Near North District School Board

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 | 4:30 PM

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 Closed Session

Motion: That the Committee move into Closed Session in order to discuss items pertaining to *The Education Act* R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2 section 207(2)(d) - Negotiations, and section 207(2)(e) – Litigation.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda √

Motion: That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 11, 2024 be approved.

4.0 Review of Previous Minutes √

Motion: That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 14, 2024 be approved.

5.0 Business Arising

6.0 New Business

6.1 Notice of Motion – Trustee Bertram √

6.2 Notice of Motion – Trustee Fuscaldo √

7.0 Adjournment

Motion: That on June 11, 2024 we do now adjourn at ____pm.

Near North District School Board

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

Ashley St. Pierre, Interim Chair
Craig Myles, Director of Education

The May 14, 2024 **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:
Ashley St. Pierre, Interim Chair
Howard Wesley
Bill Steer
Chantal Phillips
Jeanie Fuscaldo
Julie Bertram
Louise Sargent
Shane Hall
Albany Benson, Student Trustee
Dora Chen, Student Trustee

Administrative Staff Present:
Craig Myles, Director of Education
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Education
Gay Smylie, Superintendent
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business
Timothy Graves, Superintendent ®
Deb Bartlett, Communications Officer
Maureen Egan, Executive Assistant
Glenn Morrison, Manager IT

Other:
Staff, Union partners, media, and community partners

Regrets:

® attended remotely via Zoom video or audio conference

1.0 Call to Order
Interim Chair St. Pierre called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

1.1 Land acknowledgement
Director Myles read the declaration aloud**.**

1.2 Attendance
Attendance indicated that 10 trustees were present, including the two Student Trustee.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest nil

2.0 Closed Session – n/a

3.0 Approval of the Agenda
Trustees were referred to the agenda included in the agenda package.

Motion: CW 2024 05 01 L.Sargent/J.Bertram
That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of May 14, 2024, be approved. - CARRIED.

4.0 Review of Previous Minutes

Motion: CW 2024 05 02 H.Wesley/C.Phillips
That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 9, 2024 be approved. – CARRIED.

5.0 Business Arising – n/a

6.0 New Business

6.1 Trustee Initiative Fund Notice of Motion
Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Wesley contained in the agenda package.

Motion: CW 24 05 03 H.Wesley/J.Fuscaldo
That the Board allocates the Trustee Initiative Fund equally among all schools for the fiscal year 2024 to provide assistance to schools as deemed appropriate by the principals. - CARRIED

6.2 Correspondence to Trustees Notice of Motion
Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Bertram contained in the agenda package.

Motion: CW 24 05 04 J. Bertram/J. Fuscaldo
That all correspondence addressed to the Board of Trustees shall be immediately forwarded to all trustees - Deferred

Questions and comments by trustees: Trustee Bertram suggested to redact portions of the document. Trustee Wesley suggested that since federations were able to speak to the board, the letter in question could be presented. Director Myles expressed concerns about breach of privacy. Director Myles suggested that a legal opinion be sought to ensure the Board is following all relevant legislation including MFIPPA. He asked the Board to provide him time to draft a concise report in order to ensure we are compliant and protecting all staff. Report to include all communications in question including the letter under discussion. Consensus reached by trustees to defer the motion until the Director drafts a report. Consensus also was reached that at the June CW a notice of motion would be presented to discuss the Parry Sound Build correspondence. Trustee Wesley spoke to the flow of correspondence between trustees and staff noting it is acceptable and speaks to the community interest of keeping McDougall open. Interim Chair St. Pierre thanked trustees for the discussion.

6.3 Environmental Responsibility Policy Notice of Motion
Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Fuscaldo contained in the agenda package. Trustee Fuscaldo clarified that the report was merely an example of what might be produced once a committee had been struck. After several minutes of discussion, Trustee Phillips called the question without a motion citing time constraints

due to a water issue in the building. Trustee Steer, through the chair, voiced that he wished to speak. He was denied due to the time constraints and the motion was called.

Motion: CW 24 05 05 J. Fuscaldo/J.Bertram
That the Board accepts the working document entitled "Development of Environmental Responsibility Policy" and forwards to the next Bylaw Review Committee prior to bringing it back to the Board for final approval. – CARRIED

6.4 Environmental Responsibility Committee Notice of Motion
Trustees were referred to the Notice of Motion filed by Trustee Fuscaldo contained in the agenda package. Trustee Fuscaldo stated she would be deferring her notice of motion at this time to September.

7.0 New Business – n/a

8.0 Motion to Adjourn

Motion: CW 24-04-04 L.Sargent/C.Phillips
That we do now adjourn at 6:40 pm. – CARRIED.

Near North District School Board

report

Title:	**Notice of Motion – Ministry Guidance on Community Request to Save McDougall Public School**
Contact:	Julie Ann Bertram
Date Submitted:	May 24, 2024
Mandate:	In alignment with NNDSB Bylaw 102, TRUSTEE Bertram provided notice to the Secretary of the Board, Director Myles, requesting an item be placed on the agenda for discussion during the June 11 Committee of the Whole meeting.
Background:	**Historical Context from the Final JK-12 School Project Report 2021** The NNDSB approved motions on Oct.23 2012 and Nov.27 2012 to establish an Accommodations Review involving the relocation of the Grade 7/8 students from William Beaty, Nobel, and McDougall Schools to Parry Sound High School and the relocation of the JK-6 students from Nobel School to McDougall School. At the fourth public meeting, the ARC facilitator sought community input on a recommended solution, which was to close Nobel and McDougall Public Schools and close Parry Sound High School – Students would be relocated to a new K-8 elementary school and a new 9-12 high school located on one campus. The Board-preferred option to move the Grade 7/8 students from William Beatty to Parry Sound High School formed part of the transition period. As a result, the Parry Sound Intermediate School was established for the Grade 7/8 William Beatty students and located within the existing Parry Sound High School. The Board's request to the Ministry was for the construction of a 1,171-pupil school at approx.. $32.4 million including demolition costs. The planned completion date was 2016-17. In 2018, pre-Covid, the construction cost per square foot was $233.20 as confirmed by the Board's consultant and the size of the school was approx.. 141,000 square feet. *Ministry staff suggested that the JK-6 students could be accommodated at the Parry Sound Public School, built and opened in 2015.* This was based on the projected utilization of the school being at 58% by 2027-28 – Current utilization rate (2023-24) is 84% (504 spaces and 421 students)

The new funding approval reflected an 815-pupil school (238 elementary and 577 secondary) with the addition of 6 hexagon-shaped portables.

Elementary student populations as per the Oct. 2023 Board report that are included in the JK-12 Build:
McDougall: 176
Nobel: 189
Parry Sound Intermediate: 102
TOTAL: **467**

Studies on the Safety, Achievement and Wellbeing of Students in Portables (Augustos Riveros – Western University)

"Portable classrooms are modular structures used when schools cannot accommodate growing student populations. They can provide relief in overcrowded schools while permanent accommodations are being built, but there are concerns about their use"

- "Schools with temporary structures tend to have lower attendance rates and declines in academic achievement."
- "Student misbehaviours tended to occur when travelling between the portables and the main building."
- Students in permanent classrooms expressed more positive attitudes toward their school than their peers who were placed in portables."
- "Portables have a small negative impact on reading and language achievement."
- "While portable classrooms may alleviate overcrowding in the permanent section of the building, the associated increase in overall student numbers often causes congestion in common areas, such as offices, gyms, libraries, and cafeterias. The concern is that portables only address classroom-level capacity issues, but common areas remain crowded, which may create inhospitable environments for students."
- "The distance between the portables and the main buildings may create a disconnect in case of an emergency."
- "Studies on environmental conditions of portable classrooms have reported concerns with indoor air quality, temperature control, noise levels, water, leaks and mould."

Urban Exodus to Rural Ontario: Trends from Statistics Canada

	"As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a visible migration of urban populations into rural communities, economies, and environments." (University of Guelph, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development)
Resolution:	Whereas, the NNDSB is deeply committed to fostering an environment that promotes student achievement and wellbeing; Whereas, research indicates that the physical learning environment plays a critical role in the cognitive and emotional development of children; Whereas, the use of portables as temporary classrooms raises concerns about the adequacy of facilities, including space, safety, and access to essential educational resources which are crucial to maintaining high standards of student achievement; Whereas, the NNDSB reaffirms its dedication to creating and maintaining educational environments that maximize student achievement, personal growth, and wellbeing; Whereas, the current JK-12 school plan includes elementary school space designed for only 235 students, necessitating the use of permanent portables without viable options for expansion that avoid mixing elementary and secondary students, contrary to the original accommodation review recommendations; Whereas, from September 2022 to present, the West Parry Sound Townships have communicated their concerns to the NNDSB regarding the reduced size of the building and the reliance on portable classrooms. (The concerns are supported by the 2021 census data indicating a 13% population growth since 2016) BE IT RESOLVED that the NNDSB acknowledges the recommendation from Municipalities to consider retaining McDougall Public School – that the NNDSB formally requests that the Ministry of Education accounts for updated enrolment figures and the utilization of long-term portables in this expanding northern community – that the NNDSB seeks comprehensive guidance that addresses the needs of the affected communities, ensuring that student well-being remains a top priority.

TOWNSHIP OF
CARLING

2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel ON P0G 1G0
Email: mtaylor@carling.ca
Phone: 705-342-5856
Fax: 705-342-9527

March 13, 2024

RE: Support to not Close Schools in McDougall and to Establish Accommodation Review

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At the Township of Carling's Regular Meeting of Council held on March 12, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

24-027.6a

Moved by Councillor Wing
Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the Municipality of McDougall passed Resolution 2024-04 requesting the Ministry of Education to not close the rural elementary schools within the Municipality of McDougall and to Establish a new Accommodation Review Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Carling hereby supports this resolution;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Board Association, Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education, MPP of Parry Sound Muskoka Graydon Smith, the Near North District School Board, and all West Parry Sound municipalities.

Carried

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely

Mackenzie Taylor
Deputy Clerk

The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.4.

Resolution Number 24-030

Title: Request for Support. Resolution Supporting Near North District School Board's request to the Ministry of Education to not exercise their authority granted by Bill 98 for the closure of rural elementary schools within the McDougall

Date: Friday, February 23, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Emery

Seconded by: Councillor MacLeod

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of The Archipelago hereby supports the Municipality of McDougall's January 24, 2024 resolution regarding their support of the Near North School Board's request to the Ministry of Education to not close the rural elementary schools within the Municipality of McDougall and to establish a new Accommodation Review Committee; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Board's Association, the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, MPP of Parry Sound Muskoka, Graydon Smith, the Near North District School Board, and all West Parry Sound Municipalities.

Carried

Schedule "A" to Seguin Council Resolution No. 2024-030

RESOLUTION NO.: 2024-01

McDougall

DATE: January 24, 2024

CARRIED: ✓

DEFEATED: _____

MOVED BY:	DIVISION LIST	FOR	AGAINST
	Councillor Blower		
Councillor Constable	Councillor Constable		
SECONDED BY:	Councillor Hamer		
	Councillor Ryman		
Councillor Blower	Mayor Robinson		

WHEREAS Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of McDougall has been opposed to the Near North District School Board (NNDSB) 2015 decision to close both McDougall Public School and Nobel Public School, for a new kindergarten to Grade 12 mega school at the current Parry Sound High School location; and

WHEREAS the closures are based on an out-of-date Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) established in 2013, and enrollment projections; and

WHEREAS the NNDSB has confirmed that current enrollment exceeds that of which the mega school is designed for.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of McDougall hereby supports the attached Motion 2023-10-05 passed by the NNDSB requesting that the Ministry of Education not exercise their authority granted by Bill 98 for the closure of rural elementary schools within the Municipality of McDougall, being McDougall Public School and Nobel Public School.; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT proper input from the parents of the students affected and local municipal governments be received by establishing a new Accommodation Review Committee.; and FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education, MPP Graydon Smith and West Parry Sound District Municipalities, and the Near North District School Board.

MAYOR

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – January 16 2024

Resolution No. 2024-024

Moved by: Councillor Brian Woods

Seconded by: Councillor Scott Nash

11.2 Town of Parry Sound resolution, Request Education Minister to Not Close Rural Schools - Resolution of support (request from December 12th, 2023 Council meeting)

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone hereby supports the Town of Parry Sound Council Resolution 2023-175 in support of Motion 2023-10-05 passed on October 10, 2023 by the Near North District School Board which strongly implores the Ministry of Education not to exercise their authority granted by Bill 98 for the closure of rural elementary schools; and

THAT a study be undertaken to determine which of the two rural elementary schools, being either McDougall Public School or Nobel Public School, is the most

appropriate to stay open in the West Parry Sound District to serve the area's growing population and alleviate the need to add to the current JK-Grade 12 mega-school construction project; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education, MPP Graydon Smith and West Parry Sound District Municipalities.

Carried

The Corporation of The Town of Parry Sound

Council Meeting Minutes November 21, 2023

9.5.2 Safeguarding Rural Education

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2023 - 175

Moved by Councillor Ashford Seconded by Councillor Beleskey

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports attached Motion 2023-10-05 passed on October 10, 2023 by the Near North District School Board which strongly implores the Ministry of Education not to exercise their authority granted by Bill 98 for the closure of rural elementary schools, and

That a study be undertaken to determine which of two rural elementary schools, being either McDougall Public School or Nobel Public School, is the most appropriate to stay open in the West Parry Sound District to serve the area's growing population and alleviate the need to add to the current JK-Grade 12 mega-school construction project; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education, MPP Graydon Smith and West Parry Sound District Municipalities.

Carried

Town of Parry Sound

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2023 – 175

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO
Councillor G. ASHFORD		
Councillor J. BELESKEY		
Councillor P. BORNEMAN		
Councillor B. KEITH		
Councillor D. McCANN		
Councillor C. McDONALD		
Mayor J. McGARVEY		

DATE: November 21, 2023

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: ✓ **DEFEATED:** _____ **Postponed to:** _____

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports attached Motion 2023-10-05 passed on October 10, 2023 by the Near North District School Board which strongly implores the Ministry of Education not to exercise their authority granted by Bill 98 for the closure of rural elementary schools, and

That a study be undertaken to determine which of two rural elementary schools, being either McDougall Public School or Nobel Public School, is the most appropriate to stay open in the West Parry Sound District to serve the area's growing population and alleviate the need to add to the current JK-Grade 12 mega-school construction project; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education, MPP Graydon Smith and West Parry Sound District Municipalities.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen
Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

22-400 **Be It Resolved** That the Council of the Township of McKellar does hereby support Resolution No. 2022-117 of the Town of Parry Sound; Whereas Council Supports Sudbury MPP Jamie West's call that the province expedite completion of four-laning of Hwy 400 between Sudbury & Parry Sound and; Therefore this Support Resolution be forwarded to MPP Graydon Smith, Minister of Transportation Caroline Mulroney and surrounding Municipalities in West Parry Sound.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland
Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

22-401 **Be It Resolved** That the Council of the Township of McKellar does hereby support Resolution No. 2022-114 of the Town of Parry Sound; Whereas the Town of Parry Sound and the West Parry Sound area Municipalities have expressed concern over the last three years regarding outdated data from a 2013 Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) upon which building plans and budget for the junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school are based and; Whereas the Near North District School Board through its January 21, 2022 letter to West Parry Sound Area Municipalities confirms that it is not willing to expedite a new Accommodation Review Committee to review the impact of updated data on building plans and budget and; Whereas per the attached Schedule to Town of Parry Sound Resolution 2022-114, the 2021 Statistics Canada census data released on February 9, 2022 confirms a growth rate of 13.9% over 5 years within the permanent resident population of the West Parry Sound area and; Whereas Parry Sound's draft development charge study projects continued growth in the Town and; Whereas immigration projections, including Ukrainian immigration to West Parry Sound indicated an increase in population due to immigration, including immigration of families with school aged children and; Whereas schools are an integral part of supporting continued growth and Provincial prioritization plans to build more homes to accommodate current and projected population growth and; Whereas the August 2022 Smart Prosperity Institute's report projects a need for a 1.5m homes across the province over the next 10 years, 3,200 of which will be required in the Parry Sound District; Now therefore the Township of McKellar calls for reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth and; That a meeting be requested with our Near North District School Board trustee on this matter and; That copies of this Support Resolution be sent to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the Municipalities of the Archipelago, Carling, McDougall, Town of Parry Sound, Seguin and Whitestone and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim
Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

22-402 **Be It Resolved** That the Council of the Township of McKellar does hereby accept the letter from Sharon Shewen regarding claims by an election candidate that the Township decreased the levy for Belvedere Heights, Home for the Aged; And Further that Council accepts copies of letters from Belvedere Heights regarding the Municipal Levy for the years 2020, 2021 & 2022 included for information.

Carried

TOWNSHIP OF
CARLING

2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel ON P0G 1G0
Email: mtaylor@carling.ca
Phone: 705-342-5856
Fax: 705-342-9527

April 12, 2023

RE: Near North District School Board Mega School Serving Grades JK-12

The Council for the Township of Carling passed the following resolution as part of the consent agenda at their Regular Meeting of Council on April 11, 2023:

23-017.5b

Moved by Councillor Wing
Seconded by Councillor Cook

WHEREAS the Township of Carling received resolution 2023-014 from the Town of Parry Sound expressing concerns regarding the size and the design of the proposed JK-12 Mega School;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Township of Carling agrees with the Town of Parry Sound that the facility is under designed and is based on outdated population information that cannot meet the needs of the community it is serving;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Carling does not believe that enough public consultation was done when considering the creation of a JK-12 school.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole on behalf of Council requests that the Near North District School Board conduct a more fulsome community consultation and that the building be redesigned to be able to accommodate the current and future growth of the population.

