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Jay Aspin, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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The March 25, 2020 **Public Session Board Meeting** of the Near North District School Board was held via teleconference.

**Trustees Present:**

Jay Aspin, Chair  
John Cochrane, Vice-Chair  
Donna Breault  
Harry Fry  
Madelyn Meighan (student trustee)  
Louise Sargent  
Bill Steer

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Craig Myles, Director of Education  
Liz Therrien, Superintendent of Business  
Ros Bowness, Superintendent  
Tim Graves, Superintendent  
Gay Smylie, Acting Superintendent of Education

Liana Blaskievich, Corporate Affairs  
Maureen Egan, Recording Secretary  
Mairghread Knought, Information and Communication Officer  
Glenn Morrison, Manager of IT  
Lucio Pavone, Executive Officer

**Trustee Regrets:**

Brooklyn Beaucage (student trustee)  
Al Bottomley  
Rob Learn  
Nichole King

**Other:**

Members of Federations  
Members of the Press



## **Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held March 25, 2020**

### **1.1 Call to Order**

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and acknowledged the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe on which all schools of the NNDSB are located.

### **1.2 Attendance**

Attendance indicated that six trustees and one student trustee were present for this meeting.

### **1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest NIL**

### **1.4 Approval of Agenda**

Motion: 20-03-01 L. Sargent/H. Fry

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 25, 2020 be approved.

- **Carried**

### **1.5 Approval of Minutes**

Motion: 20-03-02 B. Steer/D. Breault

That the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on February 25, 2020 be approved. - **Carried**

## **2.0 Communication to the Board**

### **2.1 K-12 Parry Sound Build**

Chair Aspin was pleased to visit Parry Sound High school on March 11 along with Trustee Learn to announce funding for the new school construction. He was also pleased to attend the SHSM dinner at PSH that evening as well.

### **2.2 Director's Annual Report**

Director Myles introduced the 2018-19 Annual Report that was included in the agenda. It will be posted on the Board's website and sent to the Minister of Education. The report highlights the excellent work of NNDSB. The Director noted the importance of this document which has not been given the emphasis required during the past number of years.

### **2.3 3:2 Consolidation Update**

Lucio Pavone provided a written report to the Board highlighting recent activity surrounding the 3:2 Consolidation. He thanked Executive Council for direction especially during the current COVID 19 challenges we are facing. He remains confident that we will continue to move forward.

### **2.4 Multi-Year Strategic Plan**

Trustee Steer referred trustees to the report included in the agenda. This three phase process is currently in the formulizing stages and the Committee will keep the Board apprised. It is likely that the retreat scheduled for April 14 and 15 will be cancelled.

2.5 Information Items

Monthly Tender Report: February 2020 to March 2020 – SBO Therrien  
Service Animals Administrative Guideline – SO Bowness

Trustee Fry asked questions surrounding the tender for the West Ferris bus loop improvements. Chair Aspin referred this matter to the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for April 14, 2020.

2.6 Director's Update

Director Myles thanked board office staff for their hard work during the last two weeks as we faced school and board office closures. He appreciated the efforts of Glenn Morrison and the IT department as they ensured board office staff were equipped to work from home.

Before the closures, Director Myles did have the opportunity continue school visits and also attend some OFSAA basketball games hosted by our community.

The Director informed the Board on necessary actions that are being undertaken in light of COVID 19 and school closures including: twice weekly teleconferences with the ADM of Education; teleconferences with the Council of Directors and teleconferences with our principals and vice principals and managers to ensure information is shared accordingly. He is ensuring that our website contains all necessary information for our community and will be updated twice if not more per week. He thanked everyone for their patience as we navigate next steps.

Chair Aspin thanked Director Myles and noted the extreme havoc COVID 19 is creating. As a member of the Ontario Health Board of Directors he is aware of the latest in pandemic information thus he stressed the severity of the virus.

Chair Aspin noted the transformation of our website and announced that a NNDSB app will be made available shortly.

Chair Aspin made note of the Special Advisors' report detailing the understaffing of the Director's office. As a result we have hired Liana Blaskievich as Corporate Affairs Officer. This will be a tremendous assistance to the Director. He reminded the board that due their good work with the reduction of SOs the board has the flexibility to address need in the Director's office as outlined by the Special Advisors Report.

2.7 OPSBA Report

Trustee Steer advised that the Labour conference scheduled for the end of April has been cancelled and that to date the AGM in June is still scheduled.

2.8 Student Trustees' Update

Student Trustee Meighen highlighted her written report that was included in the agenda.

**3.0 Items for Decision**

3.1 EL#7 Financial Condition

Motion: 20-03-03, J. Cochrane/H. Fry

That the Board approve EL#7 Month End Finance Report for the month of February 2020. - **Carried**

Trustees asked SBO Therrien various questions surrounding implications on the NNDSB budget given the current provincial crisis. SBO Therrien provided trustees with a verbal update on what she has been made aware of regarding the provincial budget and the GSNs. Further discussions and an update will be provided at the CW on April 14.

**4.0 In-Camera**

4.1 Motion: 20-03-04, H. Fry/L. Sargent

That the Board move into In-Camera at 7:25 pm. - **Carried**

4.2 Arise and Report

Motion: 20-03-05, D. Breault/L. Sargent

That the Board arise and report from In-Camera. - **Carried**

**5.0 Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: 20-03-06, H. Fry/L. Sargent

That the Board meeting of March 25, 2020 adjourn at 7:48 pm. – **Carried**