

# BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 | 6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://nearnorthschools-ca.zoom.us/j/84755907484?pwd=YWRMcZSaQIZScUZraGkrV3VGcWRtQT09>

Meeting ID: 847 5590 7484  
Passcode: 547692  
Dial in: 1 855 703 8985

## AGENDA

### 1.0 Call to Order

#### 1.1 Land Acknowledgement

We would like to open this meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, on which all schools of the NNDSB are situated. The Board Office is specifically located on the traditional territory of the Nipissing First Nation. We value the cultures, histories and relationships with the Indigenous People of Turtle Island. We are grateful to be gathered here today.

### 2.0 Request for Leaves of Absence

Motion: In accordance with BL-102, be it resolved that Trustee(s) \_\_\_\_\_ be granted a leave of absence from the September 13, 2022 Board meeting, as confirmation of regrets was provided in advance of the meeting.

### 3.0 Attendance

- 3.1 Confirmation of Quorum
- 3.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

### 4.0 Approval of the Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes ✓

Motion: That the agenda for the Board meeting of September 13, 2022 be approved, together with the minutes of the previous meeting held on June 14, 2022.

### 5.0 Student Trustees Welcome

- 5.1 Motion for Appointments
- 5.2 Declarations of Office and Oaths of Allegiance

## 6.0 Communication to the Board

### 6.1 Information Items

- 6.1.1 Monthly Tender Report- September 2022 ✓
- 6.1.2 Professional Development Opportunities Calendar ✓
- 6.1.3 2022/2023 Board of Trustees meeting schedule ✓
- 6.1.4 NNDSB 2022 Summer Learning Report ✓
- 6.1.5 COVID-19 Management Report ✓
- 6.1.6 NNDSB Virtual School Report ✓
- 6.1.7 Safe Schools Report - Prioritizing Safety in Schools ✓

### 6.2 Director's Update- Director Myles to lead this item.

- 6.2.1 Board Report ✓

### 6.3 Chair's Remarks- Chair Aspin to lead this item.

- 6.3.1 Correspondence ✓

### 6.4 OPSBA Report- Trustee Steer to lead this item.

### 6.5 Student Trustees' Update

- 6.5.1 Student Trustee Report
- 6.5.2 Indigenous Youth Circle Update

## 7.0 Items for Decision

### 7.1 Report from Committee of the Whole Private Session

### 7.2 Report from Committee of the Whole Public Session

### 7.3 OPSBA Annual Dues ✓

That the Board of Trustees for the Near North District School Board approve the 2022/23 Ontario Public School Boards' Association membership fees.

### 7.4 Statement by Treasurer ✓

That the Board approve the Statement by Treasurer regarding Borrowing for Current Expenditures.

### 7.5 Borrowing Resolutions ✓

That the Board of Trustees for the Near North District School Board approve the Borrowing Resolutions for the fiscal year 2022-2023 as presented on September 13, 2022.

### 7.6 Code of Conduct- Annual Review and Approval ✓

That the Board of Trustees has reviewed and confirmed approval to adhere to the Code of Conduct.

## **8.0 Committee Reports**

### **8.1 Audit Committee Report**

- 8.1.1 Unofficial Minutes- June 21, 2022 ✓
- 8.1.2 Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan- For Approval ✓

### **8.2 Finance Committee Report**

- 8.2.1 Unofficial Minutes- September 6, 2022 ✓
- 8.2.2 Quarterly Report ✓

### **8.3 Committee Meeting Minutes Presented for Information**

- 8.3.1 Equity Advisory Circle minutes- May 26, 2022 ✓
- 8.3.2 First Nations Advisory Council minutes- June 2, 2022 ✓
- 8.3.3 Special Education Advisory Council minutes- June 16, 2022 ✓

## **9.0 Next meeting Date: October 11, 2022**

## **10.0 Adjournment**

- 10.1 Motion: That on September 13, 2022 we do now adjourn at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.



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

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**

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**Jay Aspin**  
Chair

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**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>

Unofficial



# PD Opportunities Calendar

<b>Title:</b>	<b>September 2022 Trustee Professional Development Opportunities Calendar</b>
<b>Ongoing Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ontario Public School Board Association’s “Trustee Development Program” modules <a href="https://modules.ontarioschooltrustees.org/">https://modules.ontarioschooltrustees.org/</a></li> <li>• Ministry of Education governance resources <a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/leadership/govern_resources.html">http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/leadership/govern_resources.html</a></li> <li>• Trustee election resources <a href="http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/trustee-elections/index.html">http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/trustee-elections/index.html</a></li> <li>• Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) School District Governance-Theoretical and Conceptual Foundations <a href="https://www.cdnsba.org/governance-resources">https://www.cdnsba.org/governance-resources</a></li> </ul>
<b>Election Resources</b>	<p>The Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC), on behalf of the four school board/trustee associations (including OPSBA), is coordinating a series of resources to support trustee candidates and communities in the upcoming October 24, 2022 <a href="#">Municipal and School Board Elections</a>.</p> <p>The following resources are now available for school boards and their communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Making a Difference: Running for Election as a School Board Trustee – a PDF guide</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Printable public awareness posters to encourage nominations and get out the vote</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">A revised and updated school board elections website</a></li> </ul> <p>The website includes an overview of the role of trustees, how to become a trustee, how to vote, education in Ontario, as well as archived 2018 and 2014 election information and results.</p>
<b>Registration Support</b>	<p>Trustees may reach out to Krista Messenger via email at <a href="mailto:krista.messenger@nearnorthschools.ca">krista.messenger@nearnorthschools.ca</a> for registration support if they are unsuccessful in self-registering by following the links above, or to request printed copies of the material to review, where available.</p>

<b>Title:</b>	<b>2022/2023 Board of Trustee Meeting Schedule</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Craig Myles, Director of Education
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	Board Meeting September 13, 2022
<b>Background</b>	In accordance with Bylaw BL-102, the NNDSB Board of Trustees will normally meet on the second Tuesday of the month from September through June.
<b>Regular Meeting Dates</b>	<p>The following outlines the regular meeting dates for the Board of Trustees for the 2022-2023 year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> <li>• Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 6:30 PM</li> </ul>
<b>Inaugural Meeting Date</b>	<p>It is noted that a Municipal Election will be held in 2022. In alignment with NNDSB bylaw, the Board must conduct an inaugural meeting in the calendar year in which all trustees are elected or acclaimed at the regular Municipal Election. The inaugural meeting must be held on or within seven days following the date of the new Board taking office.</p> <p>The 2022 Inaugural meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.</p>
<b>Special Meeting Process and Committee of the Whole Meeting Dates</b>	<p>NNDSB bylaws state special meetings may be called. Notice will be provided to trustees and the public in the same manner as for regular meetings.</p> <p>Consistent with the 2021/2022 board year, when a Committee of the Whole meeting is needed, it will be scheduled on the same evening as the Board of Trustees meeting to support best use of time and efficiency.</p>
<b>Meeting location</b>	<p>In 2020, the Ministry of Education brought forward amendments to Ontario Regulation 463/97 (Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance) to waive the requirement for school board trustees to attend meetings in person until November 14, 2022.</p> <p>At this time, NNDSB Board of Trustees will continue to meet virtually using the Zoom videoconference and teleconference platform.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	That the NNDSB Board of Trustees receives the meeting schedule for the 2022/2023 board year.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>2021-22 Summer Learning</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022
<b>Mandate</b>	This report is intended to provide a board update on summer learning throughout the NNDSB during the summer of the 2021-22 school year.
<b>Background</b>	<p><b>Theme: Celebrate, Experience, Plan</b></p> <p>The summer of 2022 provided 576 students, from the NNDSB and across the province as they celebrated prior learning, experienced new opportunities, and allowed planning for their future. This was an increase over last year's numbers. Diving deeper in this, our largest increase in enrolment was our co-operative education high school credits which saw a staggering 220% rise.</p> <p>Student achievement and well-being were well supported throughout the summer with the hiring of over 60 staff, a process that begins in early spring, to run our various programs that ground themselves in our MYPSP priorities of: Excellence in teaching and learning, innovation, relationships, and communication.</p> <p>Support staff included: a Differentiated Learning Resource Teacher (DLRT), an Indigenous Grad Coach, and a Childhood Development Counsellor (CDC) who complimented our other well-being supports throughout the NNDSB this summer.</p> <p>Our summer DLRT worked closely with high school credit staff to identify students who could use extra supports or are entitled to those through identification, so the staff was proactive with interventions.</p> <p>Indigenous Grad Coach worked with 45 self-identified Indigenous students to bring any needed levels of support to their summer course experience. This included being a liaison between First Nation Education Leads, teachers, and parents/guardians.</p> <p>Our CDC provided teachers with wellness materials for their students and was available for support when a student was in need. The support staff worked together often as a student success team to identify and support students to ultimately be successful in their endeavors.</p>

### Summer Learning Program

Our elementary students were provided the opportunity to be in literacy and mathematics focused Power Learning Camps for students in grades 1-4, along with REEL Writer's for students in grades 5-8 included sites in North Bay, Almaguin, and Parry Sound areas for students. Much of this program is funded thanks to the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE). Two coordinators led teaching staff and educational assistants to providing three weeks of effective literacy and mathematics instruction to over 100 students across numerous sites throughout the NNDSB during the month of July.

We partnered with Nipissing University Education Program's Books for Brook, which provided literacy donations to our SLP Power Learning students. [<media release link>](#) Students in Power Learning were given beginning and camp ending literacy and math assessments so this can be shared with their home school to communicate their progress during the summer.

Our staff developed games and activities based on areas of need, such as vowel sound review, board games focused on phonemic awareness, patterning with beads and dice games and "Make 10s". This was also done by the use of BeeBots, enhancing STEM education skills.

The staff would participate in the activities with the students in small group settings where one-on-one counting, letter sound identification and instructions were clearly articulated to each child in a fun and non-threatening way. The students felt safe and willing to take risks with their responses and go deeper into their learning of specific tasks.

Students engaged with many camp guests from a local Friendship Centre to share Indigenous teachings and traditions, Fire Departments and Construction-related fields to speak about their careers, and Science North scientists. Students learned some coding skills and participated virtually with "Ask a Scientist" sessions with our Science North partnership. This helped aid our students in their STEM skills mastery. The camps promoted well-being with outdoor play and working on positive social interaction as well. Below, is an interactive SWAY that will provide a brief walkthrough of the program, some images and multimedia links, along with the some quotes from students, staff, and parents. Thank you to SLP Coordinators Sonya Doyle and Stephanie Underwood for their efforts in creating this.



## Summer Learning Program 2022

Program team begins planning for staffing, program expectations and ways to enhance learner experience.

[Go to this Sway](#)

### **STEM Camp**

NNDSB ran the inaugural Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) camp this summer. The three week-long camp for students in Grades 7-10 had students doing hands-on real-world problem-solving while learning and working on improving their foundational literacy and numeracy skills. Students interacted with 3D printers, drones, coding, and robotics with an appearance from First Team 1305 mentors. Learners documented their learning journey through e-books. [<media release link>](#)

### **Co-operative Education**

We had record numbers for enrolment in co-operative education credits. A 220% increase over last year is attributed to new innovative sector-specific opportunities, SHSM student interest, and pent-up pandemic demand for in-person co-op experiences. We highlighted a few of our NNDSB students in our “Co-op Cameos” media campaign.

### **App Development Co-op with Our Wave Hub**

Two of our NNDSB students were lucky to bring their coding skills to a unique app development co-op where they received credits while

	<p>working on a team with IT industry mentors from companies including IBM and Apple. We continue to make connections with partners like Our Wave Hub, a skills training outfit that facilitated the program. &lt;<a href="#">media release link</a>&gt;</p> <p><b>Summer Transition to School Program</b></p> <p>We continued our close partnership with One Kids Place to run our Transition to School (TTS) program. The TTS program helps young, future students develop school-readiness, social communication, daily independent living and self-esteem skills. TTS at One Kids Place helps as well with management of impulsivity, self-regulation, self-awareness and the child’s emotions. NNDSB staff are hired to work in conjunction with staff at One Kid’s Place and student readiness is communicated back to families and school board special education staff.</p> <p><b>Canadian Ecology Centre High School Credits</b></p> <p>The NNDSB 30+ year-old partnership with the Canadian Ecology Centre (CEC) continued, with over 100 students from right across the province immersing themselves in nature at the CEC taking high school credit courses. The students also ventured on many field trips that related to their studies during their courses.</p> <p><b>High School E-Learning</b></p> <p>Students from across Ontario took NNDSB e-learning high school credit courses this summer, with offerings in many curriculum areas like English, Math, and Civics/Careers in both French Immersion and English. Students registered through the Ontario E-Learning Consortium PRISM system. This provides the NNDSB to run courses that can not only accommodate our students but help accommodate students from other school boards who may not have the ability or availability to earn credits with their home school boards.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	That the Near North District School Board receive the 2021-22 Summer Learning Report.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>COVID-19 Management Update</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022
<b>Mandate:</b>	COVID-19 Management in schools.
<b>Background:</b>	<p>Near North District School Board will be following the Ministry's guidance without any additional local measures in place to start the school year for 2022-2023.</p> <p>Please note the following: Updated Case and Contact management Guidance is now available here:  <a href="https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronaviruses/2019_guidance.aspx#contact">https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronaviruses/2019_guidance.aspx#contact</a></p> <p><b>Screening</b>  It is recommended that staff, students and visitors continue to self-screen every day before attending school using the updated tool below:  The School and Childcare Screening Tool has been updated here:  <a href="https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/">https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/</a> If families are concerned about symptoms, exposure or testing, the Ontario's Testing and Isolation Information Line is available 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week at 1-888-777-0730. They can also follow the directions available on Ontario.ca/Exposed</p> <p><b>Masks</b>  Masking is not required. Promotion of a respectful environment for those who chose to wear, or not wear a mask is key in all NNDSB buildings. Masks will be available in our schools for students, staff or school visitors who choose to wear them.</p> <p><b>Ventilation</b>  COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) funded projects to address improvements to mechanical air handling and ventilation at schools continue to be tendered and completed. All filters in HVAC units throughout the Board are now MERV-13 filters and will continue to be replaced at an increased frequency. The Board to date has also distributed 955 portable HEPA units in classrooms, offices, and common areas. For more information on the Board's 2022 ventilation report and strategy, please visit: <a href="https://www.nearnorthschools.ca/wp-">https://www.nearnorthschools.ca/wp-</a></p>

<content/uploads/2022/08/4-Ventilation-Report-Sept-2022-Near-North-DSB.xlsx>

**Rapid Antigen Test kits**

Test kits are available in our schools if needed or requested by students, staff or families.

**Extra-Curricular**

Clubs, activities, sports teams, bands and extracurricular activities are permitted. Staffing shortages may occur again this year limiting a school's ability to participate in some activities.

**Field Trips**

Schools are permitted to begin planning field trips.

**Community Use of Schools**

School boards are permitted to resume community use of schools. Boards must ensure that they are complying with the applicable provincial requirements under the [Reopening Ontario Act](#).

**Community Support**

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit is still available to help. Staff can contact a Healthy Schools team member for covid support at 705-474-1400 (or toll free at 1-800-563-2808), ext. 7698 or email at, [school.nurses@healthunit.ca](mailto:school.nurses@healthunit.ca).


<b>Title:</b>	<b>NNDSB Virtual School Report</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022
<b>Mandate:</b>	<p>MYSP: Excellence in teaching and learning. Provide an equitable and inclusive environment that champions learning opportunities for all. Create and sustain a dynamic culture that provides a relevant and engaging learning environment that inspires excellence in everyone. Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students.</p> <p><a href="#">Policy/Program Memorandum: 164 Requirements for Remote Learning</a> outlines remote learning obligations for school boards.</p>
<b>Background:</b>	<p>In the spring of 2022, the Ministry of Education announced that it would require school boards to offer virtual learning in the 2022/2023 school year. Financial support for this was made available to boards through a <i>Learning Recover Action Plan</i> allocation announced in winter, 2022.</p> <p>On March 8, 2022, an initial interest survey went out to the current Virtual School families to gauge interest in the Virtual School option for the 2022-2023 school year. Then on April 1, 2022, communication was sent out to all NNDSB families with reminders about registration deadlines throughout the first half of April. All NNDSB families were made aware of the requirement to register for Virtual Learning if they intended to do so by April 18, 2022. As discussed previously, it was important to establish a firm registration date to develop a staffing allocation and budget for the virtual school. In addition, the movement of students between home and virtual school has the potential to cause system-wide reorganization of classrooms.</p> <p>While registration for the virtual program remains closed, we continue to get requests for enrollment in virtual learning. Most of these requests are based on exceptional circumstances. To accommodate additional requests where possible, a home school/virtual school transfer request process was put into place to ensure that requests to enter the virtual school were carefully reviewed by the student's home school.</p> <p>Student Success or in-school teams in each school review requests and recommendations considering the following criteria:</p>

- New student from out of district
- Medical need
- Human rights accommodation
- Other exceptional circumstances

As of Friday, Sept 2, 2022, we currently have 63 elementary students and 51 secondary students registered at the NNDSB's Virtual School.

NNDSB's Virtual School started online classes on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Educators attended PD sessions with their home school colleagues prior to the start of the year and connected with their virtual colleagues during the two professional development days. They learned about the board's plans for the year and discussed best practices and platforms for online education during their virtual meetings. Teachers reached out to families prior to September 6<sup>th</sup> to make an initial connection with families.

Teachers are ready to welcome the virtual students and engage in teaching and learning through online applications and platforms with their virtual students and families. Virtual families will be supported by experienced virtual teachers and the NNDSB technology team throughout the year. Some virtual families had requested technology to access their online learning, and so devices have been deployed across the district to be picked up by families. Currently, Virtual School students are utilizing 38 NNDSB learning devices and 11 units to provide internet access.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Safe Schools in the Near North District School Board</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Gay Smylie, Superintendent of Education
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022
<b>Background:</b>	In the wake of the violent and tragic events that occurred at USA schools this past spring, Vice-Chair Cochrane requested that a report be prepared to provide NNDSB stakeholders with information regarding how NNDSB prioritizes safety in our schools. The Director supported a thorough report being prepared to come forward at the September Board meeting.
<b>Safe Schools Framework:</b>	 <p>The graphic displays the <b>SAFE SCHOOLS FRAMEWORK</b> with the subtitle <i>Creating Safer Learning Spaces for all Students</i>. It is organized into three columns: <b>Citizenship and Community</b>, <b>Conflict Resolution</b>, and <b>Bullying Awareness</b>. Under <b>Citizenship and Community</b> are: Character Education, Student Leadership, Code of Conduct, Student Conduct on the School Bus, and Equity and Inclusivity. Under <b>Conflict Resolution</b> are: Healthy Relationships, Social Emotional Learning Skills, Sportsmanship, and Whole-school strategies for solving conflicts. Under <b>Bullying Awareness</b> are: Bullying Prevention/ Intervention Plans, Cyber-Safety, Speak Up, Help Out Campaign, and Safer Schools! Reporting Tool.</p> <p>Creating safe, welcoming and accepting learning environments in which all NNDSB students can thrive is of utmost importance. To support a consistent approach of safe and accepting practices across the district, the Safe Schools Team implemented the Safe Schools Framework in September 2020. Throughout each school year, all schools participate in activities that focus on creating safer schools through Citizenship and Community; Conflict Resolution; and Bullying Awareness. Each of these three domains contain additional subtopics that support and reinforce the main idea. Character education, for example, is a key component of creating future citizens, while understanding Cyber Safety will help prevent incidents of bullying by keeping students safe online. These three domains work together to create Safe and Accepting Schools, which is part of our Well-being Strategy.</p>

**Safe Schools Partnerships:**

**The Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P)** is a national organization that operates Canada’s Cybertip, a tipline providing valuable insight into the most recent online trends impacting our youth. C3P awarded NNDSB a grant in 2021 which allowed all teachers access to the *Kids in the Know* program, which includes both online and print materials that are tailored to suit the developmental readiness of students from Kindergarten to Secondary school. There are multiple lessons per grade, which are available in English, French and some Indigenous languages and are directly related to learning objectives found in the Ontario Health and Physical Education curriculum. C3P also provides annual presentations to NNDSB parents regarding online risks and how best to approach difficult topics about online content with children and teens. NNDSB is extremely grateful for this partnership and for the support provided by C3P in the development and training of our staff related to *PPM 166 Keeping Students Safe: Policy Framework for School Board Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocols*.

**The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)** supports NNDSB students and staff in various capacities. Through the Ontario North East Region Police Protocol, officers support school teams through presentations, one-to-one conversations with students and parents, and respond to any safe schools incidents. Our OPP partners also take on an active role in the NNDSB Safe Cycling initiative by transporting our fleet of bicycles, thereby giving them an opportunity to meet youth through a positive and engaging activity.

**City of North Bay Police Service (NBPS)** also support NNDSB through the Ontario North East Region Police Protocol by assigning all North Bay area schools to a liaison officer who supports educational initiatives, bullying awareness campaigns and responds to safe schools incidents that occur either at school or in circumstances that involve NNDSB students off school property, whenever possible, to provide a consistent and supportive approach.

**The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU)** has been a supportive partner to the NNDSB Safe Schools Team, aiding with public health campaigns related to cannabis use among youth, the danger of vaping and promoting active forms of school transportation. NBPSDHU also supports our school communities in conducting site assessments to consider how the physical environment can be designed to mitigate risks to students and ensure appropriate community use. They have also supported several injury prevention initiatives, such as the safe handling and collection of sharps.

	<p><b>Amelia Rising North Bay/Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services</b> work in tandem to provide students and parents across our district with access to victim services. They have also provided resources for teacher use and presented to our secondary students about healthy relationships, what constitutes consent, abuse and how to seek help.</p>
<p><b>Safe Schools initiatives undertaken in the last 24 months:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Supports and Resources for school-based staff:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bullying Awareness and Prevention SharePoint:</u> To further support the Safe Schools Framework, NNDSB created content for the provincially recognized Bullying Awareness and Prevention week, held annually during the third week of November. This content spotlights various components of the Framework and incorporates lessons, resources and activities that challenge students to think about how their actions could help cultivate safety and inclusivity in their classroom, school and neighbourhood communities. The SharePoint is accessible to staff all year and is tailored to provide specific, developmentally appropriate safety information for all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12.</li> <li>• <u>Violence Prevention and De-Escalation Training:</u> In collaboration with our Federation partners and as stipulated in the ETFO and OSSTF collective agreements, the Safe Schools team hosts a half day of training each school year. The theme is on violence prevention and includes topics such as creating a safe, inclusive environment, how to support the de-escalation of students in crisis, using information provided in Behaviour Management Plans, examining our legislative duty to report and respond, and how to complete important tracking forms such as the Safe Schools Incident Reporting Form and Injury/Incident Forms.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Supports and Resources for Principals/Vice-Principals:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Safe Schools Newsletter and SharePoint:</u> Each month the Safe Schools team provides school leaders with a newsletter focused expressly on issues related to establishing, maintaining and bettering safe school environments. We have also established an online platform through SharePoint that provides Principals with supportive material including template letters, Ministry documents, Frequently Asked Questions related to Suspensions, exemplary Student Safety Plans, and much more.</li> </ul>

- Violence Risk Assessments: These assessments support administrators and school teams with determining areas of strength and areas for growth related to the physical environment, activities of the assigned staff, and circumstances related to staff work. Designed by the Public Health and Safety Association, the Education Sector Toolkit is designed to reduce the potential for violent incidents on school sites. Areas of assessment include preparedness to enact emergency protocols such as locks downs, appropriate visitor sign-in/sign-out procedures, working communication devices such as PA systems, ensuring staff have the required PPE and training to work safely, and appropriate lighting in all areas. Schools complete an assessment each school year and work with the Safe Schools Team to rectify any identified areas of need.
- Restorative Practices: In considering the depth to which an administrator could use restorative practices in their daily interactions with students, teachers and parents, as well as its powerful ability to mitigate risks through preventative conversations, the Safe Schools Team believes that growing administrator capacity in this area is a worthwhile investment. In addition, the use of restorative practice has been shown to decrease suspension rates and augment open communication and repair relationships following a misbehaviour or high risk incident. For these reasons, the Safe Schools Team provided all interested Vice-Principals and Principals with two, 4-hour sessions in early July. These sessions were attended by 28 NNDSB administrators and provided us with a strong foundational understanding of what restorative practice in education is and how it must be embraced as a lens for which all interactions are considered, as opposed to a singular conflict resolution strategy. Participants learned how to engage in effective circle sessions with students, staff or other school community members. A restorative lens strengthens all aspects of the Safe Schools Framework, particularly as we look to grow our understanding and application of equity and inclusivity, character education, healthy relationships and whole-school strategies for dealing with conflict.

**Supports and Resources for Students, Parents, and Community Members**

- SAFER SCHOOLS! Reporting Form: As an additional step to ensuring safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments, NNDSB

created and launched the SAFER SCHOOLS! Reporting tool in November 2020. This Tool is just one way for students, parents or community members to reach out regarding a concern for student safety, particularly as it relates to bullying or discrimination. NNDSB encourages anyone with a concern to reach out to their school principal, vice-principal or any other school staff member. However, if they are uncomfortable doing so, this tool provides them with another manner to communicate the issue. Furthermore, the tool allows for anonymous reporting for individuals who are not comfortable providing contact information. The information provided in the reporting tool is received by the school principal so that it can be further investigated.

- Safe Arrivals: Beginning in 2020, the Safe Schools team and IT department have been working together to determine how best to meet the requirements of PPM 123: Safe Arrivals, which requires that each school board in Ontario develops and implements a system to be performed daily to ensure that parents and schools can account for a student's attendance and that they have a mechanism in place should a student fail to arrive at school. Given the immediacy required around determining a student's whereabouts, the team determined that an automated callout system would be the safest and timeliest option. Building upon a platform that is already familiar to school staff (School Messenger), the IT department enlisted an additional module for the purpose of these callouts. Thanks to pilot school Land of Lakes, we were able to test the callout system and tweak it as needed. In 2021 we expanded the project and provided training to elementary staff on using the Safe Arrivals module. Soon we will be rolling out the associated Administrative Guideline, which puts hard timelines in place to promote accountability and accuracy: teachers must conduct attendance within 15 minutes of the entry bell and designated staff (typically secretaries) must engage in callouts within 30 minutes of the entry bell. These timelines will ensure that should a student be missing we will become aware of it as quickly as possible.
- Anti-Sex Trafficking Administrative Guideline: Following the publication of PPM 166 "Keeping Students Safe: Policy Framework for School Board Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocols" NNDSB worked with national, provincial and local stakeholders to create a process and procedure by which staff understood how to educate students about healthy relationships, how to identify signs

	<p>of potential trafficking or assault, and how to support victims of human and/or sexual trafficking. In consultation with NNDSB's Mental Health Team, we created a procedure that ensures expedited and tailored supports for any victims, potential victims, or impacted school workers.</p> <p><b><u>Emergency Preparedness:</u></b> In 2021-2022, the Safe Schools Team worked with our Facilities and Operations Department to conduct a review and update of our Emergency Preparedness Administrative Guideline. This Guideline provides procedures for any potential emergency and was created in alignment with the North East Region Police Protocol. Accountability measures, such as the frequency in which schools must conduct emergency preparedness drills including fire drills and lockdown drills, are also included. All schools submit a complete and updated Emergency Preparedness document annually to their local Fire Departments.</p>
<p><b>Initiatives for the 2022-2023 school year:</b></p>	<p>In the 2022-2023 school year the Safe Schools team will continue to rely on both qualitative data (brought forward via conversations/observations with students, principals and supervisory officers) and quantitative measures, as gathered using the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Climate Survey results (Grades 4-6, Grades 7-12, Staff and Parents)</li> <li>• Resiliency/School Mental Health surveys (pre and post)</li> <li>• Suspension rates and infractions (ONSIS and Internal tracking)</li> <li>• Safe Schools Reporting Forms data (SSIR)</li> <li>• SAFER SCHOOLS! Reporting tool</li> <li>• Analytics related to use of system resources including Bullying Prevention/Intervention SharePoint, Principal Supports for Safe Schools SharePoint, Anti-Sex Trafficking/Sexual Abuse Prevention Training SharePoint</li> <li>• Data collected from Restorative Practices Principal Network</li> <li>• Analytics from Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P) on local context (user login, resources used, etc.) and national context (CyberTip, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Using these monitoring tools, the Safe Schools Team has created broad goals that align with the priorities of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan and will be further refined into specific actions with measurable outcomes. The goals for the 2022-2023 school year are as follows:</p>

- Build capacity in all staff to enact preventative measures and responsive actions that ensure safe learning environments for all students.
- Collect and interpret data, collaboratively set goals, and monitor their progress to determine areas of strength and need in each school related to the Safe Schools Framework.
- Conduct research and pilot projects to determine areas of future investment, particularly as they relate to board-wide initiatives.
- Build and sustain partnerships that support welcoming school environments and encourage student inclusivity and well-being.
- Foster greater parent communication, participation and involvement in both school and board initiatives related to all aspects of the Safe Schools Framework.
- Build capacity in all staff to execute their legislative responsibilities as outlined in the Policy Program Memorandums related to Safe and Accepting Schools.

Some of the more specific actions that will be put into practice to achieve the above goals include:

- Build opportunities for parents and other community partners to engage in various aspects of Safe Schools. Areas of focus include reporting incidents, attending presentations, safe arrival calls, soliciting ideas from parent councils.
- Create staff resources and presentations to support de-escalation of violence, promotion of anti-bullying and anti-discrimination behaviour among students, and staff legislative responsibilities.
- Create principal resources and presentations to support building resilient staff and students, creating safe learning environments, and enacting processes that support our collective legislative duties.
- Support Principals and Safe Schools Teams in the interpretation and use of School Climate Survey data to identify areas of strength and need, set SIP goals generated collaboratively with staff and related to our BIPSAWB.
- Create and update Administrative Guidelines related to emerging trends in Safe Schools.
- Build capacity and resiliency among staff and students in using the strategies outlined in the Resiliency SharePoint with a focus on the School Mental Health Ontario Tier One interventions.
- Identify appropriate partners based on areas of need and create pilot projects that address system needs, measure impact, and determine the possibility of larger-scale implementation. Areas of

	<p>focus include restorative practices, vaping, and whole-school conflict resolution strategies.</p> <p><b><u>Specific School-Based Projects for the 2022-2023 school year:</u></b></p> <p><u>WITS</u>: The WITS program is a researched, evidence-based approach to supporting elementary students to work through conflict. Together, students and staff will learn how to Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out, and Seek Help. These skills have been shown to reduce bullying and peer victimization. The program uses children’s books, lesson plans, assemblies, and other resources to effectively teach students how to reduce discrimination and bullying in their schools and in their lives. We have 8 schools participating in the 2022-2023 school year and will use results from these pilot schools to make determinations about future use in other elementary schools across the district.</p> <p><u>Vape Detectors</u>: From 2019-2021, the Safe Schools team received funding through a Ministry initiative to combat and reduce e-cigarette use among youth. A working group was formed and, as a result, various initiatives have been implemented to support harm reduction and cessation. This year the team is installing vape detectors at one secondary school to measure the level of impact it has on student behaviour, particularly vaping in school washrooms and change rooms. The Safe Schools Team believes that this project will support safer school washrooms and help principals identify which students could use individual addiction counselling to reduce or quit their e-cigarette use. Educational resources have also been created and are directly linked to the Ontario curriculum. Toolkits to support staff and parent knowledge have also been curated with support from our NBPSDHU partners.</p> <p><u>Restorative Practices Learning Circles</u>: Following the two restorative practices learning sessions, principals and vice-principals who are interested in taking their practice further will be invited to attend monthly restorative circles co-facilitated by Circle Forum. Participants will be provided with 2 books that will be further explored throughout these monthly sessions. The purpose of this community will be to engage in deep reflection regarding our collective practices and consider how school issues (and our response to them) shifts with the adoption and refinement of a restorative lens.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion:</b></p>	<p>NNDSB has been and will continue to prioritize student safety. Our students, staff, parents, and stakeholders are well supported through the Safe Schools Framework and in collaboration with our community</p>

	<p>partners. By creating safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning spaces, we will be able to provide all students with a safe and nurturing school experience that will further promote Excellence in Teaching and Learning.</p>
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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Director's Update</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	Craig Myles, Director of Education
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	Board Meeting September 13, 2022
<b>Welcome</b>	<p>I welcome all students, staff and school communities back to school! We are energized and excited about the 2022-2023 school year.</p> <p>We have worked very hard to ensure our schools, facilities and board offices are safe for everyone as we resume teaching and learning. With the resumption of predominantly full-time, in-person environments for schools and workplaces, I am confident in the protocols established to ensure our collective health and safety. We will continue to take a careful, cautious approach to the operations of the organization based upon the guidance of the Ministries of Education, and Health and adjust accordingly throughout the course of the school year when it is needed.</p> <p>I would like to thank the members of Executive Council who sacrificed some of their summer vacation to meet our timelines and commitments to ensure staff, students and families experienced a seamless and safe return. We have seen staff at all levels step to the plate and showcase tremendous leadership in the execution of rigorous processes and protocols to ensure the “normal operation” of the organization. Their diligence, motivation and dedication are truly inspirational.</p> <p>We are enthusiastic about our momentum as we strive toward our four key strategic priorities within our Multi-Year Strategy Plan (MYSP)– Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Excellence in Innovation, Excellence in Communication and Excellence in Relationships. The board will act on its priorities and manage our resources prudently while committing to measuring our progress over time. Stakeholders can view the <a href="#">2021-2026 Multi-Year Strategic Plan</a> on the board's website.</p>
<b>Program Updates</b>	<p><u>Student Trustees Welcome</u></p> <p>On behalf of the staff and administration, the Director's Office would like to recognize Cecilia Darling who will be entering her second term as the Student Trustee for the 2022-2023 year. We look forward to supporting Cecilia in her work amplifying the student voice within the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The Director's Office also proud to welcome Allen Lewis-Trodd into a second term as the 2022-2023 Indigenous Student Trustee. The board is looking forward to all that will be accomplished within our Indigenous Youth Circle under Student Trustee Todd's influence.</p>

Resumption of Accolades and Communication Pathways

After a summer hiatus, the Near North Matters monthly newsletter has resumed. In partnership with the Chair of the Board, the Director’s Office will continue to issue the newsletter to all staff as one of the mechanisms to share board-wide priorities and project updates.

September also marks the resumption of the Director’s “kudos” accolade to recognize exceptional staff members for extra efforts that go above and beyond. Again this year, recognition will be focused on tasks that spotlight exceptional efforts that encapsulate the strategic priorities identified in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Leadership Framework Introduction

The leadership framework succession planning, and retention strategies have been developed with a goal to build leadership capacity across the board. In the past, first time administrators had to rely heavily upon their principals or managers as mentors. Through the development of this training, first time leaders will have a foundation where they have engaged in comprehensive learning and will have access to a blended platform of leadership collaboration. The plan is structured to scaffold learning through independent learning modules, with continuous uptake, and delivered at a leader’s individual pace. This learning will be enhanced by face-to-face opportunities with experienced Near North leaders who can ground the learning in the realities of leadership roles. This framework was introduced to administrators at the Principal/Vice-Principal/Manager Conference in August and feedback has been very positive thus far.

Muti-Year Strategic Plan- Progress Data of Note:

In May 2022, as part of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan Committee’s work to develop the data report, the value of monthly data of note was recognized as a meaningful addition to the Director’s remarks to the Board to further demonstrate the positive direction NNDSB is moving in across the four priority areas: Excellence in Communication; Excellence in Relationships; Excellence in Teaching and Learning; and Excellence in Innovation.

In alignment with this direction, we are pleased to highlight work this month under the commitment to Excellence in Innovation and Excellence in Relationships

*Excellence in Innovation: OYAP program success*

NNDSB received feedback from the 2021-22 OYAP Monitoring Report from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development, which has noted the following:

- NNDSB exceeded the planned participation targets by 16% despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The data shows that NNDSB’s overall footprint of grade 11 and 12 students participating in OYAP is 7.0% where the provincial average is 4.3%.</li> <li>• Anecdotal evidence notes that skilled trades have been promoted as a viable career choice for youth, which has been well received by NNDSB students and parents/guardians.</li> </ul> <p><i>Excellence in Relationships: PSW employment retention</i> The first graduates of the personal support worker (PSW) program are already filling labour gaps in local health care. Highlights are noted as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 students graduated from the program in August 2022 and 100% have been offered employment in the field.</li> <li>• Qualitative data has been provided by the Administrator of Belvedere Heights long-term care home in Parry Sound that speaks highly to the living classroom model’s ability to learn in class then practice on the floor, which enriches the learning opportunities for students and enhances the relationships between students and staff, and students and residents.</li> <li>• Belvedere Heights staff have advised the quality of the graduates’ work is excellent, quoting “They are confident and competent. The students’ work has been a great addition to the team. A consistent team makes for improved resident outcomes and better quality of life. This is a critical program.”</li> </ul> <p><u>Wasauksing First Nation- Healing Circle Attendance:</u> The Director was honoured to be invited to the Healing Circle hosted by Wasauksing First Nation to support nurturing relationships after the damage to the Shaptotaun at Parry Sound High School that occurred in May 2022. The Director was joined by Board Chair Aspin, Vice-Chair Cochrane, First Nations Trustee King, and Superintendent Gray for this meaningful event on August 29, 2022. Additional staff representatives were in attendance as well. NNDSB looks forward to the next steps in the students’ healing process and continuing to build relationships with First Nations rightsholders.</p>
<p><b>Administrative Guidelines for consultation</b></p>	<p>Draft Administrative Guidelines (AG) are placed on the website for the public consultation phase. Feedback will be collected for 30 days.</p> <p>Currently, there are no AGs posted for consultation, but it is noted that the invitations are located here when added: <a href="https://www.nearnorthschools.ca/board/administrative-guidelines/">https://www.nearnorthschools.ca/board/administrative-guidelines/</a></p>

<p><b>Event updates</b></p>	<p><u>Special Recognition Days</u> This Month NNDSB is pleased to acknowledge special recognition days for their educational value, and connection to the Board’s mission, vision, and strategic plan. The following are a few examples noted this month, in addition to those shared as part of other board communications. Meaningful ways individual schools recognized each day are featured on school websites.</p> <p><i>Franco-Ontarian Day</i> NNDSB wishes the Franco-Ontarian community a happy Franco-Ontarian Day on September 25<sup>th</sup>. This day is recognized to celebrate the Francophone community in Ontario in all its diversity (heritage, language, culture) and to recognize the long history of Francophones in Ontario.</p> <p><i>September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation</i> This September 30 Canadians will be observing the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day has been created to give everyone an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools, which more than 150,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit children were forced to attend between the 1870s and 1997.</p>
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July 5, 2022

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**Head Office**

P.O. Box 3110  
963 Airport Road  
North Bay, ON  
P1B 8H1  
Fax: 705.472.9927

The Honourable Graydon Smith, M.P.P.  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Parry Sound Constituency Office  
26 James Street  
Parry Sound, ON  
P2A 1T5

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Main switchboard

for all offices:

705.472.8170

Toll free:

1.800.278.4922

Web site:

[www.nearnorthschools.ca](http://www.nearnorthschools.ca)

Dear Minister Smith:

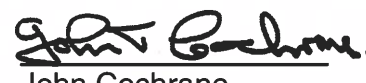
On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board, we wish to personally congratulate you on your election as our Member of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound- Muskoka. Our riding is fortunate to be well served by your passion and dedication to public service, demonstrated over the many years invested in municipal government and your extensive work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. We wish to also recognize your appointment as Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. The level of expertise you will bring to these roles is truly admirable.

We are thankful that our students and their families will be well served by an engaged provincial government. We look forward to establishing a positive and constructive relationship with you and your team to align the board's vision for students with the needs of our community. We are pleased to extend an open invitation for our schools to serve as a resource for you and provide the opportunity to showcase the incredible work of students in the Near North District School Board.

Once again Minister Smith, please accept our most sincere congratulations.

Yours sincerely,

  
Jay Aspin,  
Board Chair

  
John Cochrane,  
Board Vice-Chair

CC: Craig Myles, Director of Education  
NNDSB Board of Trustees



July 5, 2022

**Head Office**

P.O. Box 3110  
963 Airport Road  
North Bay, ON  
P1B 8H1  
Fax: 705.472.9927

The Honourable Vic Fedeli, M.P.P  
Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade  
North Bay Constituency Office  
219 Main St. East  
North Bay, ON  
P1B 1B2

Main switchboard

for all offices:

705.472.8170

Toll free:

1.800.278.4922

Web site:

[www.nearnorthschools.ca](http://www.nearnorthschools.ca)

Dear Minister Fedeli:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board, I write to extend our congratulations on your re-election as the Member of Provincial Parliament representing Nipissing. Our riding is fortunate to be well served by your passion and dedication to public service. I wish to also recognize your re-appointment as Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and Chair of Cabinet. The level of expertise you bring to these roles is truly admirable.

I note that your expanded mandate includes the promotion of small business, together with the intention to grow our economy and build infrastructure. I hope that our schools can continue to be a resource for you, and we welcome the opportunity to host you again to showcase more of the incredible work of students in the Near North District School Board.

Once again Minister Fedeli, please accept our most sincere congratulations on your re-appointment. I look forward to continuing to build upon our positive relationship with you and your team.

Yours sincerely,

Jay Aspin,  
Board Chair

CC: Craig Myles, Director of Education  
NNDSB Board of Trustees

**Ministry of Economic Development,  
Job Creation and Trade**

Office of the Minister

18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1S5  
Tel.: 416-326-8475

**Ministère du Développement économique,  
de la Création d'emplois et du Commerce**

Bureau du ministre

18<sup>e</sup> étage  
777, rue Bay  
Toronto, ON M7A 1S5  
Tél.: 416-326-8475



July 13, 2022

Mr. Jay Aspin  
Board Chair  
Near North District School Board  
[Jay.Aspin@nearnorthschools.ca](mailto:Jay.Aspin@nearnorthschools.ca)

Dear Mr. Aspin:

Thank you for your recent letter. We appreciate hearing from you and the important work of the Near North District School Board.

The next few months will be busy! Led by Premier Doug Ford, our government will continue to build on our momentum and create the right conditions for businesses to innovate, grow and attract game-changing investments that will create more jobs and build a better future for the people of Ontario.

We look forward to setting up a time in the coming months to further discuss how our ministry can work with you on these initiatives.

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office if there is anything we can assist with.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Victor Fedeli'.

Victor Fedeli  
Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade



July 5, 2022

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**Head Office**

P.O. Box 3110  
963 Airport Road  
North Bay, ON  
P1B 8H1  
Fax: 705.472.9927

---

The Honorable Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education  
Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Main switchboard

for all offices:

705.472.8170

Toll free:

1.800.278.4922

Web site:

[www.nearnorthschools.ca](http://www.nearnorthschools.ca)

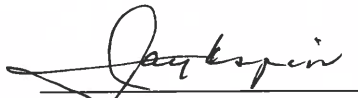
Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board, I write to extend our congratulations on your re-election as the Member of Provincial Parliament representing King-Vaughan. Our province is fortunate to be well served by your passion and dedication to public service. I wish to also recognize your re-appointment as Minister of Education. Your background and the level of expertise you bring to this role are truly admirable.

Without a doubt, we continue to be challenged as we recover from a truly unpredictable pandemic. With your guidance and steady hand in a challenging leadership role, we are optimistic that we can meet and exceed our aspirations for the students in Ontario.

Once again Minister Lecce, please accept our most sincere congratulations on your re-appointment. I look forward to continuing to build upon our positive relationship with you and your team.

Yours sincerely,



Jay Aspin,  
Board Chair

CC: Craig Myles, Director of Education  
NNDSB Board of Trustees

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

315 Front Street West  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

315, rue Front Ouest  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8



July 25, 2022

Jay Aspin

[Jay.Aspin@nearnorthschools.ca](mailto:Jay.Aspin@nearnorthschools.ca)

Dear Jay Aspin,

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for reaching out to me with your message of congratulations regarding my appointment for a second term as Ontario's Minister of Education. Your kind words are warmly appreciated.

Serving as the Minister responsible for the education of Ontario's young people is a great honour, and an incredible responsibility.

Our government has taken on meaningful reforms to greatly improve the quality of public education, with a focus on student success, above all else. During my first term as Minister, our government:

- Overhauled the new math curriculum to be focused on foundational math skills, financial literacy, budgeting and coding in every grade to bring this learning back to real-life applications and skills;
- Ended streaming in Grade Nine math with a new de-streamed course that replaces the previous academic and applied courses that disproportionately impacted racialized children;
- Issuing new elementary science and technology curriculum and a de-streamed Grade 9 science course with new learning on STEM, engineering design, the skilled trades and emerging technologies for the 2022-23 school year;
- Made unprecedented investments to support student mental health, including a 420% increase in supports from 2017-18 under the previous government;
- Negotiated a \$13.2 billion child care agreement with the federal government that will lower fees for families and deliver an average of \$10-a-day child care by September, 2025;

.../2

- Introduced Canada's first policy to mandate anti-sex trafficking protocols as well as the development of an anti-bullying plan for every school. This builds on Ontario becoming the first province to mandate sexual abuse prevention training for all educators in schools and child care, along with lifetime ban of any educator found guilty of a serious criminal code offence like sexual abuse or violence. The government went further by now posting the names of educators involved in serious criminal proceedings, with the aim of enhancing transparency for parents and protecting kids;
- Revoked Ontario Regulation 274, which means that school boards can now develop local teacher hiring policies based on factors such as merit and diversity rather than years of service.

In the years ahead, I will continue to advance our government's agenda of investing \$14 billion over a decade to build new schools, improve existing facilities and create safe and affordable child care spaces for hard-working families, and updating the curriculum to equip students with life and job skills and better prepare them for the workforce of tomorrow. We remain squarely focused on ensuring student success, and looking to get kids back to class, on time in September, with the full experience they deserve to succeed.

Going forward, it's critically important that we work together to maintain this positive momentum, and I hope that you will stay in touch. As Minister of Education, I greatly value the advice of key stakeholders, and I want to hear what you have to say, although I must add that I will always put the needs of parents and children first. That is my promise to you, and to families across Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Lecce', written in a cursive style.

The Hon. Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education



Leading Education's Advocates

**Ontario Public School Boards' Association**  
439 University Avenue, 18th Floor  
Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8  
Tel: (416) 340-2540  
Fax: (416) 340-7571  
[webmaster@opsba.org](mailto:webmaster@opsba.org)  
[www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org)

Cathy Abraham  
President

W.R. (Rusty) Hick  
Executive Director

June 30, 2022

TO: Jay Aspin, Board Chair and Craig Myles, Director of Education  
CC: Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business

### NEAR NORTH DSB

Perseverance. Resilience. Dedication. Three words that are truly fitting for all of us in education during Ontario's third school year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which hit Ontario with three successive waves starting in September 2021. There were many challenges over the year as Ontario school boards took on new COVID-19 monitoring, reporting, testing, and masking mandates. Our member boards each adapted to the change in different ways that worked for their local circumstances, and we thank our trustees, senior administration, principals and vice-principals, teachers, education workers, and school communities for their commitment to keeping our schools as safe as possible in the Delta and Omicron eras.

Across the province, OPSBA and our member boards continued working primarily remotely until the spring, holding virtual board and staff meetings via platforms like Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams. In June, we had our much-awaited opportunity to come together in Ottawa for our first in-person event since January 2020 – the [2022 Annual General Meeting and Program](#).

Our association continued to advocate effectively on behalf of the best interests and needs of the public education system in Ontario, amidst a heavy workload with many virtual meetings, constant email communications and new initiatives for both OPSBA and member boards. As we head into the 2022-23 school year, we will continue our strong advocacy with the newly re-elected government, the opposition parties and critics, key stakeholders and the wider public. In everything we do, our priority is ensuring Ontario's public education system remains strong, while constantly adapting and improving – no matter what circumstances we face. We remain committed to the vital importance of in-person learning and will be supporting our members for a normal start of school and the return of many regular programs and activities.

Governance was a central theme this year as we made strong progress in Phase Two of Project Compass, which began its work in January 2021. This initiative is a comprehensive review of OPSBA's governance framework and foundational policies, including the Association's Mission, Vision and Values, the strategic planning process, governance structures and policies and procedures. The changes initiated through this process have been improved following our AGM, and the implementation is well-underway. Twenty-eight committee members participated in more than 44 meetings between January 2021 and February 2022, and they were joined by 80 trustees who contributed to our consultations.

During these incredibly challenging times, we nevertheless saw a continued drive to move forward in creating a more equitable, diverse and inclusive public education system for all students, staff and broader communities. At OPSBA, this is reflected in the actions we've taken as an Association following an internal Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) audit of our own structures and practices. We now have a dedicated EDI staff person who is leading us in this work of further infusing these important principles in everything we do. More information, including the full EDI audit report, can be found on [our website](#).

It has also been a busy year for elections at all levels of government. Last fall, OPSBA created public education advocacy resources to support the [Federal Election](#). In the lead up to the recently held provincial election, OPSBA engaged with all major political parties during the platform development processes, ensuring that each party was aware of our priorities. Once the party platforms were released, OPSBA publicized [our analysis](#) of how each platform aligned with our priorities. In addition, we provided our members with a variety of materials to help them raise the profile and awareness of public education in their communities across the province.

The October 2022 [Municipal and School Board Elections](#) are approaching quickly, and our work to prepare includes an updated elections website, our [Making a Difference](#) guide for running for school trustee, the 2022-2026 *Guide to Good Governance*, and a multimedia campaign to increase voter turnout and awareness of the importance of School Board Elections. The *Guide* will be ready for the new term of office that starts in November. We thank all those trustees who served this past term and look forward to working with new and returning trustees throughout the 2022-2026 term.

Looking ahead to 2022-23, we're hopeful that our schools and communities will continue to transition out of the long storm of the pandemic. This crisis has given us a rare once-in-a-lifetime chance to reset how we go about education, a critical moment that needs everyone's voice – students, educators, parents, trustees, everyone in our school communities. We're excited to see what the future holds for Ontario's public education system, already one of the very best in the world.

With collective agreements expiring at the end of August, OPSBA has already begun its work as the Designated Bargaining Agent on behalf of its member boards. We are fortunate to have an experienced [Labour Relations](#) team with outstanding expertise and credibility working to ensure student achievement and well-being are at the forefront of all discussions and decisions.

We have a 34-year non-partisan history of building positive and mutually respectful working relationships with politicians and staff from all parties represented in the Ontario Legislature. These relationships allow us to successfully represent the voice of our members on the many issues that affect our students and communities.

While much of the advocacy work can be seen in our public submissions and meetings with key stakeholders, there is a great amount of day-to-day work that is done behind the scenes. OPSBA staff have direct and constant access to both the bureaucracy and political staff in the government, as well as in the opposition parties. These relationships allow us to proactively take action on our common priorities and quickly address any unexpected challenges that may arise on behalf of our members.

OPSBA continues to be represented on key government working tables and our work has resulted in a number of successful outcomes. For more information, please see our [2021-22 Annual Report](#) and our [advocacy work](#) related to the provincial government's legislative and regulatory agenda.

**Our programs and services are highly cost effective.** The financial benefits of membership far exceed not only the membership fee itself, but the outcomes that could be achieved by boards acting individually. Our collective voice is a strong one. Working with our partners at [the OESC](#), our interventions on copyright tariffs, natural gas rates and electricity rates have continued to create significant savings for all school boards and cover membership fees many times over. When this is combined with the other benefits created through our coordination and advocacy, the real value of membership is clear.

<b>Examples of 2021-22 savings realized for:</b>	
<b>NEAR NORTH DSB</b>	
<b>Savings in Copyright Fees: \$26,480</b>	<b>Savings in Energy Costs: \$169,700</b>

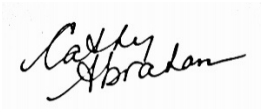
*Please note: For the fifth year in a row, the OPSBA Board of Directors has approved a 0% increase for total membership fees. We have therefore kept the total membership fee (31 school boards and 10 school authorities combined) the same for six consecutive years. There may however be a slight change, up or down, to your individual board membership fee based on the fee model which is composed of a base amount and a percentage of your Board Administration and Governance Grant.*

The 2022-2023 OPSBA membership fee for your board is \$34,157.

OPSBA represents more than 1.3 million students, or nearly 70% of the entire K-12 student population, including all 31 English public school boards, as well as 10 school authorities. Collectively, this makes our organization the number one stakeholder voice for education in Ontario. Your school board is clearly a very big part of who we are and what we do. We advocate for public education every day, and our voice is stronger and more credible because the government knows we have the weight of all of our members behind us.

Thank you for your continued support as a member of OPSBA and for your dedication to public education. You can learn more about the valuable services OPSBA offers your board by visiting [www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org).

Sincerely,



Cathy Abraham  
President



W.R. (Rusty) Hick  
Executive Director

*Attachment: Invoice for the 2022-23 OPSBA membership fee*



**ONTARIO PUBLIC  
SCHOOL BOARDS'  
ASSOCIATION**

**Leading Education's Advocates**

**Ontario Public School Boards' Association**

439 University Avenue, 18th Floor

Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8

Tel: (416) 340-2540

Fax: (416) 340-7571

[webmaster@opsba.org](mailto:webmaster@opsba.org)

[www.opsba.org](http://www.opsba.org)

Invoice to:	Near North District School Board P.O. Box 3110 963 Airport Road North Bay, Ontario P1B 8H1		
Invoice# 025-22/23	Date: September 01, 2022	HST #10780 0344 RT 0001	
QTY	[		AMOUNT
	<p align="center"><b>2022/2023 Membership Fee</b> <b>September 01, 2022 to August 31, 2023</b></p> <p>* Final Billing</p>		\$34,157.00
<p><b>EFT Payment:</b> Beneficiary Name: Ontario Public School Boards' Association Bank Name: TD Canada Trust Bank Address: 180 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON, M5G 1Z8 Bank Number: 004 Bank Transit: 18322 Bank Account: 0601 0302869 Send EFT Advice to: <a href="mailto:vt Trinh@opsba.org">vt Trinh@opsba.org</a></p>			
Please make cheque payable to:		Subtotal	\$34,157.00
<b>Ontario Public School Boards' Association</b>		HST @ 13%	\$4,440.41
Terms of Payment : Due upon receipt		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38,597.41</b>

Copy 1 - Customer

Copy 2 - Accounting

Copy 3 - File

**ONTARIO  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS  
STATEMENT BY TREASURER (OR SECRETARY-TREASURER) RE BORROWING  
FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES**

Re: The Near North District School Board in  
the Province of Ontario (the Board")

I hereby certify that the following statements are true and correct as of this date:

1. The estimates of the Board for the fiscal year  have been adopted.  
 have not been adopted.
2. The estimated current revenues of the Board (exclusive of revenue from education development charges) set forth in the estimates of the Board adopted for the fiscal year 2023 are \$168,318,985.00, as more particularly described set forth in Schedule A hereto.
3. The amount of current revenues of the Board for the current fiscal year collected to date is \$0.00 as more particularly described in Schedule B hereto.
4. The amount of the estimated current revenues (exclusive of revenues from education development charges) of the Board for the current fiscal year not yet collected is \$168,318,985.00 more particularly described in Schedule C hereto.
5. The total of any amounts borrowed by the Board under Section 243 of the *Education Act*, as amended in the current fiscal year is \$0.00 and the total of such amounts that have not been repaid with any accrued interest thereon is \$0.00.

This statement is delivered to **ROYAL BANK OF CANADA** pursuant to Section 4 of the resolution of the Board re borrowing dated 09/13/2022 and is proof that the borrowing from the Bank contemplated by such resolution has been validly authorized pursuant to the provisions of Section 243 of the *Education Act*.

AS WITNESS the seal of the Board this 09/13/2022.

(Board Seal)

Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer)

# BOARD REPORT

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Royal Bank Borrowing Resolutions</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Superintendent of Business Seija Van Haesendonck</b>
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022
<b>Background</b>	<p>In order to meet the Board's temporary financing needs, the Board of Trustees is requested to approve two borrowing resolutions for the forthcoming fiscal year. One resolution provides financing for operational needs and the other resolution provides financing for capital requirements. The borrowing rates and expectations are detailed in the resolution.</p> <p>The operation loan resolution provides financing in the event that the board requires an operating line of credit as its cash flow has been impacted by unforeseen circumstances (the Ministry reduces monthly advances for example). There is no cost to the board except when monies are borrowed.</p> <p>The capital loan resolution provides financing to meet short-term obligations with respect to capital costs. Although the majority of the board's ongoing capital projects are funded by the Ministry, the board must expend the funds first, then request reimbursement at two reporting periods throughout the year, which can significantly delay Ministry reimbursement, sometimes up to 6 or more months following the initial expenditures. This can affect the board's cash flow strategy, resulting in a need for short-term financing.</p>
<b>Recommendations</b>	That the Board of Trustees for the Near North District School Board approve the Borrowing Resolutions for the fiscal year 2022-2023 as presented on September 13, 2022.



**ONTARIO  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS  
INCLUDING SEPARATE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS  
RESOLUTION RE BORROWING FOR CURRENT  
EXPENDITURES AND DEBT CHARGES**

WHEREAS the **Near North District School Board** in the Province of Ontario (herein called "the Board") deems it necessary to borrow the sum of \$ **20,000,000.00** Dollars to meet the current expenditures and debt charges payable in the fiscal year of the Board until the current revenue and cash respectively have been received (as respectively defined in Sub-section (1) of Section 1 of the Education Act);

AND WHEREAS the amount authorized to be borrowed by this resolution in respect of current expenditures and debt charges together with the total of any similar borrowings heretofore made by the Board under Section 243 of the Education Act that have not been repaid and any accrued interest thereon does not exceed the unreceived balance of the estimated current revenues of the Board (exclusive of revenue from education development charges) and the authorized amounts to be borrowed from time to time hereunder shall not exceed the maximum sum referred to above.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

1. For the purposes aforesaid the Board borrow from **ROYAL BANK OF CANADA** (herein called "the Bank") the sum of \$ **20,000,000.00** dollars by way of a loan agreement or promissory note(s) payable not later than **08/31/2023** and bearing interest at the rate of **Royal Bank Prime less 0.75% or Banker's Acceptance plus 0.80%** per annum, as well after as before maturity, default and judgement, with interest on overdue interest at the same rate as the principal;
2. The Treasurer together with the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board be and they are hereby authorized and empowered for and on behalf of the Board to sign such loan agreement or promissory note(s) as may be necessary and to affix thereto the Board's seal;
3. The Treasurer of the Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to apply in payment of all or any sums borrowed as aforesaid, together with interest thereon, all or any of the current revenues of the Board collected or received by the Board and all or any other moneys that may lawfully be applied under the Education Act and the regulations made thereunder for such purpose;
4. The Treasurer of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to furnish to the Bank at the time any amount is borrowed under this resolution in respect of current expenditures a statement showing the amount of the estimated current revenues of the Board (exclusive of revenue from education development charges) for the current year not yet received, or, where the estimates for the current year have not been adopted, a statement showing the estimated revenues of the Board as set forth in the estimates adopted for the previous fiscal year and the amount of the revenues of the current year already received and also showing the total of any amounts borrowed under Section 243 of the Education Act in the current year that have not been repaid; and
5. The Bank shall not be bound to establish the necessity of the borrowings authorized by this resolution or their application for the purposes aforesaid and may rely on a certified copy of this resolution as proof that the borrowings are validly authorized and on any statement furnished by the Treasurer under paragraph 4 of this resolution as proof of the facts stated therein.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution of the above mentioned Board duly passed at a meeting therefore duly convened and held at **North Bay, Ontario** on the **13th** day, **September, 2022**; and that the said resolution is in full force and effect, unamended.

As witness the seal of the Board this **13th** day of **September**,  
**2022**.

(SEAL)

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Head of Board

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Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer)



**ONTARIO  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS  
INCLUDING SEPARATE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS  
RESOLUTION RE BORROWING FOR CURRENT  
EXPENDITURES AND DEBT CHARGES**

WHEREAS the **Near North District School Board** in the Province of Ontario (herein called "the Board") deems it necessary to borrow the sum of \$ **20,000,000.00** Dollars to meet the current expenditures and debt charges payable in the fiscal year of the Board until the current revenue and cash respectively have been received (as respectively defined in Sub-section (1) of Section 1 of the Education Act);

AND WHEREAS the amount authorized to be borrowed by this resolution in respect of current expenditures and debt charges together with the total of any similar borrowings heretofore made by the Board under Section 243 of the Education Act that have not been repaid and any accrued interest thereon does not exceed the unreceived balance of the estimated current revenues of the Board (exclusive of revenue from education development charges) and the authorized amounts to be borrowed from time to time hereunder shall not exceed the maximum sum referred to above.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

1. For the purposes aforesaid the Board borrow from **ROYAL BANK OF CANADA** (herein called "the Bank") the sum of \$ **20,000,000.00** dollars by way of a loan agreement or promissory note(s) payable not later than **08/31/2023** and bearing interest at the rate of **Royal Bank Prime less 0.75% or Banker's Acceptances plus 0.75%** per annum, as well after as before maturity, default and judgement, with interest on overdue interest at the same rate as the principal;
2. The Treasurer together with the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board be and they are hereby authorized and empowered for and on behalf of the Board to sign such loan agreement or promissory note(s) as may be necessary and to affix thereto the Board's seal;
3. The Treasurer of the Board be and is hereby authorized and directed to apply in payment of all or any sums borrowed as aforesaid, together with interest thereon, all or any of the current revenues of the Board collected or received by the Board and all or any other moneys that may lawfully be applied under the Education Act and the regulations made thereunder for such purpose;
4. The Treasurer of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to furnish to the Bank at the time any amount is borrowed under this resolution in respect of current expenditures a statement showing the amount of the estimated current revenues of the Board (exclusive of revenue from education development charges) for the current year not yet received, or, where the estimates for the current year have not been adopted, a statement showing the estimated revenues of the Board as set forth in the estimates adopted for the previous fiscal year and the amount of the revenues of the current year already received and also showing the total of any amounts borrowed under Section 243 of the Education Act in the current year that have not been repaid; and
5. The Bank shall not be bound to establish the necessity of the borrowings authorized by this resolution or their application for the purposes aforesaid and may rely on a certified copy of this resolution as proof that the borrowings are validly authorized and on any statement furnished by the Treasurer under paragraph 4 of this resolution as proof of the facts stated therein.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution of the above mentioned Board duly passed at a meeting therefore duly convened and held at **North Bay, Ontario** on the **13th** day, **September, 2022**; and that the said resolution is in full force and effect, unamended.

As witness the seal of the Board this **13th** day of **September**,  
**2022**.

(SEAL)

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Head of Board

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Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer)

# Governance Manual

**GP-205**

Approved: June 22, 2020

Review:

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES CODE OF CONDUCT

### **1. Rationale**

A Trustee position is an elected position which carries with it the understanding that the electorate will decide at election time its support for the effectiveness of a Trustee. At the same time, it is important to recognize the public trust and responsibility the collective body carries and that this trust and responsibility is honoured through determining and enforcing norms of acceptable behaviour. A code of conduct policy contributes to confidence in public education and respect for the integrity of Trustees in the community. It deals with acceptable and respectful behaviours, while promoting the accountability, openness and transparency of the Near North District School Board. (“NND SB”)

### **2. Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Board to adhere to the Trustee Code of Conduct.

### **3. Application**

This Code of Conduct and the Enforcement Procedures identified within, apply to all Trustees of the Board, including the Chair of the Board.

### **4. Code of Conduct**

#### **4.1 - Integrity and Dignity of Office**

- 4.1.1 Trustees of the Board shall discharge their duties loyally, faithfully, impartially and in a manner that will inspire public confidence in the abilities and integrity of the Board.
- 4.1.2 Trustees of the Board shall recognize that the expenditure of school board funds is a public trust and endeavor to see that the funds are expended efficiently, in the best interests of the students.
- 4.1.3 Trustees, as leaders of the Board, must uphold the dignity of the office and conduct themselves in a professional manner, especially when attending Board events, or while on Board property.

## **Governance Manual**

- 4.1.4 Trustees shall ensure that their comments are issue-based and not personal, demeaning or disparaging with regard to Board staff or fellow Board members.
- 4.1.5 Trustees shall endeavor to participate in trustee development opportunities to enhance their ability to fulfill their obligations.

### **4.2 - Avoidance of personal advantage and conflict of interest**

- 4.2.1 No Trustee shall accept a gift from any person or entity that has dealings with the Board if a reasonable person might conclude that the gift could influence the Trustee when performing his or her duties to the Board. However, this does not, for example, preclude a Trustee from accepting a free ticket or admission to a charitable event or professional development event.
- 4.2.2 A Trustee shall not use his or her office to advance the Trustee's interests or the interests of any family member or person or organization with whom or with which the Trustee is related or associated.
- 4.2.3 No Trustee shall use his or her office to obtain employment with the Board for the Trustee or a family member.

### **4.3 - Compliance with Legislation**

- 4.3.1 A Trustee of the Board shall discharge his or her duties in accordance with the *Education Act* and any regulations, directives or guidelines thereunder and comply with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, and any other relevant legislation.
- 4.3.2 Every Trustee of the Board shall uphold the letter and spirit of this Code of Conduct.
- 4.3.3 Every Trustee shall respect and understand the roles and duties of the individual Trustees, Board of Trustees, the Director of Education and the Chair of the Board.

### **4.4 - Civil Behaviour**

- 4.4.1 No Trustee shall engage in conduct during meetings of the Board or committees of the Board, and at all other times that would discredit or compromise the integrity of the Board.

## **Governance Manual**

- 4.4.2 A Trustee of the Board shall not advance allegations of misconduct and/or a breach of this Code of Conduct that are trivial, frivolous, vexatious, made in bad faith or vindictive in nature against another Trustee of the Board.
- 4.4.3 When expressing individual views, Trustees shall respect the differing points of view of other Trustees on the Board, staff, students and the public.
- 4.4.4 Trustees shall at all times act with decorum and shall be respectful of other Trustees of the Board, staff, students and the public.
- 4.4.5 All Trustees of the Board shall endeavor to work with other Trustees of the Board and staff of the Board in a spirit of respect, openness, courtesy, and co-operation.

### **4.5 - Respect for Confidentiality**

- 4.5.1 Every Trustee shall keep confidential any information disclosed or discussed at a meeting of the Board or committee of the Board, or part of a meeting of the Board or committee of the Board, that was closed to the public, and keep confidential the substance of deliberations of a meeting closed to the public, unless required to divulge such information by law or authorized by the Board to do so.
- 4.5.2 No Trustee shall use confidential information for either personal gain or to the detriment of the Board.
- 4.5.3 Trustees shall not divulge confidential information, including personal information about an identifiable individual or information subject to solicitor-client privilege that a Trustee becomes aware of because of his or her position, except when required by law or authorized by the Board to do so.

### **4.6 - Upholding decisions**

- 4.6.1 All Trustees of the Board shall accept that authority rests with the Board, and that a Trustee has no individual authority other than that delegated by the Board.
- 4.6.2 Each Trustee shall uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board. A proper motion for reconsideration or rescission, if permitted by the Board's Rules of Order, can be brought by a Trustee.
- 4.6.3 A Trustee should be able to explain the rationale for a resolution passed by the Board. A Trustee may respectfully state his or her position on a resolution provided it does not in any way undermine the implementation of the resolution.

## **Governance Manual**

4.6.4 Each Trustee shall comply with Board policies, procedures, By-Laws, and Rules of Order.

4.6.5 The Chair of the Board is the official spokesperson to the public on behalf of the Board. No other Trustee shall speak on behalf of the Board unless expressly authorized by the Chair of the Board or Board to do so. When individual Trustees express their opinions in public, they must make it clear that they are not speaking on behalf of the Board.

### **4.7 – Operational Complaints**

4.7.1 All Trustees understand that while the Board must remain accountable, the Board shall not interfere in matters delegated to the Director of Education.

4.7.2 When a complaint is received regarding an operational matter Trustees shall adhere to the following process:

- a. The Trustee will determine if the proper communication protocol has been followed and shall not offer any evaluative comments or solutions to the matter.
- b. The Trustee shall confirm that the complaint will be referred to the Director of Education or his/her delegate who will look into the matter and shall respond directly.
- c. The Trustee shall inform the Director of Education or designate of the complaint, and request that it be handled.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND UNDERTAKING**

I confirm that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Board's Code of Conduct.

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jay Aspin, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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**Audit Committee**

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Head Office of the Near North District School Board  
963 Airport Road, North Bay, ON

Committee Members Present

John Cochrane, Committee Chair  
Donna Breault, Trustee  
Marc Morin, External Member  
Judy Kleinhuis, External Member

Staff Present

Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business  
Krista Messenger, Executive Assistant

Absent

Nichole King, Trustee

Guests:

Melissa Dodge, Regional Audit Manager

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**1.0 Call to Order**

Committee Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

Committee Chair Cochrane noted a former external Audit Committee member, Mr. Gary Jodouin, recently passed away. NNDSB Board Chair Aspin has provided a tribute on behalf of the Board of Trustees and Committee Chair Cochrane will provide an expression of sympathy on behalf of the Audit Committee.

It is noted that today is recognized as National Indigenous Peoples Day. Committee Chair Cochrane noted NNDSB is located on the territories of the Anishinaabe who have lived and cared for this part of the world for thousands of years. The Audit Committee wishes Indigenous students, staff and communities a wonderful day of celebration.

Attendance indicated that four committee members are present, including two trustees and two external members. It is confirmed that the meeting has quorum.

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**2.0 Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Breault, and seconded by M. Morin, that the agenda for the June 21, 2022, Audit Committee meeting be approved as presented. – *CARRIED*

### **3.0 Adoption of the Previous Minutes**

Moved by Trustee Breault and seconded by M. Morin that the Committee approves the Audit Committee minutes as presented for the meeting held on March 28, 2022.-  
*CARRIED*

### **4.0 Business Arising**

#### **4.1. NNDSB Follow up Summary Report**

Committee members were referred to the report contained in the agenda package. The Regional Internal Audit Manager, M. Dodge, was invited to speak to this item. Highlights of the information presented are noted as:

- Confirmation that the report is being presented to meet annual review requirements and ensure the Audit Committee is kept apprised of issues and the action plans management has agreed to.
- No significant changes are noted in this year's report. The one remaining recommendation for implementation is the I.T. back up/ continuity plan. It is expected that the follow-up will be completed over the summer.
- A report back will be presented at the next meeting to update the committee on management's work.

The floor was opened for questions or comments, with none rose.

### **5.0 New Business**

#### **5.1. Annual audit plan for approval**

Committee members were referred to the report contained in the agenda package. The Regional Internal Audit Manager, M. Dodge, was invited to speak to this item. Highlights of the information presented are noted as:

- The committee will note the approval of the Audit Plan is an annual responsibility discussed at the June meeting.
- The 2020/21 final report on privacy was issued (as discussed during the previous meeting). The final payroll process review is still in progress and will be reported on in the fall.
- The onboarding and staff training report has been deferred, as it is expected that this will be discussed as part of the payroll review.
- The risk assessment update has been carried over to next year. It is expected this work will be completed next summer. This will be a multi-year report to cover the next two or three years.
  - Committee Chair Cochrane suggested a three-year term be considered so that the risk assessment work would align with the NNDSB multi-year strategic plan timeline.
- The floor was opened for further questions or comments, with none rose.

- It is noted that the Audit Committee is required to pass a motion regarding the annual plan, in accordance with O. Reg 361/10.

Moved by Trustee Breault and seconded by M. Morin that the annual audit plan for the year ended August 31, 2023, be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. – CARRIED.

It is noted that the Audit Plan and a report from the committee will be brought forward to the NNDSB Board of Trustees meeting in September.

## 5.2. Review of Self-Assessment results

Committee Chair Cochrane referred the committee to the group feedback report contained in the agenda package regarding this item. SBO Van Haesendonck was invited to respond to the comments left on the self-assessment. Highlights are noted as:

- Thanks expressed for the feedback shared. This is an important priority for the committee to address to ensure it meets the regulation guidelines.
- In response to the comment about committee participation in professional development and continuing education opportunities. SBO Van Haesendonck is pleased to work with M. Dodge to investigate this further, and whether this is best incorporated at each meeting or devote a special meeting to this purpose.
- In response to the comment about the absence of an annual meeting calendar, SBO Van Haesendonck suggested an annual work plan be created that would provide these dates well in advance and the expected agenda items to be discussed. Establishing firm meeting dates would provide further structure, knowing they could be adjusted as needed.
  - Support from Committee Chair Cochrane expressed for this approach.
  - Note that M. Morin may have a conflict with meeting dates established far in advance, given his schedule varies each semester. It is noted that this challenge will be considered, given the presence of at least one external committee member is required for quorum.
- In response to the comment about uncertainty around the school board's performance in relation to other school boards, SBO Van Haesendonck noted this is completed through the work of the regional audit manager. The regional audit team does compare best practices and benchmarking through their work completing audits across many boards.

Committee Chair Cochrane thanked SBO Van Haesendonck for the report. The floor was opened for any further questions or comments with none rose.

## 5.3. Introduction of internal auditor assessment

As noted during the work plan discussion, this item relates to the review of work and performance of the regional internal audit team. Committee members were referred to the checklist included in the agenda package.

SBO Van Haesendonck noted the intent would be to share the checklist with committee members for completion in the same way the self-assessment was circulated and reviewed. A suggestion was tabled to consider inputting the ministry-developed questions into an electronic survey in order to make it more accessible for the committee to complete.

With no regrets expressed, it is noted that staff will convert the survey and checklist into Microsoft Forms to share with committee members for completion in advance of the next meeting.

The floor was opened for final comments or questions regarding any agenda items or any further comments. Committee Chair Cochrane thanked Audit Committee members for their time and diligence to ensure NNDSB is kept accountable through appropriate committee oversight.

## **6.0 Adjournment**

Moved by Trustee Breault and seconded by J. Kleinhuis that there being no further business to discuss, on June 21, 2022, the Audit Committee stands adjourned at 10:45 AM. - *CARRIED.*

Minutes: JC/SVH/km.

Near North District School Board  
Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan

As at: June 2022

2019/2020

<b>Audit Area</b>	Continuing Education Instruction	IT Security IT	Follow up
<b>Rationale</b>	Management request to be part of 19/20 plan.	Penetration testing, hot topic, always new threats. Should IT Security threat materialize would be major leadership effort, privacy issues reputational impact.	ongoing
	Draft	Final Report	

2020/2021

<b>Audit Area</b>	Privacy; Educational Applications TBD	Payroll Finance	Follow Up
<b>Rationale</b>	Horizontal audit, relevant, limited scope	Process review, duplication of efforts, roles and responsibilities	ongoing
	Final	In progress	

2021/2022

<b>Audit Area</b>	On boarding and Staff Training HR	Risk Assessment update All areas	Follow Up
<b>Rationale</b>	Management Request Carried from 20/21 due to pandemic	To determine multiyear plan	ongoing
	Deferred		

2022/2023

<b>Audit Area</b>	Risk Assessment update All areas	TBD	Follow Up
<b>Rationale</b>	To determine multiyear plan	Based on Risk Assessment Results	ongoing

Jay Aspin, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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### **Finance Committee**

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Head Office of the Near North District School Board  
963 Airport Road, North Bay, ON

#### Committee Members Present

John Cochrane, Committee Chair  
Jay Aspin, Board Chair  
Bill Steer, Trustee  
Caren Gagne, Trustee  
Craig Myles, Director of Education

#### Staff Present

Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business  
Wende Proulx, Manager of Finance  
Krista Messenger, Executive Assistant

#### Absent

Al Bottomley, Trustee  
Donna Breault, Trustee

#### **1.0 Call to Order**

Committee Chair Cochrane called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM. Attendance was called to confirm the meeting has quorum. It is noted that Chair Aspin is attending in his ad hoc capacity as the Board Chair.

#### **2.0 Adoption of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Gagne, and seconded by Trustee Steer, that the agenda for the September 6, 2022 Finance Committee be approved as presented. – *CARRIED*

#### **3.0 Approval of the Previous Minutes**

Moved by Trustee Steer and seconded by Board Chair Aspin that the Committee approves the Finance Committee minutes as presented for the meeting held on June 8, 2022.- *CARRIED*

#### **4.0 Business Arising**

Nil

## 5.0 Review of Quarterly Report

Committee members were referred to the report contained in the agenda package regarding this item. SBO Van Haesendonck was invited to speak to this item. Highlights of the report discussion are noted as:

- Review of the Trustee Initiative Fund status as at August 31, 2022. It is noted in 2022-23 year, the same amount has been budgeted (\$50,000). It is expected with the return to normal operations, more applications will be brought forward. Suggested to ensure the fund is well advertised to ensure it can be fully spent. The variance between the approved amount and expended amounts is due to an HST rebate.
- Review of the referred revenue. It is noted that this remains unchanged from the previous report brought forward in the June report given there has been no new financial reporting completed. This is completed at year-end, which is in progress currently. The December quarterly report will show the final financials for August 2022, together with the projections for the 22-23. It is noted that the same principle applies to the revised estimates.
- Review of the quarterly operations information. Note that the surplus reflected will be mitigated through the significant adjustments to be made at the year-end process (such as actuarial liabilities, capital work, etc). When the actual enrollment is inputted, the actual allocations may be adjusted by the Ministry. It is expected that some funds will remain unspent, due to the lingering impacts of COVID. This will be an important point to share with trustees upon review of the quarterly report.

Committee Chair Cochrane thanked SBO Van Haesendonck for this update. The floor was opened for questions:

- Board Chair Aspin refreshed the request to receive a more fulsome review of the operations to ensure the Board can maintain their fiduciary duties. It is likely that a one-page summary is preferred. SBO Van Haesendonck supported this perspective and noted the finance department staffing structure is now aligned to allow for this to be gathered. System improvements are needed to automatize the work, which is being actioned. It is expected that this will begin next quarter and be reflected in the first quarter report thereafter with the level of detail requested.
- Trustee Steer noted the budget process has been continually refined, so for consistency- the information should be presented in the same heading style.
- Comments from Trustee Gagne to note she is looking forward to an executive summary that would present a fuller picture.

With no further comments to note, Committee Chair Cochrane introduced a motion to accept the quarterly report for review by the Board of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Steer and seconded by Board Chair Aspin that the Committee recommends the Quarterly Report for September 2022 be presented to the Board of Trustees for review. - CARRIED

## **6.0 New Business**

Nil.

## **7.0 Next Meeting Date**

It is noted that the Finance Committee has agreed to schedule meetings that align with September, December, March and June quarterly reporting dates. It is noted that these times have been reserved in calendars.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

With no further business to note, Committee Chair Cochrane tabled a motion for adjournment.

Moved by Trustee Gagne and seconded by Trustee Steer, that there being no further business to discuss, on September 6, 2022, the Finance Committee stands adjourned at 11:14 AM. -*CARRIED*.

Minutes: JC/SVH/km.

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Quarterly Financial Review</b>																															
<b>Contact:</b>	Vice-Chair Cochrane, Finance Committee Chair																															
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	September 13, 2022																															
<b>Mandate</b>	<p><b>Multi-Year Strategic Plan Objectives:</b></p> <p>Become a data-driven, strategically managed organization.</p> <p>Ensure that the NNDSB is managed efficiently and is financially sustainable year over year and for the long term. Make decisions that are sustainable.</p>																															
<b>Trustee Initiative Fund</b>	<p>The Board approved three different projects for the 2021-22 school year, as noted in the table below. The project expenditures are complete for the STEM Resources and Journey into Learning Resources projects, while the Festival of the Sound project is ongoing.</p> <p>Where projects are complete and under expended, it can be a result of the HST Rebate as well as changes in the costs related to purchases (such as additional discounts, or backordered items).</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #92d050;">2021-22 TRUSTEE INITIATIVE FUND APPROVED ALLOCATIONS</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="background-color: #92d050;">Expenditures as at August 31, 2022</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;">Approved</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Expended</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Budget</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 50,000</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b><u>Board Approved Initiatives</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>STEM Resources</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16,670</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14,417</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Journey into Learning Resources</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,520</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,135</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Festival of the Sound</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,500</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total approved</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ 31,690</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ 29,052</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Unspent balance at year-end</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ 18,310</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ 20,948</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2021-22 TRUSTEE INITIATIVE FUND APPROVED ALLOCATIONS			Expenditures as at August 31, 2022				Approved	Expended	<b>Budget</b>	\$ 50,000		<b><u>Board Approved Initiatives</u></b>			STEM Resources	16,670	14,417	Journey into Learning Resources	7,520	7,135	Festival of the Sound	7,500	7,500	<b>Total approved</b>	<b>\$ 31,690</b>	<b>\$ 29,052</b>	<b>Unspent balance at year-end</b>	<b>\$ 18,310</b>	<b>\$ 20,948</b>
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## Deferred Revenue Update as at August 31, 2022

<b>Notes:</b>			
Accumulated Surplus and Deferred Revenues are projected using the audited August 31, 2021 Financial Statements and 2021-2022 Revised Estimates. These amounts will be updated for actuals at August 31, 2022 following the completion of the audited financial statements, to be reported in the December quarterly report.			
<b>Accumulated Surplus</b>			
The total balance of the Board's projected accumulated surplus following completion of Revised Estimates is <b>\$23,331,749</b> (August 31, 2021 - \$22,674,903) comprised of various appropriated and unappropriated (restricted and unrestricted) funds. The Operating Accumulated Surplus, which is an unappropriated fund, is projected to be <b>\$14,373,816</b> (August 31, 2021 - \$14,196,784). All other funds are appropriated for a specific purpose as a result of consolidation or to support a historic approved financial decision to its conclusion (ie. grandfathering of retirement gratuities and capital projects at various schools).			
<b>Deferred Revenue - Operating</b>			
	Aug 31, 2022	Aug 31, 2021	
Legislative Grants	\$ 1,464,438	\$ 1,597,352	These are all specific purpose funding/grants that have to be spent on their intended purpose. They are operational in nature (ie. instructional specific) and during budget deliberations are usually intended to be spent in entirety. However, due to timing and perhaps start up delays there may be unused funding at year end to be used the following year. These funds need to be spent on the Ministry specified purpose.
Other Ministry of Education Grants	2,725,346	2,725,346	
Other Provincial Grants	223,226	223,226	
Third Party Grants	37,530	37,530	
<b>Total Deferred Operating Grants</b>	<b>\$ 4,450,540</b>	<b>\$ 4,583,454</b>	
<b>Deferred Revenue - Capital</b>			
	Aug 31, 2022	Aug 31, 2021	
School Renewal	\$ 3,376,013	\$ 3,675,149	This funding is allocated annually within the GSN calculations. Each year the Board approves a list of capital projects intended to use the current year's funding allotment. Projects that were not complete or did not commence have the associated funding placed in deferred revenue.
Temporary Accommodation	22,422	22,422	Specific funding for portables.
Rural and Northern Education Fund	701,134	755,300	This funding is discretionary within some specific parameters.
Experiential Learning	251,771	221,709	The Ministry moved the funds for Experiential Learning into the GSN, and unspent funds are set aside as deferred revenue each year. Schools found it challenging to spend these funds within the expenditure parameters during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions.
Retrofitting School Space for Child Care	164,200	164,200	This was a joint venture with DSSAB that did not occur however the funds cannot be spent on any other initiative.
Proceeds of Disposition (Minister Exemptions)	3,067,960	3,067,960	In August 2021, the board received a Ministerial exemption to allocate all proceeds of disposition to support the new Fricker Build, and this will be drawn down as construction proceeds.
Assets Held for Sale	18,079	18,079	Any properties that have been declared surplus to board needs and that meet specific parameters are moved into the Assets Held for Sale category.
<b>Total Deferred Revenue - Capital</b>	<b>\$ 7,601,579</b>	<b>\$ 7,924,819</b>	

### Quarterly Operations Review as at August 31, 2022

This report is intended to report to the Finance Committee the broad overview of the Board's in-year status and update as to the financial condition of the Board with regard to actual revenues and expenditures compared to budgeted revenues and expenditures. The report acts as a commentary for a general overview of the financial position at August 31, 2022.

These figures are preliminary year-end figures, with significant adjustments yet to be recorded (such as recording accrued liabilities and accounts payable/receivable, adjusting deferred revenues, and recording amortization and deferred capital contributions).

#### August 31, 2022 Summary Statement of Operations

	Budget	Year to Date
<b>Revenues</b>	\$ 160,866,403	\$161,215,455
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 161,283,597	\$153,658,386

Important to note:

- During the year expenses and revenues are recorded strictly on a cash basis, so there are no expenses or payables set up for wages, utilities, etc. owing on a month-by-month basis as this is only completed at year end.
- Revenues early in the fiscal year are also substantially greater than expenses as grants and Priorities and Partnership Fund revenue are usually received early in year, while expenditures are spread throughout the year.
- Ministry transfer payments are based on estimated enrolment, as well as other estimated expenditures, and as actuals are recorded into the financial statements, grant allocations may increase or decrease.

# Equity Advisory Circle Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 26, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Held via Zoom

## **Present:**

Louise Sargent, Trustee  
Caren Gagne, Trustee  
Seth Compton, Outloud North Bay  
Jeannie Vaillancourt, North Bay Metis  
Margaret Soroye, NNDSB Teacher  
Deborah Robertson, Multi-Cultural Society  
Melanie Gray, Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Karen Waller, Principal/Equity Lead  
Lisa Spencer, Coordinator  
Sandra Zurbrigg, NNDSB Teacher  
Albina Lavictoire, Nbsiing Secondary School  
Susan Wilson, Principal of Special Education  
Jennifer O'Driscoll, Nbsiing Secondary School  
Nathan Moore, CAS Teacher Liaison Youth in Care  
Lana St. Louis, Acting Mental Health Lead  
Marcie Gervais, Vice Principal of Vincent Massey  
Laura Forget, PIC Chair  
Steve Krause, K-12 Student Achievement and Well-Being Principal | West Region  
Melanie Allard, Executive Assistant

## **Regrets:**

Nichole King, Trustee  
Tim Graves, Superintendent of Education  
Sherell Pizzoferrato, CAS Equity Training and Practice Transformation Lead  
Amanda Mathias-Mizzi, Indigenous Education  
Cathy Bennett, PIC Chair  
Marcus Etienne, PIC Chair

## **Land acknowledgment by Superintendent Gray**

### **Opening Circle**

- Superintendent Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting and had introductions around the circle.

### **Updates from Previous Business**

#### **Preferred name Update**

- The team has been working on streamlining processes and solid practices and is in the process of drafting a document with supportive accommodations.
- Principal Waller has been working closely with Principal Samuel; safe schools and IT to make sure privacy and confidentiality is respected.
- It was confirmed that this document will also be supportive of legal name changes and provide a variety of links and resources.

## **New Business**

### **LGBTQ2S+ PD**

- The team has connected with Alyx Duffy – challenge accepted program for learning sessions and supports. The first session is booked for June 2 for grade 6 educators to help support conversations in the classroom. The next session on June 10 is set up for student support services, library and mental health workers and staff. They will be looking into in person sessions for next year.
- Seth relayed that there has been a huge shift in the community where there is an increased desire to learn more. He is here to help support students, teachers, families, and organizations. He has created an eight-session training package and has been travelling all over the area to support this need.

### **Right to Read/Literacy**

- The Ontario Human Rights Commission has issued the right to read report which includes 157 recommendations for literacy instruction.
- It calls for critical changes to Ontario's approach to early reading in areas such as curriculum, instruction, screening, reading interventions, accommodations, and professional assessments.
- The new language curriculum is underway, and the report recommends screening students twice a year from kindergarten to grade 2.
- Access is needed for all to stable and standardized reading interventions.
- Providing evidence-based curriculum and classroom instruction in foundational reading skills in a way that is inclusive for all students.
- Setting clear and consistent standards for school boards and better data collection analysis and reporting.
- OHRC is calling on all partners to meet their responsibilities and legal duties to remove barriers that limit student's opportunities to learn and succeed. This will require sufficient, stable, and ongoing funding.
- This year the Board implemented the Lexia power up program, which is a resource to support struggling students in grade 7-10 having difficulties with reading and writing. It can adapt and meet students unique and individual needs.
- Work currently engaged in is in capacity building and resource acquisition. Providing effective tools for educators to identify student strengths and needs.
- Next steps are to collect and analyze demographic data, learning more about the students we serve.
- The group discussed tutoring, and how it takes place now. Tutoring is in person, sometimes in the classroom or after school. Educators identify students who would benefit from summer programs and invitations go out to families, then is open to the system.
- Text/book selection is so important as students need to see themselves in the content of books which helps encourage further reading.

### **CODE/English Language Learners**

- Capacity building around the understanding of effective instructional and assessment practices to support the growth of ELLs in reading and writing.
- The program at Vincent Massey has grown from 8 to 53 students over the last three years.
- Primary, junior educators and the resource team all participated in this work to build their own understanding on how to support ELL learners.

- They worked in small groups and was provided PD on things they can do in the classroom and resources, which they can try and then come back to share their findings.
- Strategies are supportive of other students, and these are not just “add on’s”.
- Students come with knowledge; it is the language that is the barrier.
- Language translators can be used as an assessment tool.
- Some tools used are books translated into two languages, necklace rings, visual pictures and labels.
- The group reviewed some student videos.
- Social/emotional wellbeing is a priority as their first language is their comfort, which balances out the use of translation tools.
- The group discussed the use of First Nation translation apps. These can be further investigated, and the idea is to match the tool with the students first language.
- The presentation will be shared out to the group.

### **Reports/Updates**

#### **SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee)**

- Meetings are still being held virtually and are open to the public.
- Thanks goes out to Principal Wilson and her team for all their hard work and support for our most vulnerable students.

#### **FNAC (First Nations Advisory Committee)**

- Meetings are scheduled for next week and the committees are working to develop new initiatives in support of our First Nation students and communities.
- The Board is partnering with the friendship centre on an alternative secondary school pathway.

#### **PIC (Parent Involvement Committee)**

- Events will be posted and circulated out by email.

#### **Trustee Update**

- Looking forward to in person graduations this year.
- Parry Sound and WJ Fricker builds are on track.
- On behalf of the Board of Trustees thanks goes out for your time, hard work and wish everyone the best during these summer months.

**Next meeting date:** TBD

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE HELD ON JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022  
ZOOM online meeting**

Laurie Forth, Regional K-12 Curriculum Implementation and Monitoring Principal, East  
Melanie Gray, Superintendent, Teaching and Learning  
Johna Hupfield, Indigenous Education Lead  
Lois Lambert, Dokis First Nation  
Louise Sargent, Trustee  
Caren Gagne, Trustee  
Lana St-Louis, Mental Health Lead  
Carol Stevens, Magnetawan First Nation  
Lynn Mongrain, Temagami First Nation  
Tracy Hendrick, Moose Deer Point First Nation  
Sherrill Judge, Shawanaga First Nation  
Daniel Stevens, Nipissing First Nation  
Caroline Labrecque, Nipissing First Nation  
Ashley St. Pierre, Moose Deer Point First Nation  
Amanda Mathias-Mizzi, Coordinator Indigenous Education Lead  
Melanie Allard, Executive Assistant

**Land Acknowledgement by Superintendent Gray**

**1.0 WELCOME**

**2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA  
AS AMENDED**

Approved by: Louise Sargent  
Seconded by: Lois Lambert

**3.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2022 MEETING**

Approved by: Laurie Forth  
Seconded by: Carol Stevens

**4.0 Opening Circle and First Nation Updates**

Superintendent Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting and had introductions around the circle. There are exciting things happening across the Board like the Grade 11NBE mandatory class for students. There have been great partnerships throughout who have been working hard to support and service Indigenous students and families.

**Dokis First Nation**

Enjoy working with the Near North and had great feedback from the youth circle. They are working on providing students with language opportunities at post-secondary as there is such a shortage of language educators.

#### **Moose Deer Point First Nation**

Tracy Hendrick is working in the administrator role for MDPFN and is working alongside with Ashley. There are two students graduating from grade eight and three students graduating high school. They would like to work with a more teach approach, alongside all departments to better support the community.

#### **Nipissing First Nation**

Daniel Stevens is the new Director of Education and Caroline Labrecque is the elementary/secondary support worker for Nipissing First Nation. They are busy preparing for student graduations.

#### **Magnetawan First Nation**

It has been a busy few years and Carol has been working hard to support students and families.

#### **Temagami First Nation**

They have two student graduates making their way to high school and five high school graduates going to college and/or university in the Fall.

#### **Shawanaga First Nation**

Looking forward to planning for the next school year.

#### **Trustee Update**

Trustee Sargent and Trustee Gagne are excited to continue the learning alongside this committee.

### **5.0 Mental Health – Lana St-Louis**

Lana St-Louis is the new Board's acting mental health lead and works alongside Superintendent Grave in his portfolio. She is working on collecting feedback from our partners around mental health and well-being to better support students and families.

Lana has been a part of the mental health field for 19 years and with this new role has been tasked to create a three-year strategic plan for mental health and well-being. The Board works closely with school mental health Ontario with the use of evidence-based programs and practices. Lana discussed the multi-tiered model, where tier one is used to welcome, include, understand, promote, and partner. The tier two provides early intervention services, ongoing classroom support and increasing skills and strategies. Tier 3 is assessment and intervention through services provided by the Board's social workers. The fourth tier is for intensive services that could mean home treatment or in-patient live-in care.

Lana discussed the current program offerings and how it has been challenging with recruitment and retention of staff. She discussed the mental health strategic plan 2018-2020. The group discussed the wait lists, where provincially it can be up to 18 months. Board social workers use our programs, so there is not that length of wait times through the Near North. There are many challenges for our Indigenous students, and they need a comfortable, safe environment and understanding from social workers. Representation and cultural training for staff would help support Indigenous students.

The Anishinabek First Nation is developing a child well-being system, which is being spearheaded alongside DBFS to support all children and students in a way that makes sense for communities. This is just being implemented this year, with a child well-being team being established. It was discussed on how these relationships and partnerships can be developed between school boards and First Nations to work together in support of Indigenous students.

It has been approved to develop a new partnership with Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services, as there are specific needs for these students, and it continues to be a challenge to recruit Indigenous social workers and staff. It is important to recruit the right people for these roles. The group further discussed the need for more Indigenous staff representation, as heard through student voice, and how people could move based on merit and connections to the community. It was suggested that the use of graduate coaches could be expanded into this area and the cultural advisors have been a great support for schools. Ensuring staff are trained and being able to develop and ongoing understanding. It was suggested that other Boards may have creative solutions that Near North could adopt and further exploring the use of the multi-disciplinary team model. The goal is to provide the right service and the right time for that student in need. Tracy Kirk would be a great connection for further conversations on the needs of our Cree students, so every voice is represented. The committee was encouraged to reach out to the team via phone or email anytime.

#### **6.0 Planning the September meeting (RESA/ESA)**

A few years ago, the group met at Tappatoo to work together on a joint document. We would like to continue this format at Northridge to collaborate on the draft document. The draft agenda was reviewed, and everyone is welcome to the table. Elders were present for opening circles and special education and finance staff would be invited to attend. An afternoon is set aside for First Nations to discuss the First Nation Trustee appointment.

It was asked if a draft template of the administrative guidelines could be sent to the group ahead of time. It is important to make sure there is co-creation of the document, but a working template will be sent out prior, so the group has a starting point. Melanie Allard will send out an email to follow up on accommodations and meeting details. It was requested if there are any community staff updates to forward that information on, so we have the most up to date distribution lists.

#### **7.0 Closing Circle**

The committee discussed the concern around language teacher absences and having the right allies in place. If it cannot be an Indigenous educator, what steps can we take as there are specific needs in that teaching role. Community members could be brought in to help support language teachers and graduate coaches. The Board is working on a recruitment process. A follow up meeting will be organized for MacTier to work together and discuss a model that might be a better fit.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Approved by: Daniel Stevens

Seconded by: Caren Gagne

## Land Acknowledgement by SO Graves

1. **Call to Order** – 1:03 pm

2. **Attendance via Zoom online meeting platform**

Albina Lavictoire (Chair)

Amanda Bellview

Alan Bottomley

Kimberley Gignac

Tim Graves

Lisa Paradis

Louise Sargent

Seija Van Haesendonck

Susan Wilson

Laura Hansman

Caroline Lebrecque

Lana St. Louis

Carole Couillard

**Regrets:** Nichole King, Chris Guillemette, Candy St. Onge

3. **Approval of Agenda: As Amended**

**June 16, 2022**

*Moved* – Alan Bottomley

*Seconded* – Louise Sargent

*Carried. No Conflict of interest*

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

**May 19, 2022**

*Moved* – Louise Sargent

*Seconded* – Carole Couillard

*Carried.*

### Community Partner Updates

- No current updates.

### Correspondence received

~ PPM 81 Conseil Ecoles Catholique Centre-East

The NNDSB has great community partnerships in place for our health service needs. Our Educational Assistants will do as much as they can within the scope of their job. They are not responsible for injections but are able to stand with students and guide them through it (ie : Diabetes). This is on hold for now so no action is needed. Further discussions may be required if this does resurface.

## **Planning and Accommodation Updates**

- Progress continues to be made with both the WJ Fricker and Parry Sound builds.

## **Ministry updates**

- As of yesterday, the Ministry no longer requires principals to report the number of absences they have in school for both staff and students.
- Principals are to still report to the Health Unit COVID-19 cases or suspected cases and to complete a report if the school has a 30% or more absence rate for 2 days running.
- Funding has been received for summer learning programs and transition activities. This allows for additional support in summer staffing.
- Learnstyle camps are being organized and once confirmed principals will be passing along the information to families to register.
- Transition activities will be organized for our highest needs students and students that will be changing programs (ie; transition to high school)

## **Special Education Plan**

- The plan was passed at the Tuesday night Board meeting. The updated plan will be posted online by mid-July.

## **Special Education Budget Update**

- Trustees approved the overall budget for submission to the Ministry.
- The special education budget deficit is \$192, 206
- The Board is projecting a student enrolment increase of 3.2% spread across elementary and secondary.
- There is a slight increase in staffing from the 2021-22 budget; a total of 6.0 FTE, however these will not all be new hires.
- The Ministry has provided funding increases in Mental Health and continued funding in the GSN for Local Special Education Priorities amount. There could be changes to this as negotiations move forward.
- Most of the special education budget goes towards staffing supports; 90% to salaries and staff.
- Any questions can be directed Superintendent Graves for follow up.

Suggested sites for further funding information:

Education funding 22-23

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/education-funding-2022-23>

2022-23 Education funding: a guide to the special education grant

<https://files.ontario.ca/edu-2223-speced-guide-en-2022-03-21.pdf>

## **Board report (oral) – (Board Trustee)**

- Congratulations goes out to Principal Wilson on her retirement on behalf of the Board of Trustees.
- Trustee Sargent hopes everyone has a great summer and looks forward to seeing the committee in September.

## **New Business**

### **Mental Health update**

- Lana St. Louis is the acting mental health lead for the Board and was tasked to develop a 3-year mental health strategic plan.
- The Board works closely with school mental health Ontario with the use of evidence-based practices and programs designed around a multi-tiered system of care.
- Tier 1 provides welcoming inclusive environments and identify those showing risk factors. Tier 2 works on prevention, classroom support and building skills and resiliency. Tier 3 focuses on intervention and significant mental health concerns with the use of social workers, counselling, and therapy. Tier 4 includes intensive services and community based and in home treatment. The goal is for the student to get the right service at the right time at the right place.
- Recruiting and retaining staff is a struggle and remains a provincial issue so there are wait-lists for children up to 18 months. Our staff work hard to provide more services because of these wait lists and work in collaboration with HANDS.
- Lana reviewed the Board's current programs.
- There are more complex cases of self-harm, suicidal ideation and eating disorders coming forward.
- The group reviewed the 2018-2020 mental health strategic plan.
- As our younger students have not had the social interactions they normally would (because of the pandemic) they are entering schools struggling with simple skills. This focus will be added to the strategic plan.
- Staff have felt the impact of the pandemic. It was asked if the plan could include supporting mental health and well being for staff. The primary focus is on students however staff can practice alongside students. Students are having difficulty with self-regulation and managing emotions. Programs are needed to help develop empathy and perspective for this.
- Any additional comments/feedback can be emailed to Lana or Melanie Allard.
- A draft plan will be ready for September for Board approval.

### **Items for next Agenda**

**Next meeting date:** September 22, 2022

Adjourned: 2:13pm

Motion – Alan Bottomley  
Seconded – Caroline Lebreque

Carried.