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David Thompson, Chairperson

Jackie Young, Director of Education

Item# 2.9

The September 27, 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
Amanda Meighan, Acting Superintendent
Gay Smylie, Acting Executive Officer
Sue Walker, 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:

Jeff Hewitt, Superintendent of Support Services

Public (North Bay)

Jennifer Hamilton-McCharles
Aaron Mahoney
Steve Tompkins

Public (Parry Sound)

Glen Hodgson

Public (Almaguin)

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Call to Order

Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Attendance

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

Approval of the Agenda

16-09-09 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Michelina Beam
That the Board approve the agenda as presented for the Public Session meeting of September 27, 2016.

CARRIED

Minutes from Previous Meetings of Near North District School Board

16-09-10 Moved by Harry Fry, seconded by Michelina Beam
That the Board approve the minutes as presented for the meetings held:
• June 28, 2016

CARRIED

Celebrating Near North District School Board Success: N/A

Update on Near North District School Board Projects – Capital Projects Manager Marianne Speirs

Capital Projects Manager Marianne Speirs shared a Powerpoint presentation with Trustees, highlighting two projects the Board has recently completed.

Woodland Public School:

- Reached substantial completion on July 26, 2016, and opened its doors to welcome students on September 6, 2016.
- Total Change Order Value has been calculated at just 1% of total construction contract value amount.
- Deficiencies have been identified and are 97% rectified.
- The neighbourhood appears satisfied with the daily operation of the school, in particular the traffic plan.

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Parry Sound Public School Parking Lot Expansion:

- The project had a late start due to a delay in the approval of the Site Plan Control Agreement
- The project is now complete, following a one week “no drive”, in order to allow the asphalt to set
- Parents who deliver their children to school have now been directed to use the newly adjusted bus loop exit
- Handicapped spaces have been increased, and an additional 40 spaces are available for parking during regular school hours

Trustee Green thanked the Board for the additional parking and rerouting of the bus loop, indicating the residents are pleased.

Near North Enhanced Communication for Transportation on Board Website:

Superintendent Therrien walked Trustees through changes which have been made to the transportation section of the Board website. She shared that Executive Assistant Lianne Bettiol worked on this enhancement over the summer in order to better communicate information to our families regarding transportation. Many items are addressed on the website, including Frequently Asked Questions, how busing is calculated, eligibility, etc. Trustees were encouraged to visit the website and direct any feedback to Superintendent Therrien.

Committee Reports – enclosures

The Board acknowledges receipt of the following reports:

- FNAC Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2016
- SEAC Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2016
- Capital Plan Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2016
- Budget Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2016
- Capital Plan Meeting Minutes – July 5, 2016
- Parry Sound JK-12 Building Committee Minutes July 19, 2016 (Private)
- Capital Plan Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2016
- Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2016
- Transportation Appeals Committee – September 12, 2016 (Private)
- Capital Plan Update – verbal – Trustee Beam
- Multi-Year Plan Update – verbal – Trustee Moffat – agenda will go out next week

Information/Discussion Items:

- Monthly Tender Report – June 13, 2016 – September 15, 2016
- Letter from OPSBA dated June 8, 2016
- Invoice from OPSBA – 2016-2017 Trustee Membership Fee
- Letter dated June 21, 2016 from Near North District School Board Chair to Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l’Ontario

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- Letter dated June 21, 2016 from Near North District School Board Chair to Conseil scolaire catholique Franco-Nord
- Letter dated June 21, 2016 from Near North District School Board Chair to Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
- Letter from Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario dated July 19, 2016
- Administrative Guideline - Travel, Meals & Hospitality Expenses
- Invoice from OPSBA 2016-2017 Central Bargaining fees – September 1, 2016
- Back to School message from Minister Hunter dated September 6, 2016

Meeting Dates:

The following meeting dates were added to the calendar:

Budget Workshop – October 12, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.

Policy Committee Meeting – October 18, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

Audit Committee Meeting – October 19, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

Multi-Year Plan Committee Meeting – October 20, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

Conflict of Interest

None declared

Question Period

Presentations by Public

Student Achievement and Well-Being: Update on Trillium VIA – Acting Superintendent Amanda Meighan and Manager of IT Glenn Morrison

Trillium is an application that all of our schools use and is the database for all of our student information. Currently, 60% of Boards across the province use Trillium. Trillium VIA is a portal of Trillium which gives students and parents access to student information. Trillium VIA contains reporting and Grade Book, student information, a parent portal, document learning, news feed and can be accessed anywhere, any time for real-time information about their child's achievement.

The parent portal is currently open to secondary parents – parents will receive a letter describing the log-in process, the need to sign off on the Student Access Card, then be given access to the program.

The next phase of the implementation plan will be at the elementary level. Chippewa School has expressed interest in piloting the Grade 7 & 8 release.

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

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OPSBA Reports – Trustee Michelina Beam

Trustee Beam will be attending the year's first OPSBA meeting on Friday, September 30th, which is also the first full meeting with the new Executive. OPSBA will be introducing a new Code of Conduct. Discussions will take place around Labour Updates, EQAO results and the Community Hubs Framework Advisory Group. Chair Thompson will be attending the OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting in Thunder Bay October 13-15, 2016.

Trustee Comments:

Student Trustee Ty Meighan:

It is a pleasure to be here for my first board meeting as the NNDSB Student Trustee. I appreciate the opportunity to share the exciting news from our 7 high schools with you.

It has been a very busy start to the year for our high schools. Most of our schools kicked off the school year with a Grade 9 orientation day to welcome their Grade 9 students and families to the school community and to ensure everyone felt comfortable with their new surroundings for the first day of school. The new Grade 9 students engaged in information sessions, tours, schedule pick up, ice breakers, scavenger hunts, and barbeques to name a few of the events.

Our Student Councils have been hard at work trying to build school spirit and participation by organizing pep rallies, assemblies, team building activities, school engagement events, lunch time games, lunch time sales like Smile Cookies and dress down days, to raise money for a variety of charities or as a fund raiser for school events.

I don't think any of us sitting here tonight have not been impacted by cancer and the impact it has on families. It makes my heart swell when I speak with the other school senators and they share how their school is supporting cancer research by organizing a Terry Fox event. Our board has a long standing tradition as a supporter of Terry Fox events and it is nice to see this tradition continue.

Extracurricular activities are up and running in our high schools. High school sports for the fall season have begun. Our students are able to participate in a variety of sports teams. Currently in our schools we have football, cross country running, golf, girls' basketball, boys' volleyball, and soccer. Some of our high schools are implementing intramural sports for the students during lunch.

Many of our schools have started a variety of clubs. Some of the clubs currently starting in our schools are drama, music, art, photography and a variety of other student generated hobby clubs.

Our senior students have begun the process of examining post-secondary options. Many of our high schools are organizing workshops for the students to meet with representatives from colleges and universities.

This wraps up our school updates for the Month of September.

The NNDSB school senate is having its first meeting on October 4th at West Ferris Secondary school at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Ruddy will be supporting the school senate this year. We will be planning our

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initiatives for the year to support our schools and students. You are more than welcome to attend the meeting, please contact me if you are interested.

I would like to highlight one of our student senators, Nick Boegel, who was asked to sing and perform in a play in New York City.

Trustee Sargent:

- Welcomed new Student Trustee Ty Meighan
- Was pleased to see former Student Trustee Zack Scott on the Ministry of Education's recent commercial
- Thanked all Near North staff members for having the schools in shape for a successful school opening

Trustee Moffat:

- Welcomed new Student Trustee Ty Meighan
- Was pleased schools had a smooth opening

Trustee Fry:

- Welcomed new Student Trustee Ty Meighan and thanked him for his comprehensive update

Trustee Stevens:

- Reported that Fran Couchie has retired and will be greatly missed
- Cheryl St. Pierre is no longer with Moose Deer Point
- Has been invited as an alternate to attend the Education Program Work Team, with the first meeting in Toronto on November 18th

Trustee Green:

- Welcomed new Student Trustee Ty Meighan

Trustee Beatty:

- Is pleased with the recent parking lot work which was completed at Parry Sound Public School
- He is hearing frustration from students and parents about students not always being able to choose the courses they desire. As a Board, we have to communicate some of the issues parents should be aware of before the start of school in September. In addition, the Board needs to do a better job of exploring alternate ways to provide a variety of programs. If the Board experiences a decrease in enrolment, it will become increasingly challenging to offer students the same experiences they could get in denser areas.

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Trustee Bottomley:

- Is pleased about the possibility of offering an Alternative School in Burk's Falls. He has been meeting with the literacy group, and both the Burk's Falls Council and Armour Township are enthusiastic about this. Trustee Bottomley shared 30-35% of the Almaguin population lack basic literacy skills.
- This past summer ACCESS hired a trail company to fix up the trails at Almaguin School. There are many people using the trails again, and it is expected there will be up to 8km of trails completed by the end of September.

Trustee Beam:

- Was very impressed with her tour of the new Woodland School
- Has visited a number of schools so far this year, and thanked the custodial staff for their hard work over the summer
- Thanked staff and Trustees for the extra time put in to the Capital Plan
- TOROS celebrated their 30th anniversary, and presented West Side Story this summer. There will be a celebration on October 1st at The Grand. She was able to share some of TOROS' success at the OPSBA AGM in Ottawa in June. She was saddened to report that Marty Southcott, who was instrumental to TOROS's success, passed away in August. A memorial for Marty will be held at Widdifield Secondary School on October 8th at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Thompson:

- Encouraged Trustees to attend the Open House at Woodland School on September 29th from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Reminded Trustees there is much work to be done over the next 6 months

Director's Report: Director Jackie Young

Warmly welcomed Acting Executive Officers Gay Smylie and Melanie Gray. Both Gay and Melanie are working as .5 Acting Executive Officers in order to assist in Superintendent Hewitt's absence.

- It was a very successful first week, and for the most part busing was a non-issue
- This past summer, the NNDSB and the Canadian Ecology Centre celebrated 25 years of partnership ~ working together to provide experiential high school credits to students
- Nobel Public School is getting a boost to the tune of \$14,350 to help get local and nutritious foods into the school. The school will receive funds from Farm to Cafeteria Canada, supported by funds from the Canada Post Community Foundation, to expand their meal program to provide students with low cost, locally-sourced and healthy sandwich and salad lunch options once per week.
- On Monday, September 12, Almaguin Highlands students from Grades 9-12 participated in a non-traditional orientation day. Grade 9 and 10 students participated in a wide variety of workshops throughout the day with topics that included: What is Working Memory?, Growth Mindset, Goal Setting and Organization, Shifting Mind and Body Sets and Reducing Anxiety. Grade 11 and 12 students continued their work with Life Literacy by participating in workshops

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that related to Financing a Post-Secondary Education, Leadership Opportunities with Lollipop Moments, Purchasing Insurance and other topics that relate to life after high school.

- Widdifield students, along with North Bay Mayor Al McDonald, made the cut and appear twice in the Ministry of Education's latest graduation commercial. Schools from all around the province contributed footage of their graduations. The commercial can be found on the Ontario Government's Official Youtube Channel at "ONGov"
- On Monday Sept 19th, Principal Alison Herst Jackson and DARE teacher Sarah Duff were thrilled to be able to celebrate with a student his **very first credit**. He is 17 years old, was able to earn his very first credit and is continuing on working on a second. They called home and mom cried!! It was a day to celebrate!!!
- MT Davidson's school choir did a brilliant job singing O' Canada at the OHL's Battalion home opener!
- Ferris Glen held their very successful annual Fall Fair on Sept 22. This popular community event is an actual country Fair and brings the community into the school. Students enter exhibits in categories such as vegetables, flowers, animals, and more. Community members and former staff judge entries and award ribbons to the winning exhibits.
- Evergreen Heights have a very successful garden from which they harvested carrots, potatoes, cucumbers, zucchinis and more, while connecting math lessons and showing students that math is everywhere. Families attended a school BBQ and toured the gardens as the kids explained their learning.

EQAO Results:

Superintendent Graves spoke on the elementary results:

The Provincial Standard represents students achieving the equivalent of a B.

- 67% of Grade 3 students met the Provincial Standard in reading
- 65% of Grade 3 students met the Provincial Standard in writing
- 49% of Grade 3 students met the Provincial Standard in math
- 77% of Grade 6 students met the Provincial Standard in reading
- 73% of Grade 6 students met the Provincial Standard in writing
- 31% of Grade 6 students met the Provincial Standard in math

Principals are reviewing their current school results to identify and inform next steps. At the upcoming Professional Development Day on October 3, educator teams will spend the day focusing on the Renewed Math Strategy.

Superintendent Myles spoke on the secondary results of Grade 9 Math scores and OSSLT:

OSSLT:

- Of first time eligible writers of the Grade 10 Literacy Test, the Board's test results increased by 5% from the previous year (70% to 75%), while the province's results decreased by 1% (82% to 81%)

Grade 9 Math Scores:

- 39% of Grade 9 Applied math students met the Provincial Standard
- 70% of Grade 9 Academic math students met the Provincial Standard

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Overall the Board is fairly pleased with the results, and long-term trends indicate we continually improve over time.

Project Planners:

Director Young requested Superintendents share some of the work they've identified as intentional foci for this year:

Acting Superintendent Amanda Meighan

1. Early Years and Child Care

- a. Early Development Instrument – Data and Knowledge Mobilization
- b. Implementation of new Program Document, Growing Success Kindergarten Addendum, and Provincial Report Card, called Communication of Learning
- c. Continued support of Early Years partnerships including DSSAB, third party child care licensees and OEYC Child and Family Centres

2. Healthy Schools

- a. Comprehensive School Health pilot project in 13 schools at this time, which supports the development and realization of school wide goals related to student and staff health.
- b. Further implementation of HPE Revised Curriculum
- c. Further enhancement of the formal partnership with the NBPSDHU, 2 days per week

3. Information Technology and Education Technology

- a. Realization of the goals of NN21 Vision, which includes effective access and effective pedagogical use of digital resources in a technology-enabled learning environment for students and staff.
- b. Improved Public Facing Website Solution

4. Human Resources

- a. Improved communication of processes and practices
- b. Renewed energy and communication of the ASSIST program to ensure a supportive and comprehensive approach is offered to every employee, who requires an absence from work.
 - i. Assistance
 - Supporting Wellness
 - Suitable Accommodation
 - Information
 - Staying in Touch
 - To retain safe, healthy employees
- c. Enhanced collaboration between the HR department and other departments including Finance, IT/ET and Plant

5. New Teacher Induction Plan

- a. Enhanced Support for Associate Teachers, NTIP Mentors and individuals assuming the Teacher in Charge role

Board Leadership Development Strategy

- b. Recruitment of high caliber individuals to our leadership positions
- c. Support of Aspiring Leaders and Developing Leaders
- d. Support of personalized PD goals of ALL employee groups
- e. Module Based School Leadership Professional Development Program for Current Leaders

6. Outreach/Partnerships/Priority Schools

- a. Enhancing support for schools and board personnel related to the vision of every school as a hub that promote the well-being of the whole family (including managing competing priorities, and supporting enhanced communication).
- b. Specifically, the priority school in NNDSB for this school year is Silver Birches Public School.

7. Accessibility

- a. Moving forward and bringing to scale the vision of “How may we help you?” as a motto for our beliefs about accessible facilities and in all communications
- b. Continue to provide accessibility awareness information. Investigate methods of providing accessibility tips for Board activities and services to Board staff & volunteers.

Superintendent Liz Therrien

As Superintendent of Business I am responsible and oversee the following portfolios:

- Budget
- Transportation
- School Facilities – Plant and Capital
- Finance
- Litigation
- Insurance
- Audit Committee

Moving forward for 2016/2017 focus will be on improved communications; finding efficiencies and economies of scale for departments responsible for as well as working collaboratively together and improving understandings of financial business practices. As well, looking forward to working with Trustees to commence Budget process early in the year to review the past 2016/2017 budget so that we are able to provide a sound understanding of budget in order to provide Trustees information and understanding to make well informed decisions for the future, given the challenges of moving forward with next upcoming budget in that we either need to reduce expenditures or identify new revenue sources or increase revenue source given our financial reforms.

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Superintendent Roz Bowness

Within the Indigenous Education portfolio we look forward to continued opportunities for staff and students to increase their knowledge and awareness related to indigenous cultures, histories, traditions, and perspectives. We will continue to work with local Indigenous expertise to grow our knowledge around Treaty relationships through a variety of opportunities throughout the year. We are looking forward to continuing our collaborative work exploring culturally responsive learning opportunities in mathematics.

We will continue to support classroom teachers to implement the delivery of evidence-based programs as foundational elements for mentally healthy classrooms that address social emotional learning skills, anxiety reduction, self-regulation skills and overall student well-being. Implementation of the Mind Up Program K-8 will be a focus this year as a key priority of the mental health plan. The implementation of our new central referral process will be important to supporting goals connected to establishing service pathways and getting students to the appropriate service in a timely and responsive manner.

Special Education priorities continue to center around the principles outlined in Learning For All, with a particular focus on mathematics. Our work around understanding, supporting and managing challenging student behaviours will continue to be supported through ongoing implementation of the Collaborative and Proactive Solutions model.

Acting Executive Officer Gay Smylie

Within the Safe Schools Portfolio we have set up our initial team meeting to begin discussing the launch of the School Climate Survey, which occurs every two years in the spring. The survey aligns with the Board priority of Excellence in Creating a Culture of Caring, in that data gathered from the survey assists in developing meaningful strategies and plans to ensure that students feel included and understood more of the time.

Safe Schools Administrative Guidelines have been updated and are nearing the end of a lengthy vetting process. Once complete, these guidelines will be shared with stakeholders and changes to procedures will be communicated for implementation.

The Report Card Portfolio will continue to set the direction and supports for classroom teachers completing report cards in the current school year. Using a collaborative team approach, an incremental reporting schedule is developed for the upcoming year, messaging is shaped around process and expectations, and through the lens of the Ministry's assessment and evaluation document Growing Success, stakeholders will deepen their understanding of professional judgment. Information and supports, as well as tech guides, are updated and posted on the portal.

Acting Executive Officer Melanie Gray

Referencing my new portfolio pieces of Parent Involvement Committee and French as a Second Language - I look forward to meeting the members and developing relationships with PIC and continuing where SO Meighan has left off.

OFIP Tutoring involved developing an after-school program in 11 schools aimed at developing math learning for specific Grade 6 students.

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Student Tutors in the Classroom is a Ministry supported initiative that runs from April to mid-May.

Last year we hired 14 post-secondary students to work with Grades 1-6 students. Especially exciting about last year's program was that we were able to place students in all our most outlying schools including Britt, MacTier, Phelps, Mattawa and White Woods as well as many other schools.

Summer Learning Program engaged 140 students at 4 sites across the Board including Burks Fall, McDougall and two sites in North Bay. The focus was on literacy and numeracy intervention and support for grades 1-4. We look forward to applying for the same funding from CODE again this fall to begin planning for next year's program.

SEF - Using the School Effectiveness Framework provided by the Ministry we have deigned an approach to support student achievement and well-being through a school review process. We are just completing a 3-year process where we have reviewed all elementary schools. At this point we are preparing to revisit our process and begin a new 3-year plan with a new focus aligning our beliefs and goals as outlined in our BIPSAW.

Primary Literacy - Last year we began to have concerns regarding our primary literacy programs. During our school visits and SEF reviews we were noticing that the learning was looking different then it had in the past and we wondered if we were losing some key strategies with changes to staff and new educators coming on board. We put measures into place to address this. Trustees may recall the Family of Schools VPs sharing some of this learning with you around the Grade 1 literacy project in the spring. Our EQAO scores confirmed our fear as Grade 3 Reading scores dropped 1% and Writing decreased by 4%. With a sense of urgency, we are continuing this learning with our Phase 1 schools by expanding the learning to more classroom educators in these schools. Also, our FOS VPs are each engaging at least 1-2 more schools as a Phase 2 to spread the learning across more schools and classrooms.

Superintendent Tim Graves

RMS Renewed Math Strategy

Ministry Plan

- Literacy Numeracy Secretariat (LNS) funding has been purposed for Math
- New Ministry Policy mandates 300 minutes of math per week in blocks of time no less than 40 minutes
- Differentiated support for schools based on previous EQAO results
- Support for professional learning for Math Lead Learners and Principals in all schools

NNDSB PLAN

- Principals work with data and identify the math area their children are most struggling with
- MLL and Principal learning sessions and with Principal meeting PD
- Focus on best evidence of what works in effective math classroom
- Pedagogical System
- Non-threatening classroom environment
- Classroom Discourse/Discussion
- Tools and representations
- Worthwhile tasks
- Understanding of learning trajectories

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Blended Learning - Dreambox

- In year 2 of our Dreambox project.
- Continuing to monitor the students as they move into Grade 3.
- Student performance task and DreamBox dashboard to monitor student growth
- Student goals include:
 - Using concrete tools to build representations of their math thinking
 - Strengthen their ability to think spatially
 - Develop greater self-perception as math learners

Superintendent Craig Myles

Student Success: Renewed Math Strategy, AEAC program (transition from SSSSI), on-line OSSLT prep and performance, improvement of grade 9/10 applied student results.

Alternative Education – Examining possibilities for expanding alternative education opportunities (Burks Falls area, Parry Sound, LLC)

Secondary Schools – Vice-Principal professional development, building capacity of secondary Principals with instructional leadership and school management, continuing to build new culture and vision.

Items for Decision:

EL#7 Financial Condition

16-09-11 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Paul Moffat
That the Board approve EL#7 Financial Condition as presented on
September 27, 2016.

CARRIED

Capital Plan Committee Terms of Reference

16-09-12 Moved by Louise Sargent, seconded by Al Bottomley
That the Board approve the Capital Plan Committee Terms of Reference as presented
September 27, 2016

CARRIED

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Capital Plan 2016

16-09-13 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Paul Moffat
That the Board approve the Capital Plan 2016 as presented on September 27, 2016, with the recommendation that preliminary Open Houses be held throughout the regions.

Trustee Beam publicly thanked staff for the enormous amount of work which went into the document.

CARRIED

OSBIE Board of Directors Call for Nominations

16-09-15 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Paul Moffat
That the Board appoint Superintendent Liz Therrien as the voting delegate for OSBIE.

CARRIED

No one expressed an interest in putting their name forward as a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors of OSBIE.

Board Policy

16-09-16 Moved by Michelina Beam, seconded by Jim Beatty
That the Board direct the Policy Committee to review Board Governance and Board By-laws.

CARRIED

Notice of Motion

Public Question Period

The Board returned to Private Session at 8:28 p.m.

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Ratification of Business Transacted in Private Session

- 16-09-17 Moved by Louise Sargent, seconded by Harry Fry
That the Board ratify the following items from Private Session:
- Personnel
 - Property

CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn

- 16-09-18 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Michelina Beam
That the Board meeting of September 27, 2016 adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

CARRIED

David Thompson
Chairperson

Jackie Young
Director of Education