



963 Airport Road North Bay, ON P1B 8H1
Phone: 705.472.8170
Website: www.nearnorthschools.ca

Craig Myles, Director of Education

The November 16, 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
Donna Breault
Louise Sargent
Rob Learn
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

Other:

Staff, media and community partners

Trustee Regrets:

Nichole King

Guests:

A. Lewis-Trodd, Grade 11 student

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and thanked the public for joining.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Chair Aspin read the land acknowledgement aloud.

1.2 Opening Prayer by Elder

Chair Aspin welcomed Elder E. Mcleod of the Nipissing First Nation to the Board meeting. Elder McLeod offered a smudge and a prayer aloud in the Nipissing dialect of the (Ojibwe) language.

Chair Aspin thanked Elder Mcleod for her 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 Student Trustee.

2.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

NIL

3.0 Indigenous Student Circle Update

Chair Aspin welcomed A. Lewis Trodd, a Grade 11 student at Parry Sound High School, to the meeting to provide an update on the work of the Indigenous Youth Circle.

A. Lewis Trodd introduced himself as Anishinaabe and Coast Salish and noted the group will be meeting to ensure Indigenous student voices are part of the conversation at NNDSB. The Indigenous Youth Circle is in the process of determining what the role of Indigenous Student Trustee will look like and how they want to select an Indigenous Student Trustee on the Board.

Chair Aspin thanked the student for the update and noted the Board looks forward to welcoming the Indigenous Student Trustee once the Indigenous Youth Circle has the process established.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion: 21-11-01, J. Cochrane/ A. Bottomley

That the agenda for the Board meeting of November 16, 2021 be approved, together with the minutes of the October 12, meeting. - **CARRIED.**

5.0 Business Arising

Nil report.

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 Professional Development Opportunities Calendar

- Note the date of the OBSPA's Public Education Symposium has been set for January 28, 2022. More information will be shared with trustees in the month to come.

6.1.2 Board committee membership

- Trustees were referred to the brief contained in the package regarding current committee composition. Chair Aspin requested trustees give thought to their committee participation with discussion to be confirmed at the Annual Organizational meeting next month.

6.1.3 Board correspondence

- Chair Aspin drew attention to the letter in the package written to congratulate MPP Miller on his retirement announcement.

6.1.4 Administrative Guidelines Report

- Trustees referred to the information in the agenda package, with no additional comments offered.

6.1.5 Monthly Tender Report- November 2021

- Trustees referred to the information in the agenda package, with no additional comments offered.

6.1.6 2021/22 Enrollment Projections

- Director Myles provided a highlight to note as of September 30, 2021 the board's overall enrolment was 9,917 students.

6.1.7 Elementary Class Size Compliance Report

- Highlight noted regarding the report to affirm 91.5% of primary classes have 20 or fewer students, and 100% of primary classes have 23 and fewer students, confirming that NNDSB is compliant with Ministry regulations. The average junior/intermediate class size is 23.29 pupils.

6.1.8 COVID-19 Management Update

- Superintendent Graves was invited to provide a verbal report to complement the report contained in the package.
- SO Graves spoke to the work of NNDSB and its collaborative work with the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) and the co-terminus boards, noting no schools in the district have been in an outbreak.
- To ensure to reduce the risk of transmission by reducing the number of people in buildings, NNDSB's protocols continue to include not permitting community use of schools.
- NNDSB is working with Nipissing District Athletics (NDA) to allow spectators at school hockey games. The facilities' COVID-19 policies and practices will be enforced.

Director Myles thanked staff, the senior team, union partners and trustees for their support of the COVID-19 management strategy. NNDSB has seen low numbers of COVID-19 cases as a result of the strict adherence to protocols.

Chair Aspin expressed high regards for the work being done since the return to in-person learning. Despite pressure on the board, NNDSB is putting students and staff first by ensuring high standards remain in place.

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. As part of his report, the Director also highlighted:

- The launch of the personal support worker (PSW) living classroom program, which has now secured partners in Sturgeon Falls, North Bay, Mattawa and Parry Sound. Participant intake is taking place, with program registration taking place in January. The program will see participants 18 and older train to become PSWs in a classroom that is located in a healthcare facility. The

- program will begin in March 2022.
- Update regarding the ongoing environmental initiatives. NNDSB's program department will be establishing an environmental education/environmental stewardship working group during the 2021-2022 school year. The group will be comprised of educators from both elementary and secondary panels, administrators and system leaders.
 - Trustees may recall last month, a resolution was passed to support the nomination of SBO Van Haesendonck to the Northeast Regional OSIE Board of Directors. OSIE received one nomination for each of the available directorships in the Northeast region, so SBO Van Haesendonck has been appointed to this position, effective January 1, 2022 for a 2-year term.

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:

- Support echoed for the newly announced PSW program, given how keenly aware the Chair is regarding the need for Personal Support Workers across the province that is discussed by the Ontario Health Board.
- Trustees referred to the letter provided for information regarding the Director's Annual Report. Recognition expressed for the dedication of trustees during this past year and the leadership of senior administration.
- Momentum continues across the ongoing priorities in concert with Director Myles and the senior leadership team.

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:

- OPSBA is continuing the governance review (Project Compass).
- Recently, the Northern caucus reviewed the draft changes to the governance model as facilitated by OPSBA President, Cathy Abraham
- As a NNDSB from- the-floor-motion was passed at the June OPSBA AGM more on the environment is now being included.
- In partnership with graduate students at Wilfrid Laurier University, OPSBA conducted a four-month-long research project inquiring into specifics about Northern Board and Authority needs regarding each of the four Priority Areas.
- Overall, the research found that funding and staffing were the two greatest challenges for all Boards and Authorities across all Priority Areas.

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:

- Update provided regarding the Ontario Student Trustees Association's Fall General Meeting. Student Trustee Darling was able to network with many amazing Student Trustees from across the province, and learn from mentors, and influential guest speakers. This knowledge will be beneficial as both a Student Trustee, and advocate for student voice within the board. One of the sessions was attended by the deputy minister of education that was incredibly informative.
- The Student Senate has been working towards implementing an Indigenous Student Trustee, to gain equity and inclusion at the board table. They have assigned a focus of specific elements such as the student body's views on the current schedule system at hand, as well as assuring students know the Student Senate group, their goals, and mission.

The Chair thanked the Student Trustee for her report. The floor was opened for comments, with none rose.

7.0 Items for Decision

7.1 Report from Committee of the Whole- Private Session

Motion: 21-11-02, B. Steer/ L. Sargent

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the In-Camera business and action items as discussed during private session. – **Carried.**

7.2 Report from Committee of the Whole Public Session

Motion: 21-11-03, J. Cochrane/ D. Breault

Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees appoints Mr. Marc Morin to the Audit Committee as an External Member to fill a three-year term effective immediately and ending on November 16, 2024, as recommended by the Audit Selection Committee, and accepted during the Committee of the Whole meeting. – **Carried.**

7.3 Levying Education Taxes Bylaw 2022

Motion: 21-11-04, C. Gagne/ R. Learn

Whereas subsection 257.7(1) of the Education Act requires the Board to levy the tax rates prescribed under section 257.12 of the Act;

And whereas Ontario Regulation 400/98 prescribes the tax rates under subsection 257.12 of the Act;

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees enacts that the rates set out in Ontario Regulation 400/98 for 2022 are levied in localities within the area of jurisdiction of the Board on the property indicated in section 257.7 of the Act. – **Carried.**

7.4 Trustee Honorarium

Motion: 21-11-05, J. Cochrane/ B. Steer

Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approves the trustee honoraria as presented in the accompanying report. – **Carried.**

8.0 Committee Reports

8.1 Committee Meeting Minutes Presented for Information

- 8.1.1 SEAC meeting minutes- October 21, 2021
- 8.1.2 Parent Involvement Committee minutes- October 28, 2021
- 8.1.3 Parry Sound Build Committee minutes- November 2, 2021
- 8.1.4 Parry Sound Build Committee- minutes- November 10, 2021

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the committee minutes included for information purposes. As the Committee Chair of the Parry Sound Build Committee, Vice-Chair offered a quick update to note:

- Our Building Sub-Committee shared the demolition and associated reconstruction of the remaining portion of PSHS is over 90% complete.
- The architect has reserved space for a design feature on the front of the build to reflect indigenous culture. In consultation with Trustee King, it was felt that this would be a great way to involve student voice in the build.
- In meetings with the architect, NNDSB learned that the Parry Sound build is not immune from global supply chain challenges and significantly rising costs from the impact of COVID resulting in overages. Administration is fully examining these challenges and results will be shared with stakeholders when the design is finalized.
- The public was referred to the Parry Sound Build Report on the website for more project information. The Board continues to update this Report as further questions are shared.

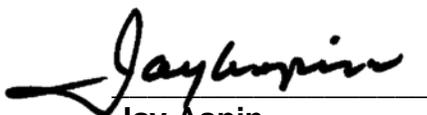
9.0 Next Meeting Date

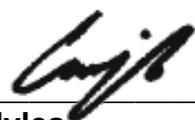
Chair Aspin confirmed the Board of Trustees would meet next on Tuesday, December 7, 2021. The Board will host the Annual Organizational meeting in advance of the regular meeting consistent with last year’s practice.

10.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: 21-11-06, D. Breault/ C. Gagne

That we do now adjourn at 7:52 pm. – **CARRIED**


Jay Aspin
Chair


Craig Myles
Director of Education

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

<p>21-11-01 J. Cochrane A. Bottomley</p>	<p>That the agenda for the Board meeting of November 16, 2021 be approved, together with the minutes of the October 12, meeting. - CARRIED.</p>
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Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held November 16, 2021

21-11-02 B. Steer L. Sargent	Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the In-Camera business and action items as discussed during private session. – CARRIED.
21-11-03 J. Cochrane D. Breault	Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees appoints Mr. Marc Morin to the Audit Committee as an External Member to fill a three-year term effective immediately and ending on November 16, 2024, as recommended by the Audit Selection Committee, and accepted during the Committee of the Whole meeting. – CARRIED.
21-11-04 C. Gagne R. Learn	Whereas subsection 257.7(1) of the Education Act requires the Board to levy the tax rates prescribed under section 257.12 of the Act; And whereas Ontario Regulation 400/98 prescribes the tax rates under subsection 257.12 of the Act; Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees enacts that the rates set out in Ontario Regulation 400/98 for 2022 are levied in localities within the area of jurisdiction of the Board on the property indicated in section 257.7 of the Act. – CARRIED.
21-11-05 J. Cochrane B. Steer	Be it resolved that the NNDSB Board of Trustees approves the trustee honoraria as presented in the accompanying report. – CARRIED.
21-11-06 D. Breault C. Gagne	That we do now adjourn at 7:52 pm. – CARRIED