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Craig Myles, Director of Education

The August 5, 2021 **Public Session Special Board Meeting** of the Near North District School Board was held via teleconference and videoconference.

Trustees Present:

Jay Aspin, Chair
John Cochrane, Vice-Chair
Al Bottomley
Bill Steer
Donna Breault
Louise Sargent

Administrative Staff Present:

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

Trustee Regrets:

Nichole King
Rob Learn
Student Trustee M. Paradis
Student Trustee Elect C. Darling

Other:

Media and community partners

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Chair Aspin read the land acknowledgement aloud.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance indicated that six trustees are present for the meeting, excluding the Student Trustee and Student Trustee Elect.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

Chair Aspin offered introductory remarks to note this meeting has been called as a Special Meeting of the Board, convened at the call of the Chair as discussed during the regular June meeting.

It is noted that Special Meetings are convened for a specific need, therefore only time-sensitive items have been included for discussion. It is confirmed that the board has met

the regular notice period and material distribution means so trustees have received their agenda package within the usual expected timeline, and it was posted to the website within the normal timelines for public review in advance of the meeting.

Motion: 21-08-01, L. Sargent/ B. Steer

That the agenda for the Special Board meeting of August 5, 2021 be approved as presented. - **Carried.**

3.0 Items for Information

3.1 COVID-19 Management Update

3.2 Return to School Update

Chair Aspin invited Director Myles to speak to the items for information. It is noted that both items will be reviewed together, given how closely they relate. Highlights of the information presented are noted as:

- The Ministry released the back-to-school plan yesterday, on August 4, 2021. NNDSB staff are taking time to fully understand the details while working to finetune plans for NNDSB students and staff. A brief overview of key details:
 - Students can return to school for full-day learning.
 - Staff and students will be required to self-screen daily before attending school. NNDSB uses the Government of Ontario's school and childcare screening tool.
 - Staff and students in grades 1-12 will be required to wear masks indoors and while on student transportation. Masks are not required outdoors.
 - After school and extracurricular sports and activities will be permitted, with some modifications.
- A letter was shared with the school community with direct links to the ministry material so families can review directly with a note that the board would be communicating further once further planning took place.
- The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) is reporting that community members age 12 and over are continuing to receive the COVID vaccinations. NNDSB has shared resource material on behalf of the NBPSDHU and the Ministry of Education to encourage vaccinations as an effective tool to help stop the spread of COVID-19. NNDSB will continue to work with health authorities to create vaccination opportunities for staff and students.
- NNDSB has implemented summer learning programs for elementary and secondary students and well-attended drop-in student well-being clinics. Learning has occurred virtually, and in-person through community partnerships.
- Virtual school planning continues for NNDSB elementary and secondary students that have indicated at-home learning is their preference for the 2021/2022 school year. It is noted that this option was supported by the Ministry of Education, and NNDSB feels very positive about the model being implemented.
- NNDSB has received information from the Ministry regarding ventilation requirements and reporting expectations. Initial internal reports have shown the board is well on its' way to meeting the expectations set forward regarding ventilation units, enhanced maintenance, and required PPE.

- NNDSB continues to follow the direction of the Ministry of Education, and local health authorities. Updates are shared with the school community using a variety of means including the board’s website, social media, and direct correspondence.

The floor was opened for questions from trustees:

- Question from Trustee Sargent regarding the type of semester system secondary students be receiving in September.
 - Acting Superintendent Gray was invited to respond and noted the board is continuing with the decision to use the octomester system. In consultation with the NBPSDHU, it is felt that this is still the best system for NNDSB secondary students at this time. The board remains ready to pivot if compelling evidence requires the board to review this decision.
- Further question regarding if NNDSB will be hosting vaccination clinics in schools.
 - Acting Superintendent Gray was invited to respond and noted the board does not have plans to offer clinics in NNDSB schools. This was confirmed by Director Myles, noting there are no immediate plans but this conversation may evolve in the weeks ahead, with many factors to consider.
- Question from Trustee Bottomley to inquire if the board can support getting the health unit’s message out to the community about vaccine clinic schedules and walk-in clinic availability.
 - Director Myles noted he would be pleased to take this forward as a recommendation to the board’s COVID-19 team for fulsome consideration.

With no further comments or questions, Chair Aspin thanked the Director and the executive team for the update.

5.0 Items for Decision

5.1 Report from Private Session

Chair Aspin noted consensus was achieved during the in-camera discussion on this item regarding a letter to Mayor McDonald and Council, but no resolution is required.

5.2. Report from Committee of the Whole

Motion: 21-08-02, L. Sargent/ J. Cochrane

That the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approves the 2020/2021 allocation from the Trustee Initiative Fund in the amount of \$16,233.95 to the Near North Early Years Team in support of the Journey into Learning initiative, and that the Near North District School Board authorize and direct the Superintendent of Business to do all actions necessary, and execute all required documentation, to give effect to this approval.- **Carried.**

Motion: 21-08-03, B. Steer/ D. Breault

That the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board approves the trustee recruitment process as discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting. – **Carried.**

5.3 Capital Project Update

It is noted that a brief is included in the agenda package. The floor was opened for questions regarding this item, with none rose.

Motion: 21-08-04, A. Bottomley/ J. Cochrane

That the Near North District School Board approves an additional commitment of \$235,633 of School Condition Improvement funding, and \$352,494 in additional School Renewal funding for 2020-2021 Capital Projects. – **Carried.**

5.4 Approval of OSBIE Subscriber Agreement Changes

It is noted that a brief is included in the agenda package with redlined changes OSBIE is proposing. Director Myles provided introductory comments to note NNDSB is a member board with OSBIE, and it requires the approval of two-thirds of member boards to update their subscriber agreement. The floor was opened for questions regarding this item, with none rose.

Motion: 21-08-05, D. Breault/ L. Sargent

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board is in agreement with the proposed amendments to the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) Reciprocal Agreement for School Boards and Board Organizations and; that staff are hereby authorized to execute Appendix F on behalf of the Board and submit it as requested by OSBIE. – **Carried.**

5.5 Review of Parry Sound JK-12 Report prepared by L. Dallip

Chair Aspin opened the conversation to commend Director Myles and the executive team for their engagement of L. Dallip as an independent consultant to review the board's actions. Chair Aspin was pleased to see the inclusion of resolutions from many local town councils, including Parry Sound, that expressed support for the project during the ARC process. As the Chair of the Parry Sound Build Committee, Vice-Chair Cochrane was invited to speak to this item. It is noted that this report is very exhaustive and answers many of the outstanding questions and concerns in the community. As a community member, Vice-Chair Cochrane is truly looking forward to the construction of a new school. The floor was opened for questions regarding this item, with none rose. Chair Aspin called for any dissension or opposition to the report, with none rose.

Motion: 21-08-06, J. Cochrane/ B. Steer

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board receives the report prepared by consultant L. Dallip and moves to place the report on the website, as recommended by the Parry Sound Build Committee. – **Carried unanimously.**

5.6 Review of Parry Sound Phase One Demolition Tender Approval Recommendation

It is noted that a report is included in the agenda package to guide this item. Remarks from Chair Aspin to note how grateful he is to see how the Ministry of Education has allotted additional funding to the partial demolition. This is a strong indication that the Ministry is supportive of the board's plans and efforts on behalf of students. The floor was opened for questions, comments, or opposition to this item, with none rose.

Motion: 21-08-07, J. Cochrane/ A. Bottomley

That the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2021-017, Partial Demolition of School Building located at 111 Isabella Street in Parry Sound to CLC Infrastructure Inc. in the amount of \$937,618 plus HST, as recommended by the Parry Sound Build Committee. – **Carried unanimously.**

There being no further business to discuss, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting.

6.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: 21-08- 08, A. Bottomley/ B. Steer

That we do now adjourn at 6:59 pm. – **Carried.**



Jay Aspin
Chair



Craig Myles
Director of Education

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

<p>21-08-01 L. Sargent B. Steer</p>	<p>That the agenda for the Special Board meeting of August 5, 2021 be approved as presented. - Carried.</p>
<p>21-08-02 L. Sargent J. Cochrane</p>	<p>That the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approves the 2020/2021 allocation from the Trustee Initiative Fund in the amount of \$16,233.95 to the Near North Early Years Team in support of the Journey into Learning initiative, and that the Near North District School Board authorize and direct the Superintendent of Business to do all actions necessary, and execute all required documentation, to give effect to this approval.- Carried.</p>
<p>21-08-03 B. Steer D. Breault</p>	<p>That the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board approves the trustee recruitment process as discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting. – Carried.</p>
<p>21-08-04 A. Bottomley J. Cochrane</p>	<p>That the Near North District School Board approves an additional commitment of \$235,633 of School Condition Improvement funding, and \$352,494 in additional School Renewal funding for 2020-2021 Capital Projects. – Carried.</p>
<p>21-08-05 D. Breault L. Sargent</p>	<p>Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board is in agreement with the proposed amendments to the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) Reciprocal Agreement</p>

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	for School Boards and Board Organizations and; that staff are hereby authorized to execute Appendix F on behalf of the Board and submit it as requested by OSBIE. – Carried.
21-08-06 J. Cochrane B. Steer	Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees for Near North District School Board receives the report prepared by consultant L. Dallip and moves to place the report on the website, as recommended by the Parry Sound Build Committee. – Carried unanimously.
21-08-07 J. Cochrane A. Bottomley	That the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2021-017, Partial Demolition of School Building located at 111 Isabella Street in Parry Sound to CLC Infrastructure Inc. in the amount of \$937,618 plus HST, as recommended by the Parry Sound Build Committee. – Carried unanimously.
21-08- 08 A. Bottomley B. Steer	That we do now adjourn at 6:59 pm. – Carried.