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Craig Myles, Director of Education

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The June 14, 2022 **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  
Nichole King  
Rob Learn  
Student Trustee A. Lewis Trodd  
Student Trustee C. Darling

**Administrative Staff Present:**

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

**Other:**

Staff, media and community partners

**Trustees Absent:**

Nil.

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair Aspin called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and thanked the public for joining and their patience with the meeting beginning later than expected.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Chair Aspin read the land acknowledgement aloud.

**2.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence**

Chair Aspin inquired if the Director's Office had received any notices of regret from trustees for the meeting this evening. It is noted that no correspondence was received to this end. Chair Aspin confirmed there would be no motion entertained for this item.

**3.0 Attendance**

3.1 Confirmation of Quorum

Attendance indicated that 11 trustees are present for the meeting, including both student trustees.

3.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

NIL

**4.0 Approval of the Agenda and Previous Minutes**

*Motion: 22-06-01, J. Cochrane/ C. Gagne*

That the agenda for the Board meeting of June 14, 2022, be approved, together with the minutes of the May 10, 2022 meeting. – **CARRIED.**

**5.0 Communication to the Board**

5.1 Information Items

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the board reports submitted for information as part of the agenda package for each item.

5.1.1 *Professional Development Opportunities Calendar*

5.1.2 *Monthly Tender Report- June 2022*

5.1.3 *3:2 Consolidation Report*

5.1.4 *School Climate Survey Results Report*

The floor was opened for further questions or comments on the information items, with none rose.

5.2 Director's Update

5.2.1 *Board Report*

Opening remarks from Director Myles to touch on a few highlights contained in the Director's Report. Highlights noted as:

Board Chair Aspin thanked Director Myles for the thorough report presented and noted there is no doubt there is much happening in the board at this time of the year. The floor was opened for questions and comments:

- As the 2021-2022 school year comes to an end, focus has turned to graduations, staff retirements, twenty-five-year employee milestone recognition and summer learning. Sincere thanks was expressed to trustees for their leadership through another wonderful and productive school year, despite the pandemic challenges.
- The PSW students in both the Parry Sound and North Bay programs will be wrapping up their in-class work at the end of this month, then will work at their placements. More than half of the students have either been hired in some capacity by the long-term care homes or have been offered positions after graduation.
- Students in all regions of the Near North have had access to tutoring support over the 2021/22 school year. The Ministry of Education initiated additional funding for tutoring support in March of 2022 to support students at risk and close gaps due to the pandemic. Since receiving these additional funding dollars 30 after school tutoring programs began to support students from JK to Grade 12 in 23 school settings.

Chair Aspin thanked the Director for the thorough report presented. The floor was opened for questions or comments, with none rose.

### **5.3 Chair's Remarks**

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

- Chair Aspin attended the 26th annual Trojan Parade for Cancer on May 31 on behalf of the Board. This year's event took began at WFSS and students walked to the waterfront for an afternoon of games, drink, food and entertainment. Students raised a total of \$56,000, which was presented to the North Bay Regional Health Centre Foundation. The funds raised will contribute to the Cancer Care Fund at the North Bay Regional Health Centre. High regards expressed for the approximately 700 students involved in this event.
- It is noted that questions have arisen from trustees this evening regarding the TOROS program (Theatre Outreach on Stage). Given this item does not appear on the agenda, no further discussion will be tabled. Director Myles will provide additional information to trustees to satisfy the questions raised.
- Chair Aspin was pleased to attend the 2022 OPSBA Annual General Meeting last week. Note that Mr. Nik Nanos was the keynote speaker, who trustees will recall was instrumental for the NNDSB in the creation of the multi-year strategic plan. Congratulations is expressed to Trustee Steer for successfully securing the Vice-Chair position for the OPSBA North region caucus, and to Vice-Chair Cochrane for being named as the Vice-Chair of the Programming Committee. NNDSB will be continued to be well served on a provincial stage through these well-deserved appointments.

Trustees received Chair Aspin's report with thanks.

### **5.4 OPSBA Report**

The Chair invited Trustee Steer to lead the Board through this item. Trustee Steer provided a verbal report to note:

- Building on the updates shared by Chair Aspin, the OPSBA's Annual General Meeting was a very successful event. It is noted that the student trustee presentations were very well received. Recognition provided for the work of the OPSBA staff to execute this multi-day event.
- It is noted that the resolution put forward regarding virtual hybrid meetings was passed. The second resolution regarding the four-day work week investigation that was brought forward from the floor was defeated, despite support from larger school boards (such as the Toronto District School Board).

Chair Aspin thanked Trustee Steer for his report and opened the floor for questions, with none rose.

### **5.5 Student Trustee's Update**

#### ***5.5.1 Student Trustee Report***

Student Trustee Darling spoke to the report included in the Board package regarding end of year activities, ways students are remaining engaged, and ongoing work of the Student Senate.

#### ***5.5.2 Indigenous Youth Circle Update***

Student Trustee Lewis reviewed a sway presentation on screen for trustees regarding the

work with Indigenous Youth Circle (IYC). IYC was pleased to resume in-person meetings at Parry Sound High School and is currently working on an information poster regarding the necessity of cultural safety for indigenous youth. Further highlights were shared regarding the Giin taam (“your turn”) video challenge, and an overview of the OSTA-AECO conference.

The Chair thanked the student trustees for their reports.

### *5.5.3 Student Trustee Election Update*

Director Myles welcomed the principal liaison to the Near North Student Senate (Vice-Principal Spence) to the meeting. Opening remarks to note the Student Senators unanimously agreed to reappoint Student Trustee Darling and Student Trustee Lewis to serve a second term as the Student Trustees for 2022-23. Highlights noted as:

- Over the past two years, within the constraints of COVID-19, the Student Senate was able to meet virtually only once a month. As a result, most of the time was dedicated to school updates and communication strategies.
- Having finally had the opportunity to meet face-to-face for a full day this past week, Student Senate was able to review the business pieces that needed to be addressed moving forward such as:
  - a review Senate Constitution to include the roles and responsibilities of the Indigenous Trustee and ensure language is equitable and accessible,
  - establish language around Board of Trustee meetings,
  - review and include language around succession planning.
- In light of the last year and both Student Trustees Darling and Lewis Trodd’s experience, the Student Senate unanimously agreed to forgo a formal election and to appoint them as Trustees for the 2022-23 school year

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Aspin commended the student trustees for the work accomplished during the 2021-2022 school year and congratulated them both on being appointed for a second term.

## **6.0 Items for Decision**

### **6.1 Report from Committee of the Whole Private Session**

*Motion: 22-06-02, J. Cochrane/ D. Breault*

Be it resolved, that the offer from “2089871 Ontario Limited” to purchase the Lavase road property, legally described in the Ontario Land Titles Office Property Identification Numbers as 49144- 0162 for the amount of \$556,000 plus HST be accepted;

And that the Superintendent of Business is authorized by the NNDSB Board of Trustees to do all things necessary and execute all required documentation in order to give full effect of the sale. - **CARRIED.**

### **6.2 Report from Committee of the Whole Public Session**

*Motion: 22-06-03, B. Steer/ C. Gagne*

Be it resolved, that the report from the Superintendent of Business be referred to the NNDSB Charity Works Committee, as discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting. - **CARRIED.**

6.3 6.3 Tender Awards for Approval

6.3.1 *NNDSB 2022-010- HVAC Upgrades, Mattawa District Public School*

6.3.2 *NNDSB 2022-027- Library Roofing Replacement*

Trustees were referred to the report included in the agenda package. It is noted that these tenders are being presented for approval by trustees in alignment with the board's policies due to the project values.

*Motion: 22-06-04, L. Sargent/ B. Steer*

That the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2022-010, HVAC Upgrades, Mattawa District Public School to Venasse Building Group in the amount of \$370,000.00 plus HST for the original scope of work, and \$235,000.00 plus HST for the two add-on prices. - **CARRIED.**

It is noted that the time is quickly approaching 8:00 PM, so a motion was brought forward to extend the session to ensure the business of the agenda can be fully discussed.

*Motion: 22-06-05, B. Steer/ C. Gagne*

Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the decision to remain in session beyond 8:00 PM. - **CARRIED.**

*Motion: 22-06-06, D. Breault/ J. Cochrane*

That the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2022-027, Library Roofing Replacement Chippewa Secondary School to Venasse Building Group in the amount of \$385,000.00 plus HST- **CARRIED.**

## **7.0 Committee Reports**

### 7.1 Multi-Year Strategic Plan Committee Report

7.1.1 Meeting minutes- May 19, 2022, and June 1, 2022

7.1.2 MYSP Report

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the supporting information included in the agenda package. The floor was turned to Trustee Steer as the MYSP Committee Chair. Highlights are noted as:

- The quantitative data found in the report is not an exhaustive collection. It is meant to provide a view of some of the key indicators for the year. They reflect focus on goals as they pertain to ministry focus, identified needs and alignment to MYSP priorities.
- The data represents a few among the many initiatives in a multi-pronged approach that NNDSB staff have undertaken in alignment with the specific goals established for 2021/22 within the Four Priorities of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan.
- The MYSP committee will continue to bring statistics to the attention of the Board, in alignment with the work of the MYSP committee.

The floor was opened for questions, with none rose. Chair Aspin commended the MYSP Committee for the report and for going the extra mile to develop metrics that will provide a full assessment of the MYSP progress. Comment from Trustee Sargent to MYSP is referred to often in trustee committee meetings. This is a welcomed change to see the plan so well entrenched in the language and work of staff.

7.2 Finance Committee Report

7.2.1 Meeting minutes- May 26, 2022, and June 8, 2022

7.2.2 Finance Committee Quarterly Report

7.2.3 Review of the 2022/23 Budget

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the supporting information included in the agenda package. The floor was turned to Vice-Chair Cochrane as the Finance Committee Chair. Highlights are noted as:

- The Finance Committee is pleased to present the proposed NNDSB Budget for the 2022-2023 school year. There will be revenue and expenses of approximately \$168.3 million.
- The budget is presented with a small surplus of \$62,930, with only \$8,252 coming from school operations
- The board is currently projecting an enrolment increase of 3.2% from the 2021-22 budget, comprised of 141 additional elementary students, and 161 additional secondary students.
- Staffing is projected to increase from the 2021-22 budget by nearly 39 positions, with most of that coming from teaching and para-professional staffing increases.
- As a response to the pandemic, the Ministry provided \$1.8 million in one-time funding for additional staffing supports under the COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund. The majority of these funds have been budgeted to provide additional staff across the board to support students in their learning recovery with a focus on the areas of early and later literacy
- Overall, the budget reflects the board's four key priorities in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan, and in particular continues to support students as we recover from the challenges of the last several years, while placing on focus on continued fiscal responsibility.

Chair Aspin thanked Vice-Chair Cochrane for the report and the floor was opened for questions and comments:

- Comment from Trustee Steer to recognize how far the Board has come during the trustee term. The budget is being presented plainly and transparently with expanded information to ensure it is readily understood.
- Director Myles acknowledged SBO Van Haesendonck and the finance department for their leadership in developing a budget that is responsive to the focus on student achievement and wellbeing. This was a collaborative budget building process that is founded on the four strategic pillars of the MYSP- excellence in relationships, excellence in teaching and learning, excellence in innovation and excellence in communication.

*Motion: 22-06-07, J. Cochrane/ B. Steer*

That the 2022/23 budget for the Near North District School Board be approved as presented, as recommended by the Finance Committee. - **CARRIED.**

7.3 Special Education Advisory Committee Report

7.3.1 2021- 2022 Special Education Plan for approval

Chair Aspin referred trustees to the supporting information included in the

agenda package. The floor was turned to Director Myles to provide an opening comment. Highlights are noted as:

- The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) formally reviews the Special Education Plan annually, and throughout the year as the need arises. The plan is being presented for approval this evening following a review by the SEAC committee.
- SO Graves provided further comment to note that all boards must create Special Education plans on an annual basis and post the plan on their websites by July 15, 2022.
- Many sections of the plan remain unchanged, as they describe the process and pathways of Special Education.
- Attention called to the five sections focused for review have been updated:
  - Standard # 5 – The Identification, Placement and Review Committee: The statistics for the number of new referrals and reviews for 2021 - 2022 are provided.
  - Standard # 12 – Special Education Staff: Any changes in special education staff for 2021- 2022 are noted.
  - Standard # 13 - Staff Development: Staff Development activities for 2021 - 2022 are summarized.
  - Standard # 15 – Accessibility of School Buildings: Information is provided regarding the NNDSB’s expenditures over the 2021 - 2022 school year for renovations to school facilities to improve accessibility.
  - The Board’s Special Education Advisory Committee: Information changes to Membership List and 2021 - 2022 activities are noted.

The floor was opened for questions, with none rose. The Board offered congratulatory remarks to Special Education Principal Wilson regarding her retirement.

*Motion: 22-06-08, J. Cochrane/ L. Sargent*

That the Near North District School Board approved the updated Special Education Plan as presented. – **Carried.**

#### 7.4 Committee Meeting Minutes Presented for Information

##### 7.4.1 PIC- unofficial minutes- June 1, 2022

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

## 8.0 **Next Meeting Date**

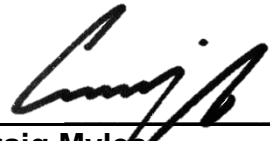
Chair Aspin noted that according to the bylaws, the next regularly scheduled meeting is expected to be Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

**9.0 Motion to Adjourn**

*Motion: 22-06-09, J. Cochrane/ B. Steer*

That we do now adjourn at 8:25 pm. – **CARRIED**

  
 Jay Aspin  
 Chair

  
 Craig Myles  
 Director of Education

**RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

22-06-01 J. Cochrane C. Gagne	Be it resolved, that the agenda for the Board meeting of June 14, 2022, be approved, together with the minutes of the May 10, 2022 meeting. – <b>CARRIED</b>
22-06-02 J. Cochrane D. Breault	Be it resolved, that the offer from “2089871 Ontario Limited” to purchase the Lavase road property, legally described in the Ontario Land Titles Office Property Identification Numbers as 49144- 0162 for the amount of \$556,000 plus HST be accepted;  And that the Superintendent of Business is authorized by the NNDSB Board of Trustees to do all things necessary and execute all required documentation in order to give full effect of the sale. - <b>CARRIED.</b>
22-06-03 B. Steer C. Gagne	Be it resolved, that the report from the Superintendent of Business be referred to the NNDSB Charity Works Committee, as discussed during the Committee of the Whole meeting. - <b>CARRIED.</b>
22-06-04 L. Sargent B. Steer	Be it resolved, that the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2022-010, HVAC Upgrades, Mattawa District Public School to Venasse Building Group in the amount of \$370,000.00 plus HST for the original scope of work, and \$235,000.00 plus HST for the two add-on prices. - <b>CARRIED.</b>
22-06-05 B. Steer C. Gagne	Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the decision to remain in session beyond 8:00 PM. - <b>CARRIED.</b>
22-06-06 D. Breault J. Cochrane	Be it resolved, that the Near North District School Board awards tender NNDSB 2022-027, Library Roofing Replacement Chippewa Secondary School to Venasse Building Group in the amount of \$385,000.00 plus HST- <b>CARRIED.</b>

**Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held June 14, 2022**

22-06-07 J. Cochrane B. Steer	Be it resolved, that the 2022/23 budget for the Near North District School Board be approved as presented, as recommended by the Finance Committee. - <b>CARRIED.</b>
22-06-08 J. Cochrane L. Sargent	Be it resolved, that the Near North District School Board approved the updated Special Education Plan as presented. – <b>Carried.</b>
22-06-09 J. Cochrane B. Steer	Be it resolved, that we do now adjourn at 8:25 pm. – <b>CARRIED</b>