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Craig Myles, Director of Education

The October 12, 2021 **Public Session 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
Caren Gagne
Louise Sargent
Nichole King
Student Trustee C. Darling

Administrative Staff Present:

Craig Myles, Director of Education
Deb Bartlett, Communications Officer
Gay Smylie, Superintendent of Education
Krista Messenger, Executive Assistant
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Education
Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business

Trustee Regrets:

Donna Breault
Rob Learn

Other:

Staff, media and community partners

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Chair Aspin read the land acknowledgement aloud.

1.2 Opening Prayer by Elder

Chair Aspin welcomed elder P. Beaucage of the Nipissing First Nation to the Board meeting. Elder Beaucage spoke in the Nipissing dialect of Anishinaabemowin, then interpreted his words and shared he requested that the Great Spirit give participants positive guidance to do their work in a positive way.

Chair Aspin thanked Elder Beaucage for his words and presence at the meeting.

2.0 Attendance

2.1 Confirmation of Quorum

Attendance indicated that eight trustees are present for the meeting, including the Trustee Elect and the Student Trustee.

2.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

NIL

3.0 Welcome Trustee Elect Gagne

3.1 Declaration of Office

Following the appointment of C. Gagne at the previous meeting to fill the vacancy in zone 2, C. Gagne was provided with the Declarations of Office in advance of the meeting to review.

Chair Aspin confirmed she had received the document and questioned whether the Trustee Elect was prepared to proceed. Trustee Elect Gagne affirmed that she was and proceeded to read the Declarations aloud to declare she is qualified to hold office, will remain impartial, and disclose conflicts of interests with diligence.

3.2 Oath of Allegiance

In the presence of trustees and the Board's Secretary (Director Myles), Chair Aspin read aloud the Oath of Allegiance for Trustee Elect Gagne. Trustee Elect Gagne repeated after the Chair to affirm her allegiance.

Following the swearing of the oath, Chair Aspin formally welcomed and introduced Trustee Gagne.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion: 21-10-01, J. Cochrane/ A. Bottomley

That the agenda for the Board meeting of October 12, 2021 be approved, together with the minutes of the September 21, meeting. - **CARRIED.**

5.0 Business Arising

5.1 Menstrual Product Report

Chair Aspin noted that this is an item of business arising from the June meeting from the previous Student Trustee, Ms. Hall-Paradis. Director Myles was invited to speak to this item. Highlights noted as:

- Trustees were referred to the report contained in the package about menstrual product access in NNDSB schools.
- Initially, this report was designed to inform the Board's decision to write a letter of support for this initiative.
- It is noted that following the development of this report, the provincial government announced a partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart to give menstrual products to school boards across the province, which can be accessed in school washrooms. The investment includes the distribution of dispensers on a one-time basis, as well as products for a three year term.
- Student Trustees, M. Hall-Paradis and C. Darling were recognized for their work with the Ontario Student Trustee's Association (OSTA), given how the report has shown what great benefit this will bring to NNDSB students.
- Providing equity of access to menstrual products fosters inclusivity in the NNDSB school community, and represents further strides towards the strategic commitment to Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Director Myles noted that SO Graves is in attendance to respond to any questions.

Chair Aspin opened the floor for questions, with none rose. Chair Aspin thanked Director Myles for presenting this item.

6.0 Communication to the Board

6.1 Information Items

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the board reports submitted for information as part of the agenda package for each item. Brief highlights were offered for each item as noted below.

6.1.1 Monthly Tender Report- October 2021

- No comments to note

6.1.2 Professional Development Opportunities Calendar

- Chair Aspin noted this is a key area of development organized by the Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA). Trustees are encouraged to participate in these initiatives.

6.1.3 Board Correspondence

- Note that two items of correspondence are included.
- Chair Aspin spoke to the legacy of S. Weinberg during her time with the OPSBA as a conference coordinator. Chair Aspin offered high regards on behalf of the Board for her retirement.
- Chair Aspin noted the letter of thanks provided to the Board of Directors for North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit for their continued partnership with NNDSB to navigate the pandemic safely within the school community. It is noted that a letter from Board Chair N Jacko was received recognizing NNDSB trustees and administration for their excellent work and dedication.

6.1.4 CODE Summer Learning Report

- Director Myles this program was very successful this summer to support students with math and literacy skills.
- Recognition to the staff and community partners involved in the delivery of this program, under the leadership of SO Gray.

6.1.5 Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P) Partnership Initiative

- No further comments offered.

6.2 Director's Update

Opening remarks from Director Myles to note many meaningful days of recognition were celebrated this month. Director Myles recognized every effort by staff in support of student achievement and well-being. Together with the Chair of the Board, gratitude and recognition have been shared with staff this month in honour of the work carried out each day in service to students. As part of his report, the Director also highlighted:

- NNDSB continues to ensure compliance with the instructions issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health to achieve 100% vaccination policy compliance. Part of this compliance involves the use of a third-party application, ThriveHealth. NNDSB has been recognized by the application provider for developing an implementation procedure that is one of the most effective across Canada. ThriveHealth has reached out to see if NNDSB would support the Government of the Northwest Territories by sharing the board's approach. This

work demonstrates action towards the board's strategic commitment to excellence in innovation. Thanks is expressed to the H.R. and I.T. departments under the leadership of SBO Van Haesendonck for their excellent work that has brought national recognition to the board.

- Following the Board's approval at the previous meeting, several administrative guidelines have been approved for public consultation and posted to the board's website.

Chair Aspin thanked the Director for providing this report, and for his leadership to steward these priorities within the school community.

6.3 Chair's Remarks

The Chair shared remarks regarding Board and community engagement initiatives following the Director's Remarks. Chair Aspin's verbal report centered on:

- Positive press acknowledgement. It is noted that the website has showcased many interesting achievements by NNDSB students that have been shared further by media partners. Chair Aspin is very proud of NNDSB students and expressed thanks to the staff who support drawing attention to these accomplishments.
- Significant progress noted across Board of Trustee priorities. It is noted that the Board outlined several priorities for action and trustees have worked hard to achieve two of the top three thus far. The Multi-Year Strategic Plan approval under the leadership of the MYSP Committee chaired by Trustee Steer was a significant priority, together with the initiation of the Fricker Build capital project- which is being discussed further in the agenda. The third priority is identified as the Parry Sound build, which will continue with its momentum.

Trustees received Chair Aspin's report with thanks.

6.4 OPSBA Report

The Chair invited Trustee Steer to lead the Board through this item. Trustee Steer referred trustees to the report contained in the agenda package and provided highlights to note:

- Equity, diversity and inclusion work continues at OPSBA. The agency is seeking an interim advisor to interpret some of the findings in the equity audit.
- Project Compass continues its work reviewing OPSBA governance, policies and guidelines.
- Trustee Steer is pleased to be presenting an experiential learning presentation to the northern regional caucus. Trustee Steer will be speaking to the importance of indigenous land-based learning.

The Chair thanked Trustee Steer for his report and diligence in continuing to represent NNDSB at the provincial level.

6.5 Student Trustee's Update

The Chair invited Student Trustee Darling to speak to this item. Student Trustee Darling referred trustees to the report shared as part of the agenda package. Highlight shared are noted as:

- Truth and Reconciliation Week was honored by the secondary schools from September 27-30. Schools provided many meaningful opportunities for students to commemorate the history and ongoing impacts of residential schools, and to

further the process of Truth and Reconciliation.

- NNDSB students have shown their enthusiasm for the re-opening of extra-curricular activities. From sports to clubs, such as drama, basketball, volleyball, cross-country, golf, soccer, and band, they have had overwhelming participation from students.

Student Trustee Darling closed her report by speaking to the Ontario Student Trustee Association's Fall General Meeting. This event is being hosted in-person in November and Student Trustee Darling expressed her desire for the Board's approval for her attendance.

The Chair thanked the Student Trustee for her report and noted the Board would be pleased to support her attendance at this event. The floor was opened for comments, with none rose.

Motion: 21-10-02, J. Cochrane/ L. Sargent

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve Student Trustee Cecelia Darling to attend the Fall 2021 General Meeting of the Ontario Student Trustee Association on behalf of Near North District School Board. - **CARRIED.**

7.0 Items for Decision

7.1 Report from Committee of the Whole- Private Session

Motion: 21-10-03, J. Cochrane/ L. Sargent

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve of the intended approach presented by the DPA Committee during the in-camera meeting.- **CARRIED.**

7.2 Report from Committee of the Whole- Public Session

Motion: 21-10-04, J. Cochrane/ A. Bottomley

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve the nomination of SBO Van Haesendonck for the OSBIE Northeast Regional Board of Directors.- **CARRIED.**

Motion: 21-10-05, J. Cochrane/ L. Sargent

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees appoint Director Myles as the NNDSB Voting Delegate for the OSBIE Northeast Regional Board of Directors elections.
- **CARRIED.**

7.3 Terms of Reference- For Approval

Motion: 21-10-06, B. Steer/ C. Gagne

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approve the Director's Performance Appraisal Committee's Terms of Reference, as recommended by the Director's Performance Appraisal Committee. - **CARRIED.**

7.4 Tender Recommendation

Motion: 21-10-07, B. Steer/ L. Sargent

Whereas NNDSB has issued a formal selection process and published an RFP for this project;

And whereas the W.J. Fricker Build Committee has reviewed the report from the evaluation committee to develop a recommendation;

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approve the following firm for the successful award of the W.J. Fricker construction tender, as recommended by the W. J. Fricker Build Committee:
 VENASSE BUILDING GROUP in the amount of \$17,580,000 excluding HST- **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8.0 Committee Reports

8.1 Committee Meeting Minutes Presented for Information

- 8.1.1 FNAC Committee- unofficial minutes- September 16, 2021
- 8.1.2 SEAC Committee- unofficial minutes- September 16, 2021
- 8.1.3 W.J. Fricker Committee- unofficial minutes- October 5, 2021

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the committee minutes included for information purposes.

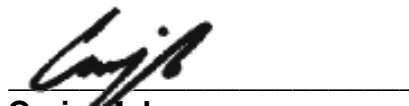
9.0 Next Meeting Date

Chair Aspin confirmed the Board of Trustees would meet next on Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

10.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: 21-10-08, A. Bottomley/ N. King
 That we do now adjourn at 7:22 pm. – **CARRIED**


 Jay Aspin
 Chair


 Craig Myles
 Director of Education

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

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| <p>21-10-01 J. Cochrane A. Bottomley</p> | <p>That the agenda for the Board meeting of October 12, 2021 be approved, together with the minutes of the September 21, meeting. - CARRIED.</p> |
| <p>21-10-02 J. Cochrane L. Sargent</p> | <p>Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve Student Trustee Cecelia Darling to attend the Fall 2021 General Meeting of the Ontario Student Trustee Association on behalf of Near North District School Board. - CARRIED.</p> |
| <p>21-10-03 J. Cochrane</p> | <p>Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve of the intended approach presented by the DPA Committee during the in-</p> |

Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held October 12, 2021

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| L. Sargent | camera meeting. - CARRIED. |
| 21-10-04 J. Cochran A. Bottomley | Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approve the nomination of SBO Van Haesendonck for the OSBIE Northeast Regional Board of Directors. - CARRIED. |
| 21-10-05 J. Cochran L. Sargent | Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees appoint Director Myles as the NNDSB Voting Delegate for the OSBIE Northeast Regional Board of Directors elections. - CARRIED. |
| 21-10-06 B. Steer C. Gagne | Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approve the Director’s Performance Appraisal Committee’s Terms of Reference, as recommended by the Director’s Performance Appraisal Committee. - CARRIED. |
| 21-10-07 B. Steer L. Sargent | Whereas NNDSB has issued a formal selection process and published an RFP for this project; And whereas the W.J. Fricker Build Committee has reviewed the report from the evaluation committee to develop a recommendation; Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board approve the following firm for the successful award of the W.J. Fricker construction tender, as recommended by the W. J. Fricker Build Committee: VENASSE BUILDING GROUP in the amount of \$17,580,000 excluding HST - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. |
| 21-10-08 A. Bottomley N. King | That we do now adjourn at 7:22 pm. - CARRIED |