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David Thompson, Chair

Jackie Young, Director of Education

The May 23, 2017 **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
Louise Sargent
Ty Meighan – Student Trustee

Administrative Staff Present:

Jackie Young, Director of Education
Liz Therrien, Superintendent of Business
Roz Bowness, Superintendent of Schools
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

Trustees Present in Almaguin:

Administrative Staff Present in Almaguin:

Amanda Meighan, Acting Superintendent of Support Services

Trustee Regrets:

Trustees Absent:

Paul Moffat

Administrative Regrets:

Craig Myles, Superintendent of Student Success
Gay Smylie, Acting Executive Officer

Public (North Bay)

Glenn Morrison
Lyne Kelly
Parker Robinson
Amanda Kramp

Public (Parry Sound)

Glen Hodgson

Public (Almaguin)

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Call to Order

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Attendance

Attendance indicated that 8 Trustees were present for this meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

17-05-12 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Michelina Beam
That the Board approve the agenda as presented for the Public Session meeting of May 23, 2017.

CARRIED

Conflict of Interest

None declared.

Minutes from Previous Meetings of Near North District School Board

17-05-13 Moved by Harry Fry, seconded by Al Bottomley
That the Board approve the minutes as presented for the meetings held:

- **April 25, 2017**
- **May 8, 2017**

CARRIED

Celebrating Near North District School Board Success:

2017-2018 Minister's Student Advisory Council – W.J. Fricker Public School Student Michelle DeLoyde

This presentation was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Student Achievement and Well Being:

F.J. McElligott Secondary School Cooperative Education and Facebook Live Opportunities – Principal Sean Ruddy and Teacher Mark Huard

A Virtual Cooperative Education course was developed by teacher Mark Huard at F.J. McElligott Secondary School. The idea resulted from professional development discussions on 21st Century competencies and coding. There is a great demand for coding skills in the market today and well into the future.

This opportunity is wonderful for grades 11 and 12 students, particularly those in rural and remote schools. Placements are completed virtually and students complete 90 hours. There is virtually no cost

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to run the program. Mark's son is working at Warner Brothers in the United States and is providing coop learning opportunities for students.

Principal Ruddy also presented on how he is utilizing Facebook Live technology to connect with parents and the greater community. On a closed page (where you must be approved to belong), regular programs highlight the variety of programs and opportunities available to students. It is a live broadcast and session topics have included the school's greenhouse, dual credits and shop class and outdoor education.

It is a simple and free way to get the school's message out to stakeholders. The idea is being warmly received by the community.

Graduation Rates – Secondary School Effectiveness Framework (SEF) Team Principals

Secondary principal Larry Lanctot introduced principals Andy Gagne, Alison Hearst-Jackson and Sean Ruddy, who presented on their own professional learning journeys.

Student achievement at the secondary level is monitored in many ways. Provincial indicators include student voice, credit accumulation, OSSLT results and more. We are on par or ahead of similar boards across province.

If students are successful in literacy, they will be more successful later in life and the OSSLT is an indicator of that success.

Principals use a tool, called a School Effectiveness Framework (SEF). The focus this year was developed by looking at what students and teachers were doing and saying. Groups of principals visit all schools twice per year and provide feedback to the staff via the school principal. This method has grown into positive, collaborative professional learning opportunities across the district. Teachers are now asking if they can participate. Conversations are changing and we are starting to see the impact on student achievement.

The constraints of our Board's geography and demographics can be some of our greatest barriers to student achievement. Executive Council, alongside principals align our expectations with the knowledge of principals of their unique buildings. It's about knowing your educators and knowing your learners.

Focus on the SEF indicators, including Learning Goals, Success Criteria and Descriptive Feedback will continue. Further, a continued focus will remain on wellbeing, growth mindset, adequate supports for students, families and community partners outside of the classroom.

Meeting Dates:

- Committee of the Whole Meeting – June 13, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.
- Committee of the Whole Meeting - May 29, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.
- A Budget Workshop and a public meeting will likely be scheduled in later June.

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Information/Discussion Items:

- Monthly Tender Report – April 14, 2017 – May 12, 2017
- Proposal to Explore the Relocation of the Sundridge District Medical Centre and/or Sundridge Library to Sundridge Centennial Public School, April 27, 2017
- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2017
- Supporting Students and Communities: A Discussion Paper to Strengthen Education in Ontario's Rural and Remote Communities
- Administrative Guideline - Safe Schools: Access to School Premises
- Administrative Guideline – Safe Schools: Student Conduct Management
- Governance Manual and Policy Updates

Monthly Tender Report

As part of the annual budget process, significant projects for school renewal and school condition improvement that require repair come to the Board. Last year, the Board received an extra \$5 Million top up as part of the Ministry's commitment to address the backlog of renewal faced by Ontario school boards.

Priorities are based on estimates but the true test comes when we go to the open market. When estimates come back higher, we monitor and sometimes do not award a tender if it is significantly higher than the estimate.

Proposal for Sundridge Centennial Public School

It is early in the process and the township is still looking to secure funding.

Chair Thompson attended a Community Hubs Summit recently and noted to the Minister of Health that our Board is one of the only boards in the province not looking to close rural schools. The Minister showed interest in what our Board was doing.

Student Conduct Management Administrative Guideline

It was noted that the wording describing the discipline committee on pages 22 and 29 is confusing.

Question Period:

N/A

Presentations by Public:

N/A

Committee Reports:

OPSBA Reports – Trustee Michelina Beam

The AGM is taking place during the week of June 2 and there will be an opportunity for presentations and professional development.

The recent funding announcement for Special Education for Northern Ontario Boards came out of the “we are different and we have different needs” dialogue with the Ministry of Education. The different challenges Northern boards face have contributed to why our graduation rates are not at the provincial average.

Trustee Comments:

Student Trustee Ty Meighan:

- Drama is just starting to wrap up and West Ferris and Widdifield moved on.
- All of the Life Literacy Days are successfully completed. The feedback from students was amazing and Student Trustee Meighan is very impressed with the work ethic and passion of his fellow Senators.
- Student Council elections are coming up and the students running for a position are beginning their campaigning while their peers decide who to vote for.
- Students and faculty are beginning to wrap up their end of the year projects and prepare for summer. For example, Mattawa just opened their greenhouse, and Parry sound will be having their POW WOW soon.
- Marcus Hilady, a Grade 11 student from Widdifield Secondary will be the Student Trustee for the 2018/19 school year. Marcus will be accompanying Ty to OSTA’s AGM where he will be trained to be an efficient and effective Student Trustee.
- Student Senate held their May meeting at FJ McElligott on the 18th. It was an extremely productive meeting and incoming Senators have been set up for success in the 2017/18 year.
- The next Senate meeting will be held on the tentative date of June 13th. Ty hopes to make the next meeting fun and inclusive to all new senators.

Trustee Sargent:

- Trustee Sargent attended the Turning Points event where the winning essays were presented. Trustee Fry and Director Young also attended.
- The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) presentation at Widdifield was great.
- A special thank you for the time and effort ARC members contributed. It was a significant process.

Trustee Moffat:

- N/A

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Trustee Fry:

- Thanked Trustee Moffat for his leadership on the Multi-Year Plan.
- Also attended the Turning Points essay presentation and was moved by the pieces presented by students.
- Attended the Parent Involvement Committee presentation in Parry Sound. Kudos to Sue Lessard and Maurice Switzer for excellent presentations.
- Attended the School Advisory Council Information Night in Mattawa where families received “get active” bags.
- Attended the International Dinner at Widdifield Secondary School on June 17.
- Attended the Phelps Appreciation lunch for their volunteers. A section of the library was dedicated to a teacher who passed away.
- Trustee Fry looks forward to attending the OPSBA AGM.

Trustee Stevens:

- Thanked everyone for their contributions in making the Pow Wow at Parry Sound such a success including the Elders, community members, teachers and students.

Trustee Green:

- Trustee Green attended many events including Arts Fest, the Parry Sound High School Alumni dinner and the Pow Wow.
- Congratulated Parry Sound High School student Darryn Hrycyna, who reached bronze at the Ontario Skills Competition in Niagara.
- Congratulated Parry Sound High School on achieving a High Silver at their music competition.

Trustee Beatty:

- Noted that the Parry Sound Pow Wow has grown into a significant event with a great turn out.

Trustee Bottomley:

- Trustee Bottomley congratulated the Parent Involvement Committee event organizers although he wished for a better turn out.
- Congratulated organizers on the Parry Sound Pow Wow.
- Attended the Section 23 dinner at Almaguin Highlands. The dinner was inspired by and centered around maple syrup.

Trustee Beam:

- Trustee Beam will be attending a session on the Rural Education Strategy tomorrow.
- The final dance recital for Chippewa students took place.
- Chippewa, Parry Sound and Widdifield made it to Nationals for music.

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Chair Thompson:

- N/A

Director's Report: Director Jackie Young

- Pleased to announce as a follow up to the April Director's Report, that this Friday, May 26 - Widdifield's Near Space Program will be launching their technology-toting mini-computers into Earth's outer stratosphere using a weather balloon. Launch procedures will begin at 9:00am, with the balloon lifting off by 10:00am from the football field.
- During the month of May, Welcome to Kindergarten orientation sessions for our newest students took place at all of our elementary schools throughout the district.
- West Ferris outdid themselves once again with their Trojans Walk for a Cure on May 16, raising over \$10,000 in the fight against cancer.

Items for Decision:

EL#7 Financial Condition

17-05-14 Moved by Harry Fry, seconded by Al Bottomley
That the Board approve EL#7 Financial Condition as presented on May 23, 2017.

CARRIED

Final Staff Report: North Bay Planning Area Accommodation Review

17-05-15 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Harry Fry
That the Board receive the Final Staff Report for the North Bay Planning Area Accommodation Review as presented on May 23, 2017.

CARRIED

Multi-Year Planning Committee

17-05-16 Moved by Harry Fry, seconded by Michelina Beam
That the Board endorse the final draft of the Multi-Year Plan and that the Multi-Year Planning Committee be dissolved.

CARRIED

Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve Inc. Memorandum of Cooperation

A few items were raised after review. The second page of the document mentions the Board's Environmental Committee exists in 2017 when in fact it has not been active for a few years.

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On page 4, it mentions a dedicated staff member. Clarification is required if this would be the same person who also sits on the Advisory Committee?

The Board wishes to have further discussion on what promoting the Board as a partner would entail (such as use of logos and links to the website). It is understood that entering into a Memorandum of Cooperation would not come at any cost to the Board. This would need clarification.

Public Question Period:

Ratification of Business Transacted in Private Session

17-05-17 Moved by Harry Fry, seconded by Louise Sargent

That the Board ratify the following items from Private Session:

- **Personnel**
- **Property**
- **Legal**

CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn

17-05-18 Moved by Al Bottomley, seconded by Michelina Beam

That the Board meeting of May 23, 2017 adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

CARRIED

David Thompson
Chair

Jackie Young
Director of Education