition to former Trustees rather than arrange another lunch meeting.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **4. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Bird presented his report to the Trustees for information.

Thank you to Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry and her team on organizing a very successful Division Day. Deputy Superintendent Jodry acknowledged her team and shared a few slides developed from the survey after the event.

Several amendments are being made to Administrative Procedures. Trustees were asked for comments and some grammatical changes were suggested.

### **Draft School Tours Schedule**

#### **5. Draft School Tours Schedule**

The draft schedule was presented to Trustees for information and comment. A finalized version will be presented at the next Board meeting.

### **Health Recruitment and**

#### **6. Health Recruitment and Retention Committee Report**

The Committee met on September 5<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Trustee Koloski gave a report to the Trustees for information. Health services in schools will be reviewed to see if improvements can be made.

## CSBA Congress Report

## 7. CSBA Congress Report

Theme was equity, diversity and inclusion. The speakers and sessions were excellent. Trustees Wigton and Hagman gave a synopsis of the breakout sessions and speakers.

## Ward 3, Sub 2 By-Election

## 8. Ward 3, Subdivision 2 By-Election

Three nominees have submitted packages. Secretary-Treasurer Spong will announce the names of the nominees once the grace period has passed.

## Financial/Enrolment Reports

## 9. Financial/Enrolment Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong presented the June and July financial reports and enrolment report for June to the Trustees for information. It is not anticipated that funds will be clawed back for the 2022 – 23 school year. Once student enrolment is finalized the Division will possibly be asking for access to reserve funds as growth is currently outstripping funds and school enrolment is trending up.

## Board Annual and Term Work Plans

## 10. Board Annual and Term Work Plans

The Work Plans are up to date.

## Motion Review Cycle

## 11. Motion Review Cycle

The Motion Review Cycle is up to date.

## Trustee Reports

## 12. Trustee Reports

Vice-Chair Hagman

School Council meetings will be starting up this month.

## Upcoming Events

## 13. Upcoming Events

- September 26 – Meeting with Local MLAs
- September 29 – Annual Employee Recognition Evening
- October 16 – Sangudo Community Engagement Committee Meeting
- October 17 – Regular Board Meeting
- October 18 to 20 – PSBAA Fall General Meeting
- October 23 – Ward 3, Sub 2 By-Election

4885-23

Moved by Trustee Jim Hailes: That the Board accept Information and Reports E1 – E13 as information.

Motion Carried

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS**

**F. TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS**

- Staggered Entry of Students for First Day – Trustee Hailes
- Exam Timetables – Trustee Hailes

**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

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

- Sangudo/Mayerthorpe Transportation Report re: Motion 4881-23

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**H. MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Board Chair and Vice-Chair Elected at Annual Organizational Meeting
- Employee Recognition Evening
- Division Professional Learning Day
- NGPS Foundational Statements
- By-Election for Valleyview Rural

**CLOSED SESSION**

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

4886-23

Moved by Trustee Linda Wigton: That the Board move to Closed Session at 3:06 p.m.

Motion Carried

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

*Electronic Recording stopped at 3:06 p.m.*

4887-23

Moved by Trustee Barb Maddigan: That the Board move out of Closed Session at 4:27 p.m.

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

4888-23

Moved by Trustee Barb Maddigan: That the meeting be adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Motion Carried

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer