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Erika Lougheed, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

The June 13, 2023 **Public Session Board Meeting** 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:

Howard Wesley, Vice-Chair
Ashley St. Pierre
Chantal Phillips
Jeanie Fuscaldo
Julie Bertram
Louise Sargent
Shane Hall
Allen Lewis Trodd, Student Trustee
Cecilia Darling, Student Trustee

Trustees Absent:

Bill Steer
Erika Lougheed, Chair

Administrative Staff Present:

Deb Bartlett, Communications Officer ®
Gay Smylie, Superintendent of Education
Krista Messenger, Executive Assistant
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Teaching and Learning ®
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business
Timothy Graves, Superintendent of Education ®

Invited Guests:

B. Cousins, NNDSB teacher

Other:

Staff, media, union and community partners

® attended remotely via Zoom video or audio conference

1.0 Call to Order

It is noted that Vice-Chair Wesley will be the Presiding Officer and SBO Van Haesendonck will be the Acting Board Secretary for the meeting this evening.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Members of the public were welcomed in person and virtually and directed to the question period submission forms/survey link.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Vice-Chair Wesley read the land acknowledgement aloud.

2.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

Vice-Chair Wesley confirmed Trustee Steer and Chair Lougheed have provided notice of regret for the meeting, and so a motion was tabled to excuse the absences.

Motion: 23-06-01, L. Sargent/ J. Fuscaldo

In accordance with BL-102, be it resolved that the following trustees be granted a leave of absence from the June 13, 2023 Board meeting as confirmation of regrets was provided in advance of the meeting:

- Trustee Bill Steer
- Board Chair Erika Lougheed
- CARRIED.

3.0 Attendance

3.1 Confirmation of Quorum

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

3.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

The floor was opened for trustees to declare conflicts of interest, with none rose.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Review of the agenda for the meeting of June 13, 2023. The floor was opened for amendments or additions, with none rose. It is acknowledged that items 8.1 and 8.2 will be nil reports, given the preceding Committee of the Whole meeting was postponed.

Motion: 23-06-02, S. Hall/ J. Bertram

That the agenda for the Board meeting of June 13, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.

5.0 Presentation: Parry Sound High School Hospitality Program Educator Recognition

5.1 Welcome Guest- B. Cousins

Trustees were referred to the brief included in the agenda outlining the exemplary endeavours of an NNDSB teacher from Parry Sound High School (PSHS), Mr. Blair Cousins.

Mr. Cousins has been invited as a guest to the Board meeting to receive recognition from the Board of Trustees. Mr. Cousins, a dedicated leader at PSHS, brings significant value to the NNDSB. He fosters experiential learning opportunities, connects students with sector partners, and leads a successful Hospitality and Tourism SHSM program. Mr. Cousins' support extends to other teacher leaders and diverse programs, expanding opportunities for students and ensuring their success after secondary school. He is an innovative, caring, and dedicated educator, deserving of formal recognition from the Board of Trustees.

Introductory comments were provided on behalf of Director Myles by SBO Van Haesendonck and Superintendent Smylie in support of Mr. Cousins' leadership in support of NNDSB's strategic commitments to Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Parry Sound High School Principal, Mr. John Staba, provided remarks on behalf of the school in honour of Mr. Cousins.

Mr. Cousins thanked the speakers for their remarks and the Board of Trustees for the invitation to be recognized this evening. Mr. Cousins attributed his accomplishments at NNDSB to the invaluable collaboration and unwavering support provided by his wife, as well as the dedicated staff and administration. Recognizing their pivotal role, Mr. Cousins acknowledged their contributions as critical factors in his work and overall success.

The floor was opened for trustees, with many heartfelt remarks offered in support of Mr. Cousins' service to students. Special remarks offered by Student Trustee Lewis as a former student of Mr. Cousins, and the lasting impact he has made on students.

Closing remarks from Vice-Chair Wesley to thank Mr. Cousins for every effort to enrich his classroom in support of student achievement and well-being.

6.0 Review of Previous Minutes

6.1 2023 05 09 Board of Trustees- Regular meeting minutes

It is noted that the minutes of the regular session held on May 9, 2023 were included in the agenda package. The floor was opened for amendments or additions, with none rose.

Motion: 23-06-03, C. Phillips/ J. Fuscaldo

That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of May 9, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.

6.2 2023 05 29 Board of Trustees- Special meeting minutes

It is noted that the minutes of the special session held on May 29, 2023 were included in the agenda package. The floor was opened for amendments or additions, with none rose.

Motion: 23-06-04, S. Hall/ A. St. Pierre

That the minutes of the special Board meeting of May 29, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.

7.0 Communication to the Board

7.1 Information Items

7.1.1 Professional Development Opportunities Calendar

7.1.2 Monthly Tender Report- June 2023

7.1.3 Committee Meeting Calendar

7.1.4 CSS Renaming Update

7.1.5 LLC Day School Update- Changes and Celebrations

Vice-Chair Wesley referred trustees to the board reports submitted for information as part of the agenda package for each item. The floor was opened for questions or comments from trustees:

- Comments raised by Trustee Bertram regarding item 7.1.4. Recognition was provided for the depth and emotional nature of the work completed. The process has become very complex and so it is suggested that the scope and purview of the committee is being exceeded. To this end, Trustee Bertram moved that "*the CSS Renaming Update be deferred back to the Committee of the Whole Private session for discussion*" (seconded by Trustee Fuscaldo).

The floor was opened by Vice-Chair Wesley for discussion on the pending motion. Highlights noted as:

- Trustee Phillips recognized the specific criteria required for items to be discussed in private. The Board was refreshed on the criteria outlined in *The Education Act R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2 section 207(2)- Closing of certain committee meetings*. Comment from Trustee Bertram to note the requested discussion would fit within the parameters identified.
- It is suggested that the CSS Renaming Committee would benefit from enhanced guidance from the Board of Trustees to resume its work (specifically regarding what the Board's vision/expectation is around "renaming" so that the CSS Renaming Committee can work more effectively). This discussion could begin at the Committee of the Whole and proceed into private session if required.
- Trustee Bertram concurred, and noted there are additional items to bring forward. Supplementary discussion to note the legal aspect of private session.
- It is noted that the Administrative Guideline has been changed mid-process and this is a time-sensitive issue.

Consensus is noted to strike out the words "*Private Session*". Vice-Chair Wesley noted a motion to amend would be brought forward to confirm approval of the amendment.

Motion: 23-06-05, L. Sargent/ J. Fuscaldo

Be it resolved that the motion proposed regarding item 7.1.4- CSS Renaming Update is amended to strike out the words "Private Session" – CARRIED

The motion was brought forward as amended.

Motion: 23-06-06, J. Bertram/ J. Fuscaldo

That the CSS Renaming Update be deferred back to the Committee of the Whole for discussion" – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The floor was opened for further comments regarding the information items. Trustee Phillips expressed appreciation for the depth of information provided in the report regarding item 7.1.5- *LLC Day School Update- Changes and Celebrations*. High regards were offered for the work of staff to successfully support the reengagement of students.

7.2 Director's Update

7.2.1 *Board Report*

Trustees were referred to the report contained in the agenda package. SBO Van Haesendonck spoke to a few highlights from the report, with special recognition given to honouring the outgoing student trustees, the success of the Trojan Parade for Cancer, and many meaningful days of significance observed this month across NNDSB such as Pride and National Indigenous Peoples Day. Attention was called to the administrative guideline posted for consultation since the agenda package was issued.

Vice-Chair Wesley thanked SBO Van Haesendonck for the report presented.

7.3 Chair's Remarks

7.3.1 *Roundtable Remarks to Outgoing Student Trustees*

To begin, Trustee St. Pierre invited B. Govender from Moose Cree First Nation, Moose Factory, to come forward to play a song to honour the outgoing student trustees for their leadership. Trustee St. Pierre presented Student Trustee Lewis with a blanket to commemorate and acknowledge his contributions to the student trustee role and the Near North District School Board.

Principal Samuel was invited to provide an address in honour of Student Trustee Darling. Remarks were offered regarding her instrumental efforts in revitalizing the Student Senate and serving as an exemplary ambassador for the board.

Trustees were invited to provide sentiments to the outgoing student trustees. The tributes served as a collective recognition of the dedicated service and unwavering commitment to representing the voice of students at the Board of Trustee table. Student Trustee Lewis and Student Trustee Darling thanked trustees for their kind words.

7.4 OPSBA Report

7.4.1 Board update

Vice-Chair Wesley provided a verbal report on the OPSBA Annual General Meeting (AGM). Highlights noted as:

- 2023 is the OPSBA's 35th anniversary celebration. The event was well attended, with many rich networking opportunities and professional development sessions.
- One central theme was the critical importance of trustee relationships (with each other, with the Director of Education and with their community).
- Both motions presented by NNDSB passed at the AGM.
 - The first motion was regarding the development of a board self-reflection template. Algoma DSB and Peel DSB supported the motion moving to the floor for discussion. OPSBA Executive Director Donaldson noted OPSBA staff were pleased to dig into this valuable work. The vote was unanimous in favour.
 - The second motion was regarding enhanced recording options at OPSBA events and an intent to create a plan for hybrid conferences. Rainy River DSB and Limestone Kent DSB supported the motion moving to the floor for discussion. After discussion, the motion passed with over two-thirds majority (78% in favour).

Trustees received the OPSBA report with thanks.

7.5 Student Trustees' Update

7.5.1 Indigenous Youth Circle (IYC) Update

Student Trustee Lewis was invited to speak to this item. Student Trustee Lewis provided a verbal report on the events and growth of the IYC over the last term. Highlights were shared regarding the event held at Spirit Point. Goals were identified about increasing cultural activities and Indigenous education courses in schools. Positive remarks were offered in recognition of Indigenous Student Trustee Elect Benson. Trustees were thanked for their leadership, willingness to listen and showing up for NNDSB students.

7.5.2 Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Darling was invited to speak to this item. A verbal report was provided on the happenings within the secondary school in honour of Pride Month and Indigenous

History Month. Review of the year-end banquet activities honouring excellence in arts, athletics, and academics. Update provided on the excitement building around graduation and other senior activities happening around the board. Trustees were thanked for their support throughout the last two years of the term.

7.6 Community Involvement

7.6.1 Scheduled Delegations

Vice-Chair Wesley confirmed there are no scheduled delegations for this evening.

7.6.2 Question Period

After a brief pause, it is noted that there were no questions submitted from the public for consideration by trustees.

8.0 Items for Decision

8.1 Report from Committee of the Whole Private Session

Vice-Chair Wesley confirmed this is a nil report.

8.2 Report from Committee of the Whole Public Session

Vice-Chair Wesley confirmed this is a nil report.

8.3 Tender Project Award- South River Public School

Motion: 23-06-07, S. Hall/ J. Fuscaldo

That tender NNDSB 2023-001, Site improvements, South River Public School be awarded to Deep Construction 2018 Inc. in the amount of \$1,050,484.00 plus HST. – CARRIED.

9.0 Committee Reports

9.1 Multi-Year Strategic Plan Committee Report

9.1.1 MYSP Semi-Annual Report

Trustees were referred to the report included in the agenda package for information. SBO Van Haesendonck provided comments on behalf of Director Myles to note the quantitative 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 2022/23 within the four priorities of the MYSP.

The floor was opened for questions with none rose.

9.2 Finance Committee Report

9.2.1 Meeting minutes- May 31, 2023

9.2.2 Finance Committee Quarterly Report

9.2.3 Review of the 2023/24 Budget

Trustee Hall, Finance Committee Chair, was invited to speak to this item. Highlights of the presentation are noted as:

- The Finance Committee is pleased to present the proposed NNDSB Budget for the 2023-2024 school year. The meeting schedule was reviewed to demonstrate the committee's attention and focus on the draft budget.

Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held June 13, 2023

- The budget is presented with a compliant deficit budget for the 2023-2024 school year, with a deficit for compliance purposes of (\$914,337)
- There will be revenue and expenses for compliance purposes of \$170.5 million and \$171.4 million respectively.
- The board is currently projecting an enrolment increase of 2.5% from the 2022-2023 budget, comprised of 187 additional elementary students, and 60.50 additional secondary students.
- Staffing is projected to decrease slightly from the 2022-23 budget by 6.3 FTE, but additional teaching staff of approximately 10.0 FTE will be added prior to the start of the new school year because of additional funding for de-streaming and math supports – this FTE is not currently included in the budget but will be funded through Priorities and Partnerships funding.

The floor was opened for questions:

- Question raised regarding the comment offered about reduced staffing costs through attrition. SBO Van Haesendonck noted that NNDSB utilizes attrition as an opportunity to review workflow practices for prospective efficiencies to maximize the funding available for student achievement and well-being outcomes.
- Suggestion raised about a more systemic review of the budget to ensure it is fully understood by trustees, in observance of their fiduciary duty. SBO Van Haesendonck noted this suggestion can be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration in next year's budget cycle. It is recognized that a balance must be struck between the presentation of digestible information while ensuring a fulsome understanding. Trustees were refreshed on the ability to attend Finance committee meetings at any time to receive the detailed review.
- Follow-up comment to note the opportunity to align the budget to the MYSP strategic pillars was missed by the committee in the Spring, so it is appreciated if this can remain in the budget procedures manual for completion in the next budget cycle.
- It is recognized that ideas were offered at the committee level regarding active transportation efforts that would have positive outcomes for students and the transportation deficit.

It is recognized that the time is quickly approaching 8:00 PM, and so a motion was tabled to extend the meeting.

Motion: 23-06-08, C. Phillips/ S. Hall

That the Board move to extend the meeting to 8:30 PM. – CARRIED.

Motion: 23-06-09, S. Hall/ A. St. Pierre

That the 2023/24 budget for the Near North District School Board be approved as presented, as recommended by the Finance Committee. – CARRIED.

Motion: 23-06-10, S. Hall/ J. Bertram

That the Near North District School Board approves the In-Year Deficit Elimination Plan as presented. – CARRIED.

9.3 Special Education Advisory Committee Report

9.3.1 *Meeting minutes- April 20, 2023*

9.3.2 *2022- 2023 Special Education Plan*

Trustees were referred to the supporting information included in the agenda package. Highlights of the information reviewed 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, 2023.
- Question raised regarding the total number of students with Identification, Placement and Review Committees (IPRC) within NNDSB. SO Graves invited Special Education Principal Pauli to respond. It is noted that the total number of reviews conducted is approximately 1518 at this point with a few more weeks in the school year to go. Clarification will be brought back to the next SEAC meeting regarding the firm number.
- It is recognized that Special Education is a priority within NNDSB. SEAC members have continued to express appreciation for the additional funding directed to Special Education beyond the fixed allocations from the Ministry.
- Question raised regarding efforts to address the backlog to access psychoeducational assessments. Further comment by Trustee St. Pierre to note that assessments procured privately must still be reviewed by the board's psychologist, which further contributes to the delay. SO Graves noted this was raised at the committee level with a request to provide more information. It is recognized that this is a challenge, particularly in the post-COVID learning environment. NNDSB has several plans in place to address this challenge. Once the report is received by SEAC, it can be brought forward to trustees as an information item.

Motion: 23-06-11, L. Sargent/ J. Fuscaldo

That the updates to the 2023-2023 Special Education Plan be approved, as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee. -CARRIED.

9.4 North Bay Consolidated Committee Report

9.4.1 *Meeting minutes- April 20, 2023*

9.4.2 *Committee Report*

Trustees were referred to the report and minutes included in the agenda package. Thanks was expressed to all committee members for their participation in this work. The floor was open for questions or comments, with none rose.

Motion: 23-06-12, J. Bertram/ S. Hall

Be it resolved, that pursuant to clause 194 (3) (a) of the Education Act, the Near North District School Board declares that as of September 1, 2023, the property at 1351 Chapais Street, North Bay is not required for the purposes of the board;

Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held June 13, 2023

That pursuant to clause 194 (3) (a) of the Education Act, the Near North District School Board declares that as of September 1, 2023, the property at 599 Lake Heights Road, North Bay is not required for the purposes of the board;

And that the properties be sold in accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98 Disposition of Surplus Real Property and Acquisition of Real Property, as recommended by the North Bay Consolidation Committee. -CARRIED.

9.5 Committee Meeting Minutes Presented for Information
9.5.1 Equity Advisory Circle minutes- April 19, 2023

Vice-Chair Wesley opened the floor for any questions regarding the minutes presented for information.

An inquiry was raised regarding the results of the poll on the raising of the Pride flag. It is noted that trustees were canvassed informally given that NNDSB's administrative guideline on flag raising is currently in development. Results noted trustees were supportive of the Pride flag being raised, and so the Pride flag was raised at the Board Office. Correspondence was sent to administrators to ensure the school-level decisions were made in alignment with the needs of their buildings. A brief review was provided regarding the Pride activities hosted across NNDSB. It is expected that the administrative guideline for flag protocol will be open for public consultation in the Fall.

10.0 Next Meeting Date

Vice-Chair Wesley confirmed the Board of Trustees will meet next on September 12, 2023.

11.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: 23-06-13, S. Hall/ A. St. Pierre

That we do now adjourn at 8:21 pm. – CARRIED

HW/km.


Erika Loughheed
Chair


Craig Myles
Director of Education

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

23-06-01 L. Sargent J. Fuscaldo	In accordance with BL-102, be it resolved that the following trustees be granted a leave of absence from the June 13, 2023 Board meeting as confirmation of regrets was provided in advance of the meeting:
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Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held June 13, 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trustee Bill Steer - Board Chair Erika Lougheed <p>-CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-02 S. Hall J. Bertram</p>	<p>Be it resolved, that the agenda for the Board meeting of June 13, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-03 C. Phillips J. Fuscaldo</p>	<p>That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of May 9, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-04 S. Hall A. St. Pierre</p>	<p>That the minutes of the special Board meeting of May 29, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-05 L. Sargent J. Fuscaldo</p>	<p>Be it resolved that the motion proposed regarding item 7.1.4-CSS Renaming Update is amended to strike out the words "Private Session" – CARRIED</p>
<p>23-06-06 J. Bertram J. Fuscaldo</p>	<p>That the CSS Renaming Update be deferred back to the Committee of the Whole for discussion" – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</p>
<p>23-06-07 S. Hall J. Fuscaldo</p>	<p>That tender NNDSB 2023-001, Site improvements, South River Public School be awarded to Deep Construction 2018 Inc. in the amount of \$1,050,484.00 plus HST. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-08 C. Phillips S. Hall</p>	<p>That the Board move to extend the meeting to 8:30 PM. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-09 S. Hall A. St. Pierre</p>	<p>That the 2023/24 budget for the Near North District School Board be approved as presented, as recommended by the Finance Committee. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-10 S. Hall J. Bertram</p>	<p>That the Near North District School Board approves the In-Year Deficit Elimination Plan as presented. – CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-11 L. Sargent J. Fuscaldo</p>	<p>That the updates to the 2023-2023 Special Education Plan be approved, as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee. -CARRIED.</p>
<p>23-06-12 J. Bertram S. Hall</p>	<p>Be it resolved, that pursuant to clause 194 (3) (a) of the Education Act, the Near North District School Board declares that as of September 1, 2023, the property at 1351 Chapais Street, North Bay is not required for the purposes of the board;</p> <p>That pursuant to clause 194 (3) (a) of the Education Act, the Near North District School Board declares that as of September 1, 2023, the property at 599 Lake Heights Road, North Bay is not required for the purposes of the board;</p>

Minutes of the Public Session Board Meeting of the Near North District School Board held June 13, 2023

	And that the properties be sold in accordance with Ontario Regulation 444/98 Disposition of Surplus Real Property and Acquisition of Real Property, as recommended by the North Bay Consolidation Committee. -CARRIED.
23-06-13 S. Hall A. St Pierre	Be it resolved, that we do now adjourn at 8:21 pm. – CARRIED

