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Erika Lougheed, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

The November 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
Albany Benson, Indigenous Student
Trustee
Dora Chen, 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

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Lougheed called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1.1 Land acknowledgement

Chair Lougheed read the declaration aloud.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance indicated that 11 trustees were present, including the two Student Trustees.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil.

2.0 In-Camera

At approximately 5:10 PM, 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: L. Sargent/ C. Phillips

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)(b).- 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

At approximately 5:25 PM, 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.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

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

Motion: S. Hall/ J. Fuscaldo

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of November 14, 2023, be approved. - CARRIED.

5.0 Review of Previous Minutes

5.1 2023 10 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: H. Wesley/ J. Bertram

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 10, 2023 be approved. – CARRIED.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Notice of Motion- Trustee Phillips

Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Phillips contained in the agenda package requesting the Board receive an information report regarding student nutrition programs to better understand food security within the NNDSB.

It is noted that to proceed to discussion, the motion requires a seconder. The floor was open for expressions of support. Trustee Fuscaldo seconded the motion. Chair Lougheed noted Trustee Phillips is permitted to speak first and then the floor will be opened for discussion by trustees. Highlights are noted as:

- Opening comments by Trustee Phillips to note she was motivated by recent

media reports around the province about food insecurity and hearing personal accounts locally. An information report is essential to understand the true issues/needs and existing programming in place within NNDSB.

- It is recognized that access to food can contribute to challenging behaviours, and food security can be a solution to addressing challenging behaviours present in the classroom.
- Supportive comments from Vice-Chair Wesley, noting schools have unique ways of supporting student nutrition. Community volunteers and partners contribute greatly to their success.
- Trustee St. Pierre spoke about the available funding opportunities for Indigenous students and how First Nations contribute to classroom supports.
- Trustee Fuscaldo suggested bringing the topic forward to the Parent Involvement Committee to consider surveying school councils for successes and gaps in school approaches.
- Trustee Bertram noted that there is information in the Director's Annual Report about student nutrition programs.
- Trustee Sargent echoed the importance of this issue and noted that hungry students aren't as productive in the classroom. Following the receipt of an information report, trustees could consider accessing the Trustee Initiative Fund to provide support if it was needed.
- Director Myles thanked trustees for beginning the review by receiving an information report. There certainly are existing programs and resources available, as well as community agencies who form close relationships that amplify school approaches.
- Closing comments from Trustee Phillips to thank all trustees for their support to have a report received and explore new possible partnerships.

With no further comments to note, the motion was read aloud by the Chair. Closing comments from Chair Lougheed to note there is consensus to move the recommendation forward to the Board meeting for review and approval.

6.2 OPSBA Public Education Symposium attendance

Trustees were referred to the brief outlined in the package regarding the 2024 OPSBA Public Education Symposium event. The floor was opened for expressions of interest by trustees. It is noted that Trustees Steer, Phillips and St. Pierre and Vice-Chair Wesley would be pleased to represent NNDSB.

Chair Lougheed noted a motion would be passed in the Board's regular meeting to confirm. Any further expressions of interest can be brought forward to the Chair via email.

6.3 2023-24 trustee committee membership discussion

Trustees were referred to the draft 2023-24 committee membership composition chart contained in the agenda package. It is noted that trustees had the opportunity to outline their interest in advance of the meeting to have the discussion proceed more efficiently. The floor was opened for discussion. Highlights noted as:

- Trustee Phillips agreed to fill the remaining vacancy on the Audit Committee.
- Trustee Sargent expressed interest in the Maple View Building Committee. It is noted that the committee will coordinate the building's grand opening. Chair

Lougheed withdrew her interest, so the trustee complement will be Trustee Steer and Trustee Sargent

- Trustee Steer expressed interest in the North Bay Consolidation Committee.
- Trustee Hall expressed interest in the alternate vacancy on the First Nations Advisory Committee.

Chair Lougheed thanked trustees for their willingness to participate on committees. The 2023-24 Board committee membership will be approved through motion during the regular Board meeting.

6.4 2023-24 OPSBA Delegate Selection

It is noted that the Board must also confirm its OPSBA Delegate and Alternate Delegate for 2023-2024. Trustees Steer and Bertram are the current representatives and were recognized for their leadership and service in 2022-23. Through discussion, it was deemed beneficial to maintain consistency, and therefore, Trustees Steer and Bertram were recommended to continue in their roles. The floor was opened for any further expressions of interest, with none rose. Chair Lougheed noted that the decisions will be confirmed through motion during the regular Board meeting.

7.0 **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: J. Bertram/ S. Hall

That we do now adjourn at 5: 54 PM. – CARRIED.