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David Thompson, Chairperson

Jackie Young, Director of Education

To: Trustees

From: Jackie Young, Director of Education

Date: Monday, April 25, 2017

Topic: Renaming of the Former Land Of Lakes Senior Public School

Background:

Slated to re-open in September 2017, the former Land Of Lakes Senior Public School will accommodate pupils from Junior Kindergarten through to Grade 8 from M. A. Wittick and Extended French students from the region.

The Land of Lakes *Naming/Renaming Committee* has been pleased by the interest and enthusiasm expressed by the students, families, and broader public throughout the consultation process. The committee worked diligently to create a process to invite suggestions from all stakeholders, including specific activities to engage all children at the school and media releases to recruit input from the community.

First, individuals or groups were invited to help name the new school in accordance with specific guidelines. From the many suggestions received, the common themes included; a wish to convey the natural beauty of the geography specific to the area, people of historical significance, or retaining one of the names of the NNDSB schools currently located in Burks Falls. Next, after much deliberation and consideration, the Committee members narrowed the submissions to a shortlist of five options and then returned to the schools and broader community for further input through a public survey.

Discussion:

The committee proudly informs the Board that 706 responses were received through the survey. The following names are being offered to the Board of Trustees for consideration. They are listed in order of preference and, as outlined in the Administrative Guideline, the committee has outlined the preferences from the community in ranked order indicating the top three. However, it is of note that a vast majority of the respondents favoured Land of Lakes Public School.

For the Board’s information, please find a summary of the data provided to the committee.

Top Three Ranked Names				
Rank	Proposed Name	Summary of the Discussion	Number of Votes	% of votes (Rounded)
1st	Land of Lakes Public School	The refurbished school was formerly known as Land of Lakes Senior Public School. Many community members and former students fondly remember their time at this school .	494	70%
2nd	Burk’s Falls Elementary School	The school formerly known as Land of Lakes Public School is located in the Burk’s Falls.	71	10%
3rd	Heritage Hills Elementary School	The hilly landscape of Burk’s Falls, coupled with the Heritage River Walk pedestrian foot bridge in town	71	10%
Other Names Shared for Consultations				
Rank	Proposed Name	Summary of the Discussion	Number of Votes	% of votes (Rounded)
4th	M. A. Wittick Public School	M.A. Wittick Public School is closing in June 2017 and their Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 students will be accommodated at the refurbished school formerly known as Land of Lakes Public School.	51	7%
5th	John Russell Watt Public School	John Russell Watt was an original homesteader and recipient of land under the Free Grant and Homestead Act in 1868. He reinforced the current mission and vision of the Board over 100 years ago	19	3%

The *Naming/Renaming Committee of the North Bay New Build* wishes to thank the Board for the privilege of leading this process. The committee members also thank the overwhelming interest from the school community.

Recommendation:

That the Near North District School Board approve the renaming of Land Of Lakes Senior to Elementary School to **Land of Lakes Public School**.