

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

Division Office Board Room, Whitecourt, Alberta

May 7, 2024

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## OPENING

### Call to Order and Roll Call

## A. OPENING

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The May 7, 2024, meeting was called to order by Board Chair Gerry Steinke at 10:02 a.m.

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

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer; Tammy Davis, Director of Learning; and Paul Marinus, Teacher at Hilltop High School, were present at this time. Teacher Katherine Lewis joined the meeting via Zoom videoconferencing. There were two people present in the gallery.

A recording of O Canada by Addison Watson, Grade 9 student at Hilltop High School, was presented.

### 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) Paul Marinus, High School Field Trip EV/Solar Vehicle Challenge (added by Superintendent Bird)

b) Letters from Oscar Adolphson Primary – Closed Session (added by Trustee Hailes)

**Acceptance of the Agenda**

**4. Acceptance of the Agenda**

The Agenda for the May 7, 2024 Regular Public Board Meeting was accepted as amended.

**Acceptance of the Minutes**

**5. Acceptance of the April 16, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes of the April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting were accepted as presented.

**APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS**

**B. APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS**

1. Katherine Lewis, Lead Teacher, Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School presented information about the International Field Trip to New York for the Broadway and the Arts Tour, March 23 – March 28, 2026. *Katherine Lewis left the meeting at 10:17 a.m.*
2. Paul Marinus, Grade 10-12 Mechanics teacher at Hilltop High School, presented a slideshow of the EV/Solar Vehicle Challenge to be held in Merritt, BC from May 24 – 26, 2024, Superintendent Bird answered questions regarding risk and insurance. *Paul Marinus left the meeting at 10:34 a.m.*
3. Deputy Superintendent Leslee Jodry introduced Tammy Davis who presented a slideshow summarizing the draft 3-Year Education Plan. Administration answered questions regarding principal mentoring, the new leadership group and the planned youth conference. *Tammy Davis left the meeting at 10:58 a.m.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**C. ACTION ITEMS**

International Field Trip

**1. Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School 2026 International Field Trip to New York**

4981-24

Moved that the Board approve, in principle, the Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School International Field Trip to New York for the 'Broadway and the Arts Tour', from March 23 – 28, 2026.

Motion Carried

**High School Field Trip**

4982-24

**2. Hilltop High School Grade 10 – 12 Mechanics EV/Solar Vehicle Challenge**

Moved that the Board approve, in principle, the Hilltop High School Field Trip to Merritt, BC, to compete in the EV/Solar Vehicle Challenge from May 24 to May 26, 2024.

Motion Carried

**Policy 7  
Section 8 Amendments**

4983-24

**3. Policy 7 Board Operations**

Committee Chair Maddigan presented the recommended amendments to Section 8, Delegations to Board Meetings. The Committee compared current policy with new ASBA G-TEC models. The Trustees had roundtable discussion on the definition of stakeholder, appointment of the spokesperson, and items that would not be considered as presentations from delegations.

Moved that the Board reaffirm Policy 7 Board Operations Section 8, as amended.

4984-24  
Motion Amendment

Moved that Section 8.10 be amended by replacing the current wording with “The delegation will name one person as spokesperson for the group.”

Amended Motion Carried  
Motion Carried

Recommended changes to Section 10 were presented by Committee Chair Maddigan. As directed by Board Motion 4976-24, the Committee considered the 12-hour limit on remuneration. Trustees had roundtable discussion.

4985-24

Moved that the Board reaffirm Policy 7 Board Operations Section 10 and Appendix A, as amended.

Motion Carried

**INFORMATION/REPORTS D.**

**INFORMATION AND REPORTS**

**ASBA**

**1. Alberta School Boards Association**

Trustee Wigton presented a draft position statement on the challenges that rural students face when attending post-secondary education. The Trustees requested that more detailed information and possible solutions be added to the statement.

4986-24

Moved that the Board approve, in principle, the draft position statement regarding inequities experienced by rural students attending post-secondary studies.

Motion Carried

The final statement will be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

The Trustees determined who would attend the MLA Engagement Evening and the Edwin Parr Awards Evening.

The ASBA SGM Budget discussion has been tabled until the next Board meeting.

**PSBAA/PSBC**

**2. Public School Boards Association of Alberta**

No report at this time.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**3. Standing Committee Reports**

The Support Staff/Contractor Compensation Committee report will be presented in Closed Session.

The Policy Committee Meeting Record was provided to Trustees for information. Trustees had roundtable discussion regarding staff presentations versus delegations, and their placement on Board agendas.

4987-24

Moved that the Board direct the Policy Committee to examine the concept of appointments in Board meeting agendas.

Motion Carried

**Superintendent's Report**

**4. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Bird presented his report to the Trustees and answered questions as appropriate. Staff changes include a welcome to the new Assistant Principal Reanne Schaber at Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School, and a congratulations and farewell to Principal Kim Caron at Oscar Adolphson Primary in Valleyview.

**Draft 2024 – 25 Board Meetings**

**5. Draft 2024 – 25 Board Meeting, Results Review and Board Workshop Dates**

The Trustees discussed dates for GSD meetings, and the concept of workshops for professional development and training for new Trustees. The calendar will be approved at the next Board meeting.

**Motion Review Cycle**

**6. Motion Review Cycle**

The Motion Review Cycle is up to date.

**Upcoming Events**

**7. Upcoming Events**

- May 8, 2024 – Zone 2/3 MLA Advocacy Meeting
- May 21, 2024 – Finance Committee Meeting
- May 28, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting
- May 30 to June 1, 2024 – PSBAA Spring General Assembly
- June 3 to 4, 2024 – ASBA Spring General Meeting
- June 18, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting and Honouring Spirit Awards Luncheon

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS**

**E. TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS**

Nil

**REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

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

Nil

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**G. MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- NGPS Mission Statement
- School Field Trip Presentations
- Draft Three-Year Education Plan Presentation
- New Valleyview School Update
- New Teacher Induction Celebration
- Changes to Administration

**MEETING DATES**

4988-24

**H. MEETING DATES**

Moved that the May 21, 2024 Board Meeting be rescheduled to May 28, 2024.

Motion Carried

The Finance Committee Meeting will take place in the Division Office Boardroom on May 21, 2024.

**CLOSED SESSION**

4989-24

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

Moved that the Board move to Closed Session at 1:51 p.m.

Motion Carried

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

*Electronic Recording stopped at 1:51 p.m.*

4990-24

Moved that the Board move out of Closed Session at 3:27 p.m.

Motion Carried

4991-24

Moved that the Board accept the CUPE Memorandum of Agreement, as presented.

Motion Carried

*Trustee Jim Hailes was excused from the vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer