

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 | 6:00 PM

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Virtual:   | In-Person:  |
| <a href="#">Join zoom meeting</a><br>Meeting ID: 856 3321 7981   Passcode: 769627<br>Dial in: 1 855 703 8985 | North Bay Boardroom<br>NNDSB Head Office<br>963 Airport Rd., North Bay, ON. |

## 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.

#### 1.2 Attendance

Confirmation of Quorum

#### 1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

### 2.0 In-Camera

### 3.0 Arise and Report

### 4.0 Approval of the Agenda ✓

Motion: That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 28, 2023, be approved.

### 5.0 Review of Previous Minutes ✓

Motion: That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 14, 2023, be approved.

**6.0 Business Arising**

Nil.

**7.0 New Business**

7.1 Trustee Initiative Fund application- “Journey into Learning” resource ✓

7.2 Notice of Motion- Trustee Steer ✓

**8.0 Adjournment**

Motion: That on March 28, 2023 we do now adjourn at \_\_\_\_pm.



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

Erika Lougheed, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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The February 14, 2023 **Committee of the Whole Public Session** of the Near North District School Board was held in person at the Head Office and via a Zoom video and/or teleconference.

**Trustees Present:**

Erika Lougheed, Chair  
Howard Wesley, Vice-Chair ®  
Ashley St. Pierre ®\*  
Bill Steer ®  
Chantal Phillips  
Jeanie Fuscaldo  
Julie Bertram ®  
Louise Sargent  
Shane Hall  
Allen Lewis Trodd, Student Trustee \*  
Cecilia Darling, Student Trustee ®

**Administrative Staff Present:**

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

**Other:**

Staff, media and community partners

® attended remotely via Zoom video or audio conference

\* arrived following roll call. Attendance noted within the minutes

**Trustees Absent:**

Nil

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair Lougheed called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**1.1 Land acknowledgement**

Chair Lougheed read the declaration aloud.

**1.2 Attendance**

Attendance indicated that nine trustees are present, including Student Trustee Darling.

**1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Vice-Chair Wesley declared a conflict of interest regarding item 6.1- Trustee Initiative Fund- Festival of the Sound application.

Chair Lougheed accepted the declaration and thanked the Vice-Chair for his transparency. As per NNDSB BL-119, Vice-Chair Wesley is not permitted to take part in the discussion of this item, vote or attempt to influence the vote regarding this item.

## 2.0 In-Camera

At this time, Chair Lougheed advised the Committee of the Whole would be moving into a private session. Members of the public were excused and advised they would be permitted back into the meeting once the Board arose in public session.

*Motion: B. Steer/ L. Sargent*

That the Board move into a Committee of the Whole Private Session in order to discuss items pertaining to The Education Act R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2 section 207(2) clause (b) and (e). - **Carried.**

A brief pause was noted to coordinate the appropriate video conference controls and allow staff and community members time to exit the meeting room. Trustees attending virtually were reminded to secure their space as well to ensure confidentiality.

## 3.0 Arise and Report

The Committee arose and reported in the public session of the Committee of the Whole. A brief pause was noted to coordinate the appropriate video conference controls to permit members of the public to re-enter the virtual meeting and open the physical meeting space for in-person guests to re-enter.

*It is noted that Trustee St Pierre and Student Trustee Lewis have joined the meeting.*

## 4.0 Approval of the Agenda

*Motion: L. Sargent / C. Phillips*

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 14, 2023, be approved. - **Carried.**

## 5.0 Review of Previous Minutes

### 5.1 2023 01 10 Committee of the Whole

Trustees were referred to the minutes included in the agenda package. The floor was opened for comments or corrections, with none rose.

*Motion: L. Sargent / J. Fuscaldo*

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 10, 2023 be approved. – **Carried.**

### 5.2 2023 02 02 Committee of the Whole

Trustees were referred to the minutes included in the agenda package. The floor was opened for comments or corrections, with none rose.

*Motion: B. Steer / J. Fuscaldo*

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 2, 2023 be

approved. – **Carried.**

## **6.0 Business Arising**

It is noted that there is no business arising brought forward for discussion. The floor was opened to trustees for inquiries or comments, with none rose.

## **7.0 New Business**

### **7.1 Trustee Initiative Fund (TIF) application- Festival of the Sound**

Trustees were referred to the TIF application contained in the agenda package. It is noted that the application is requesting \$20,000.00 in funding from the trustee initiative fund. Highlights of the discussion are noted as:

- For the record, Chair Lougheed reiterated that Vice-Chair Wesley has declared a conflict with this agenda item, and therefore will not be invited to comment on this item.
- The Festival of the Sound (FOTS) program has run in the Parry Sound family of schools since 2005, impacting the lives of thousands of NNDSB students in Grades 4-6. This long-standing partnership supports NNDSB's commitment to Excellence in Relationships, as well as providing a unique opportunity for our students.
- Director Myles noted the funding will be to support offering Festival of the Sounds' "Sounding Thunder: The Song of Francis Pegahmagabow" program to intermediate and senior division students in all regions of the Near North District School Board. SO Gray is on hand for further questions and noted that the FOTS Executive Director is in attendance this evening as a member of the public to showcase further support for the application. Sincere thanks were expressed to the FOTS artists, as it is recognized the actual costs associated with this production total \$48,500.00. A significant portion of projected costs will be subsidized by the FOTS.

Chair Lougheed opened the floor for questions or comments regarding the application. Support expressed by Trustee Phillips for the application, with recognition for the opportunity this will create for students.

With no further comments, it is recognized that consensus has been achieved regarding support for this application. A motion will be presented in regular session to confirm.

### **7.2 Notice of Motion- Trustee Sargent**

Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Sargent contained in the agenda package with regard to the separation of Committee of the Whole and Board meetings.

It is noted that in order to proceed to discussion, the notice requires a seconder. The floor was opened for expressions of support. Trustee Bertram noted she will second the motion. Chair Lougheed noted Trustee Sargent is permitted to speak first for up to three minutes, and then the floor will be opened for discussion by trustees. Highlights are noted as:

- Opening comments by Trustee Sargent to recognize that the notice of motion

includes a proposition to amend the Board's by-laws, and so therefore the approval threshold is set at a two-thirds majority (which for NNDSB will be six trustees). Review of the reasons shared previously supporting this position- such as the value of consistency and predictability, separate meetings would limit "pop up meetings" being called during the day, more time can be afforded to thoughtful decision-making, and there will be no further delay to beginning Board meetings on time.

- Point raised by Trustee Steer that the motion combines several items into one motion. Amending by-laws requires significant consideration, as recognized by the Special Advisors' report. It is noted that the by-laws are on a four-year revision cycle already, and so amendments should be collected throughout the cycle and reviewed together for possible amendment.
- Question raised by Vice-Chair Wesley to determine if the Committee of the Whole meetings could be hosted during the day (which would lessen the impact of occupying another evening). Chair Lougheed noted that some Boards of Trustees do use this strategy, though this is not consistent with the practice of NNDSB.
- Question raised by Trustee Bertram regarding the motivation of the previous Board to combine meetings. Staff noted these amendments were brought forward in March 2022 alongside several required changes prompted by amendments to *The Education Act*. At that time, it was recognized as a more efficient way to conduct meetings during the pandemic.
- Director Myles was invited to offer comments and reiterated a previous offer to develop a report that would review the options for trustees to consider in detail. Trustees must not rush into decisions to amend the by-laws and were cautioned on the impact of proceeding too quickly without consideration for proper governance procedures.

Trustees were invited to express opinions regarding support for the motion to be presented to the Board for approval. Closing comments from Chair Lougheed to note there is consensus to move the recommendation forward to the Board meeting for review and approval.

### 7.3 Board meeting schedule discussion

Chair Lougheed noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2023, which overlaps with March Break. Trustees were canvassed on the opportunity to shift the meeting date to ensure staff resources are available to attend and support agenda items. Consensus expressed by trustees to shift the meeting to Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

Point raised by Trustee Sargent for the Board to consider this in September, as the overlap with March Break is an annual adjustment. Chair Lougheed accepted this suggestion to review as part of the annual meeting schedule that is reviewed in September.

## 8.0 **Motion to Adjourn**

*Motion: J. Fuscaldo/ J. Bertram*

That we do now adjourn at 7:17 PM. – **Carried**



## Application for funding from the NNDSB Trustee Initiative Fund

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Name of Organization: | Near North District School Board |
| Contact Person:       | Emily Samuel                     |
| Phone:                | 705-491-2964                     |
| Email address:        | Emily.samuel@nearnorthschools.ca |

The NNDSB is interested in funding those organizations and projects that encompass an expanse of students from across the Near North District School Board, as a unifying platform. Please outline below how your organization or project meets this expectation:

In September 2021 the NNDSB Early Years Team launched a new initiative to welcome our Kindergarten learners and their families into our Board: Journey into Learning. The Journey into Learning (JIL) Guide and Kit contains information to support school readiness while promoting NNDSB’s visions and priorities. The aim of JIL is to create strong ties between families and classrooms by providing parents with the information and materials they need to support literacy, math, indigenous education, fine motor skill development and more from home. When this is done in tandem with their child’s classroom educator team, student achievement and well-being thrives! You can check out an electronic version of the JIL Guide here: <https://www.flipsnack.com/nndsb/journey-into-learning-guide-2021/full-view.html>

For the past two years, the Trustee initiative fund has supported our youngest learners through the purchase of 700 educational books. This is a very important contribution to the JIL Kit, as the contents reflect the learning activities in the Guide. For example, the kit contains materials to support literacy and numeracy such as alphabet and number cards, printing pages, writing utensils, dice and counters. It also contains materials to support fine motor skill development such as scissors and play-doh. All of these items are intentionally selected and relate directly to the learning activities found in the JIL Guide.

For this reason, we feel that it is important to once again include a book that reflects our Board’s commitment to inquiry, outdoor pedagogy, and experiential learning. Erin Alladin’s book “Outside, You Notice” supports our district-wide move towards increased time outdoors and intentional learning activities that simultaneously support well-being.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Funding amount requested: | \$6813.45 per year for 2 years = \$13,626.90 |
|---------------------------|--|

Please outline how this money will be spent, specifically:

A local author, Erin Alladin lives and works in the Parry Sound region. The book, “Outside, You Notice” has received recognition from CCBC, Bound2Learn and was the winner of the 2021 Northern Lights Book Award. Erin describes the book as a “nonfiction celebration of kids’ inborn ability to see the world as a naturalist does, noticing all the tiny details and then asking ‘why?’”

The themes of the book (exploration, inquiry, noticing and naming) align beautifully with the Ontario Kindergarten Curriculum, which states: “a growing body of research suggests that connecting to the natural world contributes to children’s mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health and well-being. Children’s natural curiosity and sense of wonder can be fostered by providing them with many opportunities to learn outdoors. For many reasons, including the prevalence of electronic media, children today spend relatively little time in natural environments. This “nature deficit” has been linked to disturbing trends such as childhood obesity, attention disorders, and depression. Outdoor spaces offer valuable learning opportunities, and natural settings can inspire the kind of thinking, learning, leadership, and innovation that may be inhibited in children in the classroom but that, once revealed, can be incorporated back into the classroom environment.” (Kindergarten Curriculum 2016, p. 34).

You can hear more about the book and its impact on education from the author herself at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmpogZ\\_JiGQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmpogZ_JiGQ)

**We wish to purchase 700 copies of this book for inclusion in our Journey into Learning Kits for each year, totaling 1400 books.** Tinlids has provided us with a 38% discount, thereby greatly reducing the cost (see attached quote for 1400 books for two years of books for JIL Kits). Despite this discount, we will not be able to include a copy of “Outside, You Notice” in the JIL bags without funding from the Trustee Initiative Fund.

What experience would our students gain or acquire that may not be available to them otherwise. We would like to hear how this funding will help you achieve your goals:

Through the purchase of these books, all new Kindergarten students who enter NNDSB schools in September 2023 will be prompted to begin or deepen their outdoor inquiry, curiosity and world exploration. This aligns with Professional Development provided to Early Childhood Educators and Kindergarten teachers over the past two years. For example, the Early Years teams has prioritized educator learning related to outdoor pedagogy through certification under the nationally-recognized Forest Practitioner program and allocated resources to Kindergarten classrooms that support equitable access to the outdoors. For example, we purchased one-piece splashy suits for classrooms with Forest Practitioner certified staff to ensure that all students had the attire necessary to participate in outdoor learning. The books, used both at school and at home, will emphasize our commitment to creating future citizens who explore their outdoor spaces, share and preserve them for everyone’s benefit and enjoyment. Below are photos to illustrate how our focus on outdoor learning and pedagogy (along with the resources to support equitable access) have benefited our Kindergarten classrooms.





As you can see, the book "Outside, You Notice" supports our priority of student achievement and well-being through an increased focus on outdoor learning.

We sincerely thank you for your consideration.

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Date funding required: | April 1, 2023 |
|------------------------|---------------|

*For Administration Use Only*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Application submitted       | February 14, 2023  |
| Classification:             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational impacts<br><input type="checkbox"/> Governance impacts |
| Executive Council Nominator | Gay Smylie, Superintendent of Education  |
| Trustee Nominator           | Howard Wesley, Vice-Chair  |
| Presented to trustees       | March 28, 2023   |
| Outcome:                    |  |
| Approved by:                |  |
| Signature                   |  |
| Date                        |  |
|                             |  |
| Date Final Report Submitted |  |



# NNDSB PRICE QUOTE

MARCH 8, 2023

| QTY  | AUTHOR       | TITLE              | CDN | BND | DATE  | ISBN          | PRICE    | DISC% | NET     | EXT          |
|------|--------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-------|---------------|----------|-------|---------|--------------|
| 1400 | ALLADIN,ERIN | OUTSIDE YOU NOTICE | CDN | PB  | 03/23 | 9781772782783 | \$ 14.95 | 38    | \$ 9.27 | \$ 12,978.00 |

SUBTOTAL \$ 12,978.00

TAX \$ 648.90

TOTAL \$ 13,626.90

ORDER FROM: tinlids inc. 130 Martin Ross Avenue, Toronto, ON M3J 2L4  
ph 416-665-5663/1-800-461-9397 fx 416-665-0775/1-800-461-9405  
info@tinlids.ca tinlids.ca

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Title:</b>          | <b>Notice of Motion</b>  |
| <b>Contact:</b>        | Trustee Bill Steer   |
| <b>Date Submitted:</b> | March 28, 2023   |
| <b>Mandate:</b>        | In alignment with NNDSB Bylaw 102, Trustee Steer provided notice to the Secretary of the Board, Director Myles, requesting an item be placed on the agenda for discussion during the March Committee of the Whole meeting.   |
| <b>Background:</b>     | <p>As part of the Board’s commitment to Excellence in Communication, NNDSB has committed to a goal of “promoting public confidence and community support in public education through timely, accurate, effective, and transparent communication of Board initiatives, vision and goals”.</p> <p>It is noted that the Education Act permits community members to attend open meetings of the Board and the meetings of a committee of the Board. It is also recognized that it is the practice of the NNDSB Board of Trustees to permit trustees to attend as a guest at any trustee committee meetings-inclusive of committees on which they are not formal members.</p> <p>It is critical that the public be aware of how to contact the Board and attend meetings. To attend committee meetings, trustees and community members need to be advised of the dates and modes of attending the meeting. Information regarding Board and Committee of the Whole meetings are posted on the NNDSB website, but this is not currently the practice for other committees of the Board. It is recognized that there are multiple ways this information could be shared, such as including an information item on Board meeting agendas for upcoming committee meetings, or publishing committee meeting dates on the NNDSB website.</p> |
| <b>Resolution:</b>     | <p>Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Near North District School Board hereby directs all committees of the Board to ensure meeting dates are publicly available.</p> <p>Be it further resolved that committee meeting dates will be added as an information item on subsequent Board meeting agendas.</p>   |