AND FURTHER that copies of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steven Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith and the West Parry Sound Municipalities.

Carried

That the following be added at the end of the Resolution: And that a progress report be provided by the Board on a monthly basis.

Amendment Carried

Amended Resolution was voted on.

Carried as Amended

9.5.2 Support for Securing Canada's $1 billion investment in Freshwater Action Plan

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2023 - 015

Moved by Councillor Ashford **Seconded by Councillor Keith**

That the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports the Township of The Archipelago's Resolution 22-195 as attached, which calls on the federal government to

1. commit $1 billion in funding over five years for a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan in Budget 2023;
2. guide its Freshwater Action Plan funding to implement recommendations in the Action Plan 2020-2030;
3. direct priority funding under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan to projects in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin;
4. make municipalities eligible for future funding in programs announced under the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan; and

That this resolution be sent to the Federal Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Finance; the Minister of Environment and Climate Change; the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (responsible for the Canada Water Agency), the local Member of Parliament, and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

Whereas parity for students across the school district in addition to population growth are factors that should be utilized when determining school sizes;

Whereas schools are an integral part of supporting more growth and the Province's priority to build more homes;

Whereas the August 2022 Smart Prosperity Institute's report projects a need for 1.5m homes across the province over the next 10 years, 3,200 of which will be required in the Parry Sound District;

Whereas parity in terms of space per student and spending per student should be equitable for all students across the Near North school district;

Whereas, for example, the existing high school and the schools in Nobel and McDougall have a total of five (5) gymnasiums, including four (4) standard and one (1) full size gymnasium; and

Whereas the new Mega School is planned to only have one gymnasium;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Parry Sound requests the board provide an analysis comparing space per capita and spending per capita for students in West Parry Sound and North Bay;

That the Board consider refurbishing the McDougall school for grades JK to 6;

That the new Mega School be used for grades 7 to 12; and

That copies of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the municipalities of The Archipelago, Carling, McDougall, McKellar, Seguin and Whitestone and the Near North District School Board.

The following amendment was proposed:

Moved by Councillor Keith **Seconded by Councillor McCann**

9.4 CAO Office/Administration

9.4.1 Downtown Business Association Board Appointments

Spokesperson: Rebecca Johnson, Clerk

Resolution 2023 - 013

Moved by Councillor Borneman **Seconded by Councillor McCann**

That upon the request of the Parry Sound Downtown Business Association (DBA), Council approves the following with respect to Board membership:

1. That Jess Caux (incorrectly identified as Jess Cox in appointing Resolution 2022-157) be removed from the DBA Board of Directors upon her resignation effective immediately; and
2. That Don Corbett and Seanan Megyesi be appointed to the DBA Board of Directors for the term ending Nov 14, 2026, effective immediately.

Carried

9.5 Other Business

9.5.1 Maintain McDougall School and Mega School Serving Grades 7-12.

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2023 - 014

Moved by Councillor Ashford **Seconded by Councillor Keith**

Whereas the West Parry Sound community continues to have concerns regarding the under sizing of the new Mega School;

Whereas the incorporation of portables or "Pods" into the design heightens these concerns;

From:	Judith Meyntz
To:	doug.fordco@pc.ola.org; erika.lougheed@nearnorthschools.ca; Stephen.Lecceco@pc.ola.org; steve.clark@pc.ola.org; Graydon.Smith@pc.ola.org; cjeffery@seguin.ca; kmclfwain@carlingtownship.ca; Lori West; mweaver@thearchipelago.on.ca; rjohnson@townofparrysound.com
Cc:	Michelle Hendry
Subject:	Parry Sound Mega School Resolution
Date:	Thursday, January 26, 2023 12:32:26 PM
Attachments:	Image003.png

Good Afternoon,

At the Regular Council meeting of January 10, 2023, the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone passed the following motion regarding the Parry Sound Mega School.

Resolution No. 2023-029
Moved by: Councillor Scott Nash
Seconded by: Councillor Janice Bray

Township of the Archipelago resolution regarding Parry Sound Mega School dated October 21, 2022

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone has received a request for support of a resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound with regards to the Parry Sound Mega School;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Municipality of Whitestone supports the resolution by the Town of Parry Sound, and hereby calls for the reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth as illustrated by the 2021 Census - Population and Dwelling Counts;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that copies of this resolution of support be sent to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the West Parry Sound Municipalities and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Carried

Please contact CAO/Clerk Michelle Hendry if you have an questions.

Thank you

Judith Meyntz, AOMC
Deputy Clerk

Municipality of Whitestone
21 Church Street, Dunchurch, ON P0A 1G0
705-389-2466 – Ext. 127

We look forward to your response with respect to how we can jointly address this concern.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jamie McGarvey
Town of Parry Sound

/rj
Encl

Cc Premier Doug Ford
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark
MPP Graydon Smith
Reeve Bert Liverance, Township of the Archipelago
Mayor Mike Konoval, Township of Carling
Mayor Dale Robinson, Municipality of McDougall
Mayor Peter Hopkins, Township of McKellar
Mayor Ann MacDiarmid, Township of Seguin
Mayor George Comrie, Municipality of Whitestone
Chief M. Wayne McQuabbie, Henvey Inlet First Nation
Chief Lloyd Myke, Magnetawan First Nation
Chief Rhonda Williams-Lovett, Moose Deer Point First Nation
Chief Adam Pawis, Shawanaga First Nation
Chief Warren Tabobondung, Wasauksing First Nation
Near North District School Board Chair Jay Aspin

52 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1B4
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Office of the Mayor

September 16, 2022

Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
5th Floor - 438 University Ave.
Toronto ON M5G 2K8

Via e-mail: minister.edu@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Lecce,

RE: Reconsideration Request of Building Plans & Budget for Parry Sound Mega School

I wanted to update you further to our phone conversation at the end of July wherein we spoke about the Town and area concerns that the planned junior kindergarten to grade 12 school, also known as the "mega school" will be inadequate for our growing population as it based on 2013 data.

Following your advice, I spoke to Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP Graydon Smith about our concerns. MPP Smith in turn had a meeting with Near North District School Board representatives. It does not appear from the outcome of that meeting, that the Board is willing to reconsider its plans, in spite of the statistical evidence of the area's growing population.

At our Council's September 6th meeting the attached Resolution 2022 – 114 was passed, calling for a reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed school to ensure that it will appropriately accommodate the area's current and projected population growth. In addition to the information provided within the resolution, I would point out the commitment of Parry Sound and area to support the province's goal of increasing housing stock. Schools are integral to a healthy community infrastructure and should be planned accordingly. The current approach suggests we will have an undersized school, lacking in standard amenities. This will not only be a disservice to our children and youth, but it is also counterproductive to our collective goal of supporting an increase in the supply of housing.

...2

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely

Mackenzie Taylor
Deputy Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF
CARLING

2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel ON P0G 1G0
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Phone: 705-342-5856
Fax: 705-342-9527

October 26, 2022

RE: Town of Parry Sound Resolution – Reconsideration Request of Building Plans & Budgets for Parry Sound Mega School

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At the Regular meeting of Council for the Township of Carling held October 11, 2022, Council passed the following resolution as part of the consent agenda:

22-076.5a

Moved by Councillor Crookshank
Seconded by Councillor Crocker

WHEREAS the Town of Parry Sound passed resolution 2022-114 at their regular meeting of Council on September 6th 2022, calling for the reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth. They are requesting a meeting with the Near North District School Board trustee on this matter.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Committee of the Whole on behalf of Council supports the Town of Parry Sound resolution and;

FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution of support be sent to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steven Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of: the Town of Parry Sound, the Township of the Archipelago, the Municipality of McDougall, the Township of McKellar, the Township of Seguin, the Municipality of Whitestone and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Carried

The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 15.3.

Resolution Number 22-138

Title: Town of Parry Sound. Reconsideration Request of Building Plans & Budget for Parry Sound Mega School

Date: Friday, October 21, 2022

Moved by: Councillor Sheard

Seconded by: Councillor Manners

WHEREAS Council has received a request for support of a resolution enacted by the Town of Parry Sound with regards to the Parry Sound Mega School;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of The Archipelago supports the resolution by the Town of Parry Sound, and hereby calls for the reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth as illustrated by the 2021 Census - Population and Dwelling Counts;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that copies of this resolution of support be sent to the Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the Municipalities of the Township of Carling, the Municipality of McDougall, the Township of McKellar, the Township of Seguin, the Municipality of Whitestone, the Town of Parry Sound and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Carried

That this information be sent by letter to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the municipalities of The Archipelago, Carling, McDougall, McKellar, Seguin and Whitestone and the Near North District School Board Chair

Carried for Staff Follow-up

9.5.3 Rail Safety Week

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2022 - 115

Moved by Councillor McCann Seconded by Councillor Borneman

Whereas Rail Safety Week is to be held across Canada from September 19 to 25, 2022;

Whereas it is in the public's interest to raise citizens' awareness of the dangers of ignoring safety warnings at level crossings and trespassing on rail property to reduce avoidable deaths, injuries and damage caused by incidents involving trains and citizens;

Whereas Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;

Whereas CN has requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

Now Therefore the Town of Parry Sound hereby resolves to support national Rail Safety Week to be held from September 19 to 25, 2022.

Carried

that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth; and

That copies of this resolution be sent to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the municipalities of The Archipelago, Carling, McDougall, McKellar, Seguin and Whitestone and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Moved by Councillor Backman **Seconded by Councillor McCann**

That the following clauses be inserted appropriately within the Resolution:

Whereas immigration projections, including Ukrainian immigration to WPS indicates an increase in population due to immigration, including immigration of families with school age children; and

Therefore we request a meeting with our Near North District School Board trustee on this matter.

The amended resolution was voted on

Carried as amended

The following motion was made directing staff follow-up

Direction for Staff Follow-up

Moved by Councillor Backman **Seconded by Councillor Keith**

That Council directs staff to compile data on the difference between West Parry Sound municipalities covered within the Near North District School Board and North Bay with respect to allocation of funding per student and the amount of funds levied by the Board and paid by the municipalities; and

9.5.2 Mega/Super School

Spokesperson: Mayor McGarvey

Resolution 2022 - 114

Moved by Councillor Borneman **Seconded by Councillor McCann**

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound and West Parry Sound area municipalities have expressed concern over the last three years regarding outdated data from a 2013 Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) upon which building plans and budget for the junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school are based, and

Whereas the Near North District School Board through its January 21, 2022 letter to West Parry Sound area municipalities confirms that it is not willing to expedite a new Accommodation Review Committee to review the impact of updated data on building plans and budget, and

Whereas per the attached Schedule, the 2021 Statistics Canada census data released on February 9, 2022 confirms a growth rate of 13.9% over 5 years within the permanent resident population of the West Parry Sound area, and

Whereas Parry Sound's draft development charge study projects continued growth in the Town; and

Whereas schools are an integral part of supporting continued growth and Provincial prioritization plans to build more homes to accommodate current and projected population growth, and

Whereas the August 2022 Smart Prosperity Institute's report projects a need for 1.5m homes across the province over the next 10 years, 3,200 of which will be required in the Parry Sound District;

Now Therefore the Town of Parry Sound calls for reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure

Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population

	Carling	McDougall	McKellar	Parry Sound	Seguin	The Archipelago	Whitestone	WPS Total
Population, 2021	1491	2744	1419	6879	5280	979	1075	**19867**
Population, 2016	1125	2702	1111	6408	4304	531	916	**17097**
Population % Change, 2016-2021	32.5	1.6	27.7	7.4	22.7	84.4	17.4	**13.9%**
Total Private Dwellings, 2021	1761	1673	1515	3518	4827	2893	1427	**17614**
Total Private Dwellings, 2016	2283	1521	1520	3150	4744	2693	1410	**17321**
Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents, 2021	697	1154	695	3197	2136	497	549	**8925**
Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents %, 2021	39.6%	69.0%	45.9%	90.9%	44.3%	17.2%	38.5%	**50.7%**
Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents, 2016	499	1100	525	2926	1821	251	444	**7566**
Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents %, 2016	21.9%	72.3%	34.5%	92.9%	38.4%	9.3%	31.5%	**43.7%**
Private Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents % Change, 2016-2021	17.7%	-3.3%	11.3%	-2.0%	5.9%	7.9%	7.0%	**7.0%**

BRIEFING NOTE

2021 Census – Population and Dwelling Counts

Issue

Statistics Canada released the population and dwelling counts from the 2021 Census on February 9, 2022. This note provides an overview of the data from the West Parry Sound region.

Highlights

- The permanent population of the West Parry Sound region increased by 13.9%, or 2770 residents, between 2016 and 2021.
- All municipalities in West Parry Sound experienced growth in their permanent populations.
- Municipalities with higher percentages of seasonal residents experienced greater growth in their permanent populations, reflecting the pandemic-driven trend of residents permanently relocating to seasonal homes.
- West Parry Sound experienced a net growth of 293 private dwellings between 2016 and 2021. This statistic will be verified with local data sources, as it does not appear to match the new construction reported by municipalities over this time.
- 50.7% of private dwellings in West Parry Sound are occupied by permanent residents, a 7.0% increase from 2016.
- The ratio of permanent residents to seasonal residents increased in all municipalities except for Parry Sound and McDougall. Both these municipalities already had a comparatively high ratio of permanent to seasonal residents.

Future Releases

The next release of 2021 Census data is scheduled for April 27, 2022. It will cover the changing demographic profile of Canada.

Prepared by: James Cox, Regional Economic Development Officer
Date: February 9, 2022

Whereas the August 2022 Smart Prosperity Institute's report projects a need for 1.5m homes across the province over the next 10 years, 3,200 of which will be required in the Parry Sound District;

Now Therefore the Town of Parry Sound calls for reconsideration of the building plans and budget for the proposed junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school, to ensure that the school will adequately accommodate current and projected population growth; and

THAT a meeting be requested with our Near North District School Board trustee on this matter; and

That copies of this resolution be sent to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Steve Clark, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, Heads of Council of the municipalities of The Archipelago, Carling, McDougall, McKellar, Seguin and Whitestone and the Near North District School Board Chair.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey

Town of Parry Sound

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2022 – 114

DIVISION LIST	**YES**	**NO**
Councillor **V. BACKMAN**		
Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**		
Councillor **R. BURDEN**		
Councillor **B. HORNE**		
Councillor **B. KEITH**		
Councillor **D. McCANN**		
Mayor **J. McGARVEY**		

DATE: September 6, 2022

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: ✓ **DEFEATED:** _____ **Postponed to:** _____

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound and West Parry Sound area municipalities have expressed concern over the last three years regarding outdated data from a 2013 Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) upon which building plans and budget for the junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school are based, and

Whereas the Near North District School Board through its January 21, 2022 letter to West Parry Sound area municipalities confirms that it is not willing to expedite a new Accommodation Review Committee to review the impact of updated data on building plans and budget, and

Whereas per the attached Schedule, the 2021 Statistics Canada census data released on February 9, 2022 confirms a growth rate of 13.9% over 5 years within the permanent resident population of the West Parry Sound area, and

Whereas Parry Sound's draft development charge study projects continued growth in the Town; and

Whereas immigration projections, including Ukrainian immigration to West Parry Sound indicates an increase in population due to immigration, including immigration of families with school age children; and

Whereas schools are an integral part of supporting continued growth and Provincial prioritization plans to build more homes to accommodate current and projected population growth, and

T.

RESOLUTION NO.: 2021-88
DATE: June 23, 2021

The Municipality of McDougall EST. 1972

CARRIED: ✓

DEFEATED: _____

MOVED BY:	DIVISION LIST	FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Constable	Councillor Constable		
	Councillor Gregory		
	Councillor Malott		
SECONDED BY:	Councillor Ryman		
	Mayor Robinson		
Councillor Ryman			

WHEREAS our schools are a vital part of the educational, social and economic development that is integral to the West Parry Sound area municipalities;

AND WHEREAS an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was established in 2013 to review Nobel and McDougall elementary schools;

AND WHEREAS the Near North District School Board (NNDSB) included the Parry Sound High School (PSHS) within the same ARC as Nobel and McDougall elementary schools;

AND WHEREAS in 2018 the Ministry of Education put a moratorium on the closing of any schools in the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS after the moratorium by the Province, and based on an outdated ARC, the NNDSB has announced the closure of Nobel and McDougall elementary schools for a junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school at the location of the PSHS;

AND WHEREAS the preliminary design plans for a new mega-school does not reflect the growth for the West Parry Sound area over the past 8 years;

AND WHEREAS the ratepayers of West Parry Sound contribute over $15 million dollars annually towards local education;

AND WHEREAS the NNDSB has not communicated adequately with the municipal governments and residents in which the schools are located;

AND WHEREAS the elementary students and their parents from the West Parry Sound area deserve to have their voices heard in respect to the location and design of a new mega school;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of McDougall requests that the Near North District School Board convene a new Accommodation Review Committee for the junior kindergarten to grade 12 mega school;

AND FURTHER THAT an independent study of enrollment and population figures be completed prior to the finalization of the JK-12 mega school;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the West Parry Sound Municipalities, Shawanaga First Nation, Wasauksing First Nation, Henvey Inlet First Nation, Magnetawan First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, The Near North district School Board, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Stephen Leece, Minister of Education, Parry Sound-Muskoka MP Scott Aitchison, and Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP Norm Miller.

MAYOR

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MCDOUGALL
COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEETING

HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

viii) Town of Fort Erie.
Re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence.
Council reviewed with no action indicated.

Matters Arising.
Nil

16. **MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**
Nil

17. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

i) McDougall and Nobel Public School Closures.
Re: Accommodation Review Committee (ARC).
Mayor Robinson noted that he had a previous meeting with two Nobel school parents, Becky Pollock, Greg Mason and also Parry Sound Mayor, Jamie McGarvey ,which all have concerns regarding the new proposed mega school on the current high school site in the Town of Parry Sound. It was recommended that participation in a resolution supported by all municipalities in West Parry Sound be drafted with the following two goals in mind:
a) that a new Accommodation Review Committee be struck as previous data is way out dated.
b) a peer review of the enrolment figures for the area.
Council requested staff, CAO and Clerk to reach out to their counterparts in other Municipalities in terms of formulating a draft resolution.

ii) Integrated Community Energy & Community Action Plans (ICECAP).
Re: Memorandum of Understanding (Terms of Reference) and Resolution to Join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Canada) Partners for Climate Protection Program.
Resolution No. 2021-84 **Constable/Ryman**
THAT Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of McDougall does hereby appoint Councillor Ryman as the Municipality of McDougall representative to the Integrated Community Energy & Community Action Plans (ICECAP).
AND THAT Council has approved the 2021 ICECAP administrative membership fee of $2,500.00 for services as listed in "Schedule A – Membership fees of the Integrated Community Energy and Climate Action

DRAFT

9.5 Other Business

9.5.1 Canadore College Space Rental for non-College Purposes

Resolution 2019 - 035

Moved by Councillor McCann

Seconded by Councillor Borneman

That the Cormier/Shipman letter regarding concerns about the rental of Canadore College building space for non-College purposes, be referred to staff to report back to the next Council meeting.

Carried

9.5.2 Status Update Request of Education Ministry re: Parry Sound High School

Resolution 2019 - 036

Moved by Councillor Keith

Seconded by Councillor Backman

Whereas the Town has been approached by the Near North District School Board requesting support to move the new Parry Sound High School project forward on the site of the existing Parry Sound High School, and

Whereas the Town has received correspondence from the Municipality of McDougall requesting an updated accommodation review,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that: Staff be directed to send a letter to the Minister of Education, requesting a current status update on the proposed new school, and the process for moving forward.

Carried

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MCDOUGALL
COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEETING

HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.

Minutes

Resolution No. 2019/32 **Dixon/Gregory**
WHEREAS an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) was established in 2013 to review Nobel and McDougall Public Schools;
AND WHEREAS the Near North District School Board (NNDSB) at the expense of the elementary students, decided to include the Parry Sound High School (PSHS) within the same ARC as Nobel and McDougall Schools;
AND WHEREAS too much time has passed since the original ARC;
AND WHEREAS the elementary students and their parents from the Municipality of McDougall, Shawanaga First Nation, and the Townships of The Archipelago, Carling and McKellar deserve to have their voices heard in respect to the location and design of a replacement of their current elementary schools;
AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has declared a moratorium on any school closings;
AND WHEREAS a rural elementary school setting is preferable to another urban elementary school;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of McDougall request that the Ministry of Education not advance any funding to the NNDSB until a new ARC has been convened for Nobel and McDougall Schools;
AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Township of The Archipelago, The Township of Carling, The Township of McKellar, Shawanaga First Nation, The Town of Parry Sound, Near North District School Board, and the Minister of Education.

"Carried"

20. **BY-LAWS**

i) By-law 2019-13.
Re: Being a By-law to appoint area Weed Inspectors for the Municipality of McDougall and to rescind By-law No. 2013-26.
Read a First, Second and Third Time, Passed, Signed and Sealed this 20th day of March 2019.

ii) By-law 2019-14.
Re: Being a by-law to enter into an agreement with Judith Gagne and John Trachuk as a condition of approval of Consent No. B13/2018 (McD).
Read a First, Second and Third Time, Passed, Signed and Sealed this 20th day of March 2019.

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MCDOUGALL
COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEETING

HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.

Minutes

ii) Saugeen Shores.
Re: Request to Governments of Canada and Province of Ontario to open the application process for Bi-lateral "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program" that was signed on March 14th, 2017.
This was reviewed by Council with no action indicated.

iii) City of Quinte West.
Re: Reduce bottled water usage and promote municipal water.
This was reviewed by Council with no action indicated.

Matters Arising.
Nil

16. **MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**
Nil

17. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
i) North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.
Re: Health Unit Opens 20 Year Time Capsule to Relive Public Health History.
This was reviewed by Council.

Matters Arising.
Nil

18. **REPORT OF THE CAO**
The CAO noted that a meeting regarding the proposed pool is scheduled for March 25th at Canadore College. Mr. Hunt also noted there has been a lot of activity at the Parry Sound & Area Industrial Park.

19. **GENERAL ITEMS AND NEW BUSINESS**

i) Resolution requesting the re-establishment of Nobel and McDougall Public School's Accommodation Review Committee.
Mayor Robinson gave an update from meeting with McKellar Mayor Hopkins and MPP, Norm Miller.
Mayor Robinson advised Council that representatives from the Near North District School Board made a deputation to Council for the Town of Parry Sound, requesting their support by resolution that the Minister release funding for the Parry Sound High School. It was agreed upon by Council that a follow-up letter be sent to the town, advising that there is more at stake than the Parry Sound High School.

March 24, 2023

To the members of the Parry Sound K-12 Build Committee and the Board of Trustees,

As a group of concerned staff here at Parry Sound Intermediate and High School, we want to be certain our voices are heard regarding the planned build of a new school on the existing school's property. Not only are we staff, we are parents, coaches, community volunteers, and citizens. We have felt, and continue to feel, like our voices have not been listened to.

To be clear: we have grave and significant concerns about the current plan. It is important our voices are heard; we do not want our silence, imposed by a communication protocol, to be perceived as tacit approval. We do not approve of the proposed plan. We are concerned that the plan, as it exists, has serious inadequacies which will have a lasting, negative impact on programming in the new school and the opportunities we can offer students. We feel like we must advocate for the students of our community who will attend this school when it opens and in decades to come.

As you know, we are not alone in our concerns. Our local municipal councils have clearly expressed significant concern to you regarding this planned project. NNDSB families and community members have also expressed concern. We echo and amplify these concerns.

There are multiple issues for us. They include:

- a new building that is too small, including a lack of teaching space, student support areas, and common areas;
- a project that, despite the significant impacts of inflation, appears to be going ahead on the same budget as was initially set in 2015;
- an apparent per student funding disparity relative to the recent Fricker build;
- the proposed use of portables (hex-pods) to accommodate classes;
- the population growth that has occurred and continues to occur in our area;
- the understanding that a new school becomes a major and lasting component of what serves and draws new families and professional employees (e.g. family doctors) to our community—an inadequate school has significant impacts on other important aspects of our community.

These concerns are based on specific examples of the deficiencies in the new school plan:

- a single gym space for a K-12 school, creating very challenging scheduling and negative impacts on curricular and extra-curricular activities for students;
- a shortage of space for technology classes, making our current and future course offerings impossible to provide and schedule;
- a shortage of science classrooms, making our current and future course offerings impossible to provide and schedule;
- a shortage of space for arts related teaching activities, including music, drama, and media arts, making our current and future course offerings impossible to provide and schedule;
- a shortage of spaces for student support, including existing spaces in our current school such as The Hub, The Hive, and Student Services;
- a shortage of space for Indigenous wellness support programs and community interaction activities;
- a shortage of space for Special Education programming, including a lack of space for the critical infrastructure of a sensory room and food prep facilities;
- a shortage of space for alternative program classrooms such as SAL, Cedar Space, and Section 23;
- the challenges for students of having their learning spaces in portables.

It is difficult for us to understand NNDSB's position on this project. From everything we see in Board updates, it appears that this project is going ahead as originally planned despite the concerns raised above. As a staff, we hope for and expect due diligence to address the significant concerns raised by the Parry Sound school community. We have specific questions:

- Does the Board have the intention of acting on the local municipalities' concerns and taking into account their requests? Is there work being done to change the plans based on concerns expressed? If so, can those details be provided?
- Has there been work done by the Board with the Ministry of Education to adjust the budget for this project? If so, can those details be provided?

We expect an acknowledgement of our concerns. We would also appreciate answers to the questions stated above.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Signature Page 1

Staff Name	Signature
[redacted]	[redacted]

Signature Page 2

Staff Name	Signature
[redacted]	[redacted]

Signature Page 3

Staff Name

[redacted]

Signature [redacted]

Near North District School Board

report

Title:	**Notice of Motion – Disposition and sale of Widdifield SS**
Contact:	Trustee Fuscaldo
Date Submitted:	May 24 2024
Mandate:	In alignment with NNDSB Bylaw 102, Trustee Fuscaldo provided notice to the Secretary of the Board, Director Myles, requesting an item be placed on the agenda for discussion during the June Committee of the Whole meeting.
Background:	Whereas on September 26, 2017, Trustees passed a motion to consolidate the three North Bay area secondary schools into two, approving Chippewa as the north site and West Ferris as the south site (Widdifield would be closed), at the Public Board Meeting. Whereas Widdifield ceased operational functions as a school as of September 2020, when its former students were dispersed between Chippewa Secondary School and West Ferris.Capital Plan (nearnorthschools.ca) Whereas it was noted in the school information profile report as part of the ARC process,School-Information-Profile-Chippewa-1.pdf (nearnorthschools.ca) Pg 5 . located on the Chippewa HS grounds, The track around the main field – usable due to safety concerns. Whereas the North Bay Consolidation committee has not met since June 6/2023, at which time the two former schools EW Norman PS and ET Carmichael PS were declared surplus and have since been sold. However, plans for the former Widdifield SS were not presented. Whereas as per our Capital Plan states that "The Near North District School Board is committed to optimizing the use of board-owned assets. This may be achieved by establishing facility partnerships for co-building opportunities when undertaking major capital projects, the leasing of space within current assets, the disposition of properties and engaging in long term planning. Capital planning activities will be well informed, well-coordinated, transparent, sustainable and supportive of student achievement and well-being." And Whereas *Ontario Regulation 374/23 Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property*. Effective Dec 23 2023 , states "*a school board can sell or lease property no longer necessary for its long-term needs (surplus). However, if a school board is not currently using a property and will not be using it within the next 10 years to meet student needs, they must sell it.*"

	And whereas the expedited sale of the property formerly known as Widdifield SS could be sold to fund the much-needed repairs to the track and field at Chippewa SS, among other initiatives, thereby providing students opportunities to participate in track and field events at CSS, which contributes to student success and wellbeing.
Resolution:	Be it resolved that Director of the Near North District School Board provide a report to the Board of Trustee's at our September Committee of the whole meeting, regarding the feasibility of moving forward expediently with the sale and disposition of the property located at 320 Ski club Rd North Bay, P1B 7R2 , formerly known as Widdifield SS.