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David Thompson, Chair

Jackie Young, Director of Education

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The November 22, 2016 **Public Session Meeting** of the Near North District School Board was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Head Office of the Near North District School Board, 963 Airport Road, North Bay, ON P1C 1A5

**Trustees Present:**

David Thompson, Chair  
Michelina Beam  
Al Bottomley  
Harry Fry  
Paul Moffat  
Louise Sargent  
Ty Meighan – Student Trustee

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Jackie Young, Director of Education  
Liz Therrien, Superintendent of Business  
Roz Bowness, Superintendent of Schools  
Gay Smylie, Acting Executive Officer  
Carrie Girard, Executive Assistant

**Trustees Present in Parry Sound:**

Jim Beatty – Vice-Chair  
Corine Green  
Carol Stevens

**Administrative Staff Present in Parry Sound:**

Tim Graves, Superintendent of Schools  
Melanie Gray, Acting Executive Officer

**Regrets:**

**Administrative Staff Present in Almaguin:**

Craig Myles, Superintendent of Student Success

**Administrative Regrets:**

Amanda Meighan, Acting Superintendent

**Public (North Bay)**

Aaron Mahoney  
Gord Daniels  
Lyne Kelly  
Glenn Morrison  
Barb Laverock

**Public (Parry Sound)**

Glen Hodgson  
Dave Bartlett

**Public (Almaguin)**

Judy Arai

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**Call to Order**

Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

**Attendance**

Attendance indicated that 9 Trustees plus the Student Trustee were present for this meeting.

**Approval of the Agenda**

16-11-20 Moved by Louise Sargent, seconded by Harry Fry  
**That the Board approve the agenda as presented for the Public Session meeting of November 22, 2016.**

CARRIED

**Conflict of Interest**

None declared

**Minutes from Previous Meetings of Near North District School Board**

16-11-21 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Harry Fry  
**That the Board approve the minutes as amended for the meetings held:**

- **October 25, 2016**
- **November 4, 2016**
- **November 8, 2016**
- **November 14, 2016** (*date amended from November 10, 2016*)

CARRIED

**Celebrating Near North District School Board Success:**

Parry Sound High School Community Remembrance Project – Teacher Richard Lund

For a third year, teacher Richard Lund and a team of staff have organized a trip to Europe for students that goes beyond celebrating remembrance day. The learning leading up to and part of the trip unites students with their school and community and resonates with students by linking the past with the future. Students will visit Vimy Ridge and participate in events that are part of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Students have adopted soldiers from WW1 and WW2 from the Parry Sound area to research. Students will find their names at Vimy Ridge and visit their grave sites.

Students are also involved in a Community Remembrance Project which includes many community partners. Banners for area veterans can be bought for \$100 and will be displayed throughout the Town of Parry Sound in November 2017. Students bought the very first banner and chose soldiers representing leadership, First Nations rights and remembrance. This project has been very successful and has been embraced by the community.

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Trustees thanked Mr. Lund and his staff for providing such a great experiential learning experience for students.

Vice Chair Beatty proposed that Trustees purchase a banner from the Trustee Initiative Fund. Trustees were concerned as more discussion needs to take place around funding criteria, but decided to use their own personal funds to buy a banner.

West Ferris Secondary School SHSM Great Lakes ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) Training and Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin Student Summit – Teacher Karen Bond

Teacher Karen Bond introduced students from the Business SHSM program at West Ferris and explained that through the ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) training, students work with sector partners for an authentic, community-based learning experience.

Twenty-five SHSM students examined local watersheds and the Great Lakes Basin, with local partners such as the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority, Nipissing University and the Canadian Ecology Centre.

In October, six students were selected to participate in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Student Summit in Toronto which was sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. At the summit, students presented their solutions to issues facing the Great Lakes. One of their ideas, which was to display environmentally disturbing images on water bottles gained traction with some of the members of the Ontario Legislature.

One Minister encouraged the students to apply for a \$25,000 grant available to support solutions to local watershed issues. Students are working on submitting an application to the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund. The group hopes to incorporate First Nations partners and other schools into future projects.

Trustee Stevens commended the students on the awareness their work is creating.

**Student Achievement and Well Being:**

N/A

**Information/Discussion Items:**

- Letter from the Township of Machar, RE: Accommodation Review Processes in Rural Communities, October 25, 2016
- Letter from Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, RE: Adult Non-Credit Language Training Program, October 28, 2016
- Monthly Tender Report – October 18-November 3, 2016
- Acceptable Use Administrative Guideline – November 10, 2016

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It was noted that the solution to the recent ground swell across the Province aimed at keeping rural schools open needs to come from the government. The issue is much larger than just in education.

### **Meeting Dates:**

The following meeting dates were added to the calendar:

- Audit Committee Meeting – December 5, 2016 (5:00 p.m.)
- Special Board Meeting – December 5, 2016 (7:00 p.m.)
- Capital Plan Committee Meeting – December 13, 2016 (5:00 p.m.)
- Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee – *Tentative* December 14, 2016 (5:00 p.m.)
- Policy Committee Meeting – At the call of the Chair in January
- FNAC Meeting – Date to be determined

### **Question Period:**

### **Presentations by Public:**

### **Committee Reports:**

- Draft Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2016
- Draft Audit Committee Meeting Minutes – October 19, 2016
- First Nations Advisory Committee (FNAC) Meeting Minutes – October 19, 2016
- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Minutes – October 20, 2016
- Multi-Year Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2016
- Transportation Appeals Committee (Private)

Previous Referrals:

*Terms of Reference for the Committee of the Whole – referred April 26, 2016*

*Terms of Reference for the Trustee Initiative Fund – referred April 26, 2016*

### **OPSBA Reports – Trustee Michelina Beam**

The next meeting date for the Board of Directors is on December 2-3, 2016 in Toronto.

### **Trustee Comments:**

Student Trustee Ty Meighan:

- Our schools demonstrated their respect for our veterans and active service men and women by recognizing Remembrance Day, which are a wonderful collaboration of efforts between students, staff and the community.
- Many of our secondary schools had students and staff members attend We Day.

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- Planning meetings are happening for holiday assemblies and fundraisers and some schools entered floats into their respective community Christmas parades.
- Football and volleyball have wrapped but hockey, curling and basketball have begun.
- Student Senate held their second meeting on November 7 at Northern Secondary School. Senators held their election with the following results:
  - FNMI (First Nations Metis and Inuit) Representative - Emma Sayers from Parry Sound
  - Secretary – Morgan Marz from West Ferris
- During the Senate meeting, goals for the year were set, including Life Literacy workshops.
- Senators are compiling ideas for areas of focus for this year including LGBTQ, FNMI, mental and physical health.
- Next Student Senate meeting is December 9, 2016 at Parry Sound High School
- Last week, Student Trustee Meighan attended the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall General Meeting in Toronto. He is also the Northern Board representative on the Public Board Council and had an opportunity to connect face-to-face fellow Northern Student Trustees. He facilitated a breakout session on technology in schools.
- Student Trustee Meighan thanked his fellow trustees for setting such a positive tone and example for him in his first months in the role.

### Trustee Sargent:

- Trustee Sargent thanked staff for their work in organizing the Community Planning and Partnership (CPP) meetings.
- Tonight's presentations were very good. Trustee Sargent expressed her thanks to teachers and staff for presenting as it was a privilege to see their learning in action.

### Trustee Moffat:

- Trustee Moffat congratulated Parry Sound High on providing students with an excellent experiential learning opportunity and their efforts to keep the memory of soldiers alive.
- Trustee Moffat also congratulated staff and students on their work for the Great Lakes watershed as it is a fantastic opportunity for students and very timely.

### Trustee Fry:

- Trustee Fry thanked both groups of students for their presentations and congratulated students and staff on their great work.
- He attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at Phelps and was thoroughly impressed as students in every grade participated.
- He recently attended School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings at Ferris Glen and Phelps. He noted that he has heard positive interest in the Board's Capital Plan.

### Trustee Stevens:

- On November 7, Trustee Stevens attended a presentation by Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux at Rosseau Lake College, whom is Vice Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) at Lakehead University as well as serving as the 1st Indigenous Chair on Truth and Reconciliation on behalf of Lakehead University, Thunder Bay and Orillia. Trustee Stevens asked the Board if they would be

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interested in bringing her to our Board to share her presentation as it would be very relevant for us.

- Trustee Stevens serves with the Ministry of Education as a representative on their Indigenous Council

Trustee Green:

- Trustee Green referenced that the Capital Plan is a great tool that has served to promote a genuine interest and understanding about what is happening in our Board throughout our communities. She has been invited to SAC meetings to discuss.

Trustee Beatty:

- Thanked Mr. Lund for his work with Parry Sound students and the Remembrance Project. He noted that it has been going on for a number of years.
- He noted his hope that the Board will support a banner.

Trustee Bottomley:

- Trustee Bottomley mentioned that the CBC *Show Still Standing* is filming at Almaguin Highlands on December 10 in the evening. There is free admission and about 350-400 seats. This is great news for the area and the Board, and will take a Board banner to display.
- Trustee Bottomley referenced a rural school situation in Southern Ontario that highlights the effect that increased bussing can have on students when rural schools face closure.

Trustee Beam:

- Trustee Beam noted that she attended remembrance ceremonies at Chippewa.
- A special note of commendation to the teachers in our system who continue to support the Arts as she has heard from many students who have graduated and returned to share how their experiences in the Arts has changed their lives.
- Students are preparing for a FIRST Lego Robotics competition on Dec. 10 and Trustee Beam has been asked to once again referee.

Chair Thompson:

- Chair Thompson echoed the comments of fellow his trustees.

### **Director's Report: Director Jackie Young**

#### Communication

- The tender for the new website is on our website and closes on December 2. We are seeking a website solution to engage our school communities that is high quality, is a responsive web design and is much more user friendly than our current website.
- People through the doors of the North Bay Board Office will see the new TV in reception area to enhance communication.
- On November 21, we held our first Community Planning and Partnership (CPP) Meeting. Many Trustees were able to join the and we feel the meeting went well. The questions posed

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by stakeholders were insightful and thoughtful and provided good dialogue. A special thank you to those community partners who made presentations. There is a form available on the website for partners to indicate their interest in a partnership. CPP meetings will take place in Parry Sound on November 23 and Almaguin Highlands on November 24.

- Special congratulations to Paul Mitchell at Mitchell Architects Inc. who were awarded a wood design award from Woodworks for Woodland PS.

### Professional Development and Capacity Building

- Face to face training sessions for our new accounting system were provided to secretaries, principals, vice principals and Board office staff. Online modules will be made available as well.
- Professional Development (PD) is scheduled for math coaches and math leads on November 18 as well as for Gr. 9, 10 math teachers, principals and Student Success teachers on November 27.
- Principal leadership PD is happening for schools offering Indigenous programs across the Board as well as how to increase our understanding of our students with Learning disabilities as mathematical learners.
- Within the Collaborative Inquiry Project there is a First Nations, Metis and Inuit focus on mathematics learning involving 7 of our schools as well as educators from Nbisiing and Wasauksing schools using a shared learning framework.
- Mind Up (Social Emotional Learning Program) full school PD is taking place this month at Parry Sound, Vincent Massey, W.J. Fricker and McDougall public schools this month and will continue across regions of the board over the year.
- Our Mental Health lead provided Safe Talk presentations at our Mattawa schools. The training prepares helpers to identify persons with thoughts of suicide and connect them to further help.
- In elementary schools, Mathematics PD was held in all areas for all math lead learners and principals to explore the development for a deeper understanding of quantity, counting and sense of number as foundational and fundamental for exploring other concepts with flexibility.
- After school voluntary PD was offered to all educators using the licences for Dreambox learning to gain insight into the new feature of the program offered (i.e., to tailor lessons in Dreambox to align with current learning being implemented to students in a balanced math classroom).
- Three after-school Literacy PD sessions were held regionally with over 50 participants attending with a focus on developing a balanced approach to literacy instruction.
- Early Years Professional Development sessions regarding the newly revised Program Document, the Growing Success Kindergarten Addendum and the new provincial report card, Communication of Learning are slated for this week and next.
- In addition to their busy roles, ET Coordinators and IT staff were quite busy this month supporting staff in the successful completion of assessment, evaluation and reporting activities in anticipation of release of interim reports this week, at both elementary and secondary panels.
- We are in the data collection phase of CODE's Student Injury Prevention Initiative. We've gathered a multi-perspective committee to collaborate on a multi-year plan to mitigate risks to student injury in subject areas that are deemed high risk including Science, Tech, Physical Education, Art and Tech classes.
- Elementary teachers who volunteer to assume the role of Teacher-in-Charge were provided with valuable professional learning to best understand the scope of their role, the practices, policies and legislation that guides the designate role.

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- The Board Leadership Development Strategy (BLDS) team has recently offered professional learning sessions for current leaders (on Annual Growth Plans) and developing leaders (on Labour Relations) and the steering committee is in the midst of planning a program for Aspiring Leaders.

**Items for Decision:**

**EL#7 Financial Condition**

16-11-22 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Al Bottomley  
**That the Board approve EL#7 Financial Condition as presented on November 22, 2016.**

CARRIED

**Policy Committee Terms of Reference**

*Item deferred to December 20, 2016 Board Meeting.*

Notice of Motion:

Public Question Period:

Move Back to Private Session

16-11-23 Moved by Paul Moffat, seconded by Harry Fry  
**That the Board move back into Private Session at 7:57 p.m.**

Ratification of Business Transacted in Private Session

16-11-25 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Harry Fry  
**That the Board ratify the following items from Private Session:**

- Personnel
- Property
- Legal

CARRIED

**Motion to Adjourn**

16-11-26 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Louise Sargent  
**That the Board meeting of November 22, 2016 adjourn at 8:52 p.m.**

CARRIED



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David Thompson  
Chair

Jackie Young  
Director of Education