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Craig Myles, Director of Education

The March 16, 2021 **Public Session Committee of the Whole** of the Near North District School Board was held via video and/or teleconference.

Trustees Present:

Jay Aspin, Chair
John Cochrane, Vice-Chair
Al Bottomley *
Bill Steer
Donna Breault
Harry Fry
Louise Sargent
Nichole King *
Rob Learn

Administrative Staff Present:

Craig Myles, Director of Education
Deb Bartlett, Information/Communication Officer
Gay Smylie, Acting Superintendent
Krista Messenger, Executive Assistant
Lisa Collins, Interim Executive Officer
Melanie Gray, Acting Superintendent
Tim Graves, Superintendent
Wally Easton, Interim Superintendent of Business

Other:

Media and community partners

** joined the meeting following roll call.*

Trustee Regrets:

Student Trustee M. Paradis

Administrative Regrets:

None noted.

1.0 Call to Order

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

1.1 Land acknowledgement

Chair Aspin read the declaration aloud.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance indicated that nine trustees are present for the meeting.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

NIL

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion: J. Cochrane/ H. Fry

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 16, 2021 be approved as presented. - **Carried.**

3.0 In-Camera

At this time, Chair Aspin advised the Committee of the Whole would be moving into a private session. Members of the public were excused and advised they would be permitted back into the meeting once the Board arose in public session. A brief pause was noted to coordinate the appropriate video conference controls.

Motion: B. Steer/ H. Fry

That the Committee of the Whole move into an in-camera session. **-Carried.**

4.0 Arise and Report

The Committee arose and reported in the public session of Committee of the Whole. A brief pause was noted to coordinate the appropriate video conference controls to permit members of the public to re-enter the virtual meeting.

5.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

5.1 2021 02 16 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes

Board Chair Aspin referred all attendees to the meeting minutes contained in the agenda package.

Motion: A. Bottomley/ H. Fry

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 16, 2021, be approved. - **Carried**

6.0 Bring Forward Business

The Chair confirmed there was no outstanding business contained in the February 16, 2021, meeting minutes to bring forward.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Parry Sound Architect Selection Update

Chair Aspin invited Directly Myles to speak to this item. Highlights of the discussion are noted as:

- Director Myles acknowledged the Board's approval of the final recommendation presented by the Ad Hoc Parry Sound Architect Selection Committee at the last meeting. Since this time, NNDSB has executed the contract with the Ventin Group.
- Given the completion of this task represents the fulfillment of the Ad Hoc Architect Selection Committee's mandate, it is proposed that the Board move to dissolve this committee in order to empower the Parry Sound Build Committee to carry forward on this project.
- Board Chair Aspin thanked Ad Hoc Committee Chair King for her leadership throughout the architect selection process. Gratitude also expressed the Vice-Chair Cochrane, and the administration staff involved.
- The floor was opened for questions and further comments with none rose.

Chair Aspin noted a consensus has been reached to dissolve the Ad Hoc Parry Sound Architect Selection Committee. It is noted that this item will be brought forward with a resolution during the regular Board of Trustees meeting immediately following the Committee of the Whole session.

7.2 NNDSB Trustee Initiative Fund Application

Trustees referred to the application received from FIRST Robotics Team 1305 contained in the agenda package. Director Myles invited to speak to this item. Highlights of the discussion are noted as:

- Recognition for the recent accomplishments in the media for Team 1305, about the UV Box creation.
- It is noted that the NNDSB Board of Trustees has a history of supporting this initiative.
- The application is requesting \$15,000 to buy tooling and materials for prototyping and building a robot at the high school level, buying LEGO equipment in support of less able teams at the grade school level, and help fund event registration costs at the provincial level for two levels of local FIRST Teams competing in this abbreviated season.
- Query from Trustee Learn regarding the composition and size of the team. Responses from staff to note the team is comprised of students across several NNDSB schools. More specific information could be provided to trustees if requested. Comment from Trustee Learn his intention was to credit the impact of the team on the Near North school community, and this information will suffice.
- Comment from Trustee Sargent to note her support for this initiative, with a suggestion to ensure the decision is confirmed by way of formal motion during the regular session. Chair Aspin confirmed this is the intended process once consensus is formed and referred Trustee Sargent to item 5.1- Report from Committee of the Whole outlined on the Board's agenda for the regular meeting.

Chair Aspin noted a consensus has been reached to approve the application from FIRST Team 1305 to the Trustee Initiative Fund. It is noted that this item will be brought forward with a resolution during the regular Board of Trustees meeting immediately following the Committee of the Whole session.

8.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: H. Fry/ N. King

That we do now adjourn at 6:28 pm. – **Carried**