



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

Ashley St. Pierre, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

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The October 8, 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 ®  
Howard Wesley  
Jeanie Fuscaldo ®  
Caren Gagne  
Shane Hall  
Chantal Phillips (5:44 pm)  
Bill Steer  
Louise Sargent  
Student Trustee Trudeau

**Regrets:** Julie Bertram

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Craig Myles, Director of Education  
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business  
Timothy Graves, Superintendent ®  
Melanie Gray, Superintendent ®  
Brett Hanson, Communications  
Maureen Egan, Executive Assistant  
Glenn Morrison, Manager IT ®

**Other:**

Staff, Union partners, media

**Regrets:** Gay Smylie, Superintendent

® attended remotely via Zoom video or audio conference

**1.0 Call to Order**

Vice Chair Wesley called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Vice Chair Wesley chaired the meeting because Chair St. Pierre attended remotely.

**1.1 Land acknowledgement**

Vice-Chair Wesley read the declaration aloud.

**1.2 Attendance**

Attendance indicated that 9 trustees were present.

**1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest n/a**

**2.0 Approval of the Agenda**

Motion: CW 2024-10-01 C.Gagne/S.Hall

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 8, 2024, be approved as amended. The amendment being the addition of item 4.2 McDougall Public School by Trustee Gagne.- CARRIED.

### 3.0 Review of Previous Minutes

Motion: CW 2024-10-02 B. Steer/C. Gagne

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 10, 2024 be approved. – CARRIED.

### 4.0 New Business

#### 4.1 Bylaw and Governance Review – W. Joudrie ✓

Director Myles introduced Wayne Joudrie retired Director of Education and Ministry Special Advisor who has done significant work for the board over the years. Wayne has worked with the board on the review of our bylaws and governance since March and is in attendance this evening to present the final review. Wayne Joudrie provided highlights of the workshop around our current governance manual, highlighting key areas as we move it to the Bylaw committee, then to public input and then ultimately Board approval. Over the course of six months Wayne updated the manual where items were out of date and also provided training and support to trustees, further establishing their foundation of good governance.

Bylaw 121 Electronic Meetings was highlighted because new rules by the Ministry will come into effect September 2025 whereby trustees must attend meetings in person if their residence is under 125 km. OPSBA disagrