



Jay Aspin, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

The September 15, 2020 **Committee of the Whole** of the Near North District School Board was held in the boardroom and via teleconference.

Trustees Present:

Jay Aspin, Chair
John Cochrane, Vice-Chair
Al Bottomley
Donna Breault
Nichole King
Rob Learn (via phone)
Louise Sargent
Bill Steer

Administrative Staff Present:

Craig Myles, Director of Education
Liz Therrien, Superintendent of Business
Tim Graves, Superintendent
Gay Smylie, Acting Superintendent of Education
Mel Gray, Acting Superintendent of Education
James Bennett, Communications Officer
Maureen Egan, Recording Secretary

Christopher Walkling, Principal
Sean Ruddy, Principal
Steve Krause, Principal
Laurie Forth, Principal
Jason Mirtl, Health and Safety Officer
James Coventry, Health and Safety Coordinator

Trustee Regrets:

Harry Fry



**Committee of the Whole Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2020 5:00 pm
Minutes**

1.0. Opening & Land Acknowledgement

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance indicated that eight trustees were present for the meeting.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest NIL

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

Motion: A.Bottomley/N. King

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 15, 2020 be approved. – **Carried**

1.5 Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion: J.Cochrane/B.Steer

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on August 11, 2020 be approved. – **Carried**

2.0 Bring Forward Business NIL

3.0 New Business

3.1 Correspondence from N. Green dated August 4, 2020

Motion: J.Cochrane/D.Breault

That staff prepare a report and report back to the CW. - **Carried**

3.2 NNDSB Statement on Racism

Motion: N.King/A.Bottomley

That the attached equity and inclusion statement and plan for the 2020-21 school year be forwarded to the board for approval and included on the website. – **Carried**

3.3 School Re-opening Update

Director Myles acknowledged the hard work of staff this summer to ensure a smooth transition to school. The attached report provides a very in-depth look at our re-opening.

SO Graves acknowledged key staff and principals who worked throughout the summer preparing for re-entry including Christopher Walkling, Laurie Forth, Steve Krause, Sean Ruddy, Mel Gray and Andrew Busch. He encouraged trustees to review the attached report and noted challenges including complexity in accounting for the large number of changes when families change their mode of learning; and when students are sent home with “sniffles”. He emphasized the abundance of communication the board has provided and continues to provide to families.

Trustees were invited to comment and ask questions.

Vice-Chair Cochrane noted that he heard there is an influx of students from southern Ontario. Director Myles said he has heard this rumour but is unable to verify. He noted that when a family presents a permanent address in our district they are eligible to attend our schools.

Trustee Sargent commented on the at home learning statistics provided by SO Graves. She asked for an update on numbers in two weeks including projected enrolment.

Chair Aspin noted that he has been in the board office often during the August and saw first hand staff working on re-entry. He thanked Director Myles, SO Graves and their team for their stellar work.

4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: A. Bottomley/D.Breault

That we do now adjourn at 5:28 pm. - **Carried**