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Erika Lougheed, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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The April 9, 2024 **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:**

Ashley St. Pierre, Vice-Chair  
Bill Steer  
Chantal Phillips  
Howard Wesley  
Jeanie Fuscaldo ®  
Julie Bertram ®  
Louise Sargent  
Dora Chen, Student Trustee

**Trustees Absent:**

Erika Lougheed, Chair  
Shane Hall  
Albany Benson, Student Trustee

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Gay Smylie, Director Designate  
Timothy Graves, Superintendent of Education  
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business  
Deb Bartlett, Communications Officer  
Glenn Morrison, Manager  
Maureen Egan, Executive Assistant

**Regrets:**

Craig Myles, Director of Education  
Melanie Gray, Superintendent

**Other:**

Staff, media, union and community partners

® attended remotely via Zoom video or audio conference

**1.0 Call to Order**

Vice Chair St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 7:15 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**

Director designate Smylie read the Land Acknowledgement.

Vice-Chair St. Pierre thanked everyone for attending and kindly asked that we all treat each other with respect during the meeting. The Board will be hosting a question period later in the agenda for members of the public to ask questions of trustees related to anything on the Board's agenda this evening. Guests joining in person can find the form on the front table. Once complete, please pass it to the Executive Assistant at the front to confirm submission. Guests joining virtually can find a link to a virtual survey located in the meeting chat. Please complete this survey and your question will be submitted to the Executive Assistant automatically. Members of the public can submit questions freely in alignment with the Board's By-law regarding question period (BL-114) up until this item

arises on the agenda.

**2.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence**

Motion: 24-04-01, L.Sargent/C.Phillips

In accordance with BL-102 be it resolved that E. Lougheed, S. Hall and A. Benson be granted a leave of absence from the April 9, 2024 Board meeting as confirmation of regrets was provided in advance of the meeting. – CARRIED

**3.0 Attendance**

**3.1 Confirmation of Quorum**

Attendance indicated that 8 trustees were present for the meeting, including one 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**

Motion: 24-04-02, J. Bertram/C. Phillips

That the agenda for the Board meeting of April 9, 2024 be approved.– CARRIED.

**5.0 Review of Previous Minutes**

Motion: 24-04-03, L.Sargent/J.Fuscaldo

That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of March 19, 2024, be approved as amended. The amendment being the recording of G. Smylie as Director designate – CARRIED.

**6.0 Communication to the Board**

**Community Involvement**

Scheduled Delegations & Question Period

Vice-Chair St. Pierre noted the community involvement section of the Board’s agenda has been advanced on the order of items, following a recommendation stated as an OBSPA Leader’s Academy professional development session.

It is noted that there are no scheduled delegations for this evening. Vice-Chair Pierre noted the Board would move to its public question period. Submissions of questions will now be closed to organize the list for review. It is noted that there are no questions submitted in—person or virtually for review by trustees.

**6.1 Information Items**

6.1.1 Professional Development Opportunities Calendar ✓

6.1.2 Upcoming Committee meetings ✓

6.1.3 Monthly Tender Report- March 2024 ✓

6.1.4 International Baccalaureate (IB) Five Year Program Review ✓

6.1.5 Sale of 599 Lake Heights Road (EW Norman) ✓

6.1.6 Sale of 1351 Chapais Street (ET Carmichael) ✓

6.2 Director's Update

Vice- Chair St. Pierre invited Director designate Smylie to review the Director's Update. Director designate Smylie began by thanking our union partners and the chair of the principals' council for attending tonight's meeting and working so closely with us as we continue to strategize burden reductions during the ongoing staffing crisis.

Director designate Smylie noted that Director Myles' report was included in the agenda package and she emphasized that his number one priority as the Director of Education is to provide a teaching, learning and working environment that promotes wellbeing, safety, and health for all staff which ultimately leads to a productive environment for student achievement. Thanks to our incredible staff we are continuing to prioritize the well-being and success of our students; this clearly demonstrates staffs' unwavering professionalism and commitment to excellence.

6.3 Chair's Remarks

Vice-chair St. Pierre acknowledged our staff and union partners here tonight and expressed deep gratitude and admiration for each and everyone of them during this difficult time in the education sector. She continued noting that the staffing crisis has undoubtedly placed immense pressure on our schools but the steadfast dedication, compassion and innovative problem solving of staff has not gone unnoticed. On behalf of the board of trustees a sincere thank you.

Vice-chair St. Pierre stated that effective today Erika Lougheed has stepped down from her role as trustee and chair with Near North DSB. She thanked Erika for her dedicated service and commitment to the trustees. She has made invaluable contributions to our board and will be missed.

In accordance with the *Education Act*, the procedure for filling a trustee vacancy has been clearly outlined. Until the vacancy is officially filled, Vice-chair St. Pierre said will be taking on the responsibilities of the Chair position. To ensure a seamless transition and adherence to the *Education Act* she has requested Director Myles provide us with a written report outlining the steps in this process. He will be submitting that shortly and a Special Board meeting will be scheduled to review that report for decision.

6.4 OPSBA Report

Trustee Steer attended the recent OPSBA regional meetings and briefly described items of topic. He also advised that the next regional meeting is being planned for October in ThunderBay. Trustee Steer also thanked our union partners and tabled the following motion:

Motion: 24-04-04 B. Steer/H.Wesley

That the board draft a letter to Minister Lecce and to OPSBA regarding the staffing crisis. - CARRIED

6.5 Student Trustee Reports

Vice-chair noted the wonderful reports from our student trustees. Student Trustee Albany Benson is studying for an exam tonight and had sent her regrets. Student Trustee Chen reviewed her report.

**7.0 Items for Decision**

**7.1 Report from Committee of the Whole Closed Session**

Motion: 24-04-05, L. Sargent/B.Steer

That NNDSB ratifies the Memorandum of Settlement dated March 19, 2024 for Part B of the OSSTF District 4 Educational Student Support Professional bargaining unit agreement, effective September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2026. - CARRIED

**7.2 OPSBA Annual General Meeting Attendance**

Motion: 24-04-06, B. Steer/H.Wesley

That the Board approve the following trustees to attend the OPSBA Annual General Meeting July 2-5 in Toronto: B. Steer and H. Wesley. - CARRIED

**7.3 Report from Finance Committee**

Motion: 24-04-07, C.Phillips/J.Bertram

That the Finance Committee of the Near North District School Board recommends that the Board of Trustees awards tender NNDSB 2024-011 Woodland P.S. Window Replacement to Northland Glass & Metal Limited for \$470,000.00 plus HST. - CARRIED

Motion: 24-04-08, H.Wesley/J.Bertram

That the Finance Committee of the Near North District School Board recommends that the Board of Trustees awards tender NNDSB 2024-007 Parking Lot Reconstruction Land of Lakes to Canor Construction for \$872,198.00 plus HST. - CARRIED

**8.0 Committee Reports and Minutes**

**8.1 Committee Meeting Minutes included for Information**

2024 02 15 SEAC Committee – official  
2023 12 05 FNAC - official

**9.0 Next Meeting Date**

Vice-Chair St. Pierre confirmed the Board of Trustees will meet next on May 14, 2024 and at a Special Meeting of the Board within two weeks.

**10.0 Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: 24-04-09, C.Phillips/B. Steer

That on April 9, 2024 we do now adjourn at 7:53 pm. – CARRIED



**Ashley St. Pierre**  
Vice- Chair



**Gay Smylie**  
Director Designate

**RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

<p><b>24-04-01</b> L.Sargent C. Phillips</p>	<p>In accordance with BL-102 be it resolved that E. Lougheed, S. Hall and A. Benson be granted a leave of absence from the April 9, 2024 Board meeting as confirmation of regrets was provided in advance of the meeting. – Carried</p>
<p><b>24-04-02</b> J.Bertram C.Phillips</p>	<p>That the agenda for the Board meeting of April 9, 2024 be approved.– CARRIED.</p>
<p><b>24-04-03</b> L.Sargent J.Fuscaldo</p>	<p>That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of March 19, 2024, be approved as amended. The amendment being the recording of G. Smylie as Director designate. – CARRIED.</p>
<p><b>24-04-04</b> B.Steer H. Wesley</p>	<p>That the board draft a letter to Minister Lecce and to OPSBA regarding the staffing crisis. - CARRIED</p>
<p><b>24-04-05</b> L. Sargent B.Steer</p>	<p>That the NNDSB ratifies the Memorandum of Settlement dated March 19, 2024 for Part B of the OSSTF District 4 Educational Support Staff Professional bargaining agreement, effective September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2026 - CARRIED</p>
<p><b>24-04-06</b> B. Steer H. Wesley</p>	<p>That the Board approve the following trustees to attend the OPSBA Annual General Meeting July 2-5 in Toronto: B. Steer and H. Wesley. - CARRIED</p>
<p><b>24-04-07</b> C. Phillips J.Bertram</p>	<p>That the Finance Committee of the Near North District School Board recommends that the Board of Trustees awards tender NNDSB 2024-011 Woodland P.S. Window Replacement to Northland Glass &amp; Metal Limited for \$470,000.00 plus HST. - CARRIED</p>
<p><b>24-04-08</b> H.Wesley J.Bertram</p>	<p>That the Finance Committee of the Near North District School Board recommends that the Board of Trustees awards tender NNDSB 2024-007 Parking Lot Reconstruction Land of Lakes to Canor Construction for \$872,198.00 plus HST. - CARRIED</p>
<p><b>24-04-09</b> C.Phillips B.Steer</p>	<p>That on April 9, 2024 we do now adjourn at 7:53 pm. – CARRIED</p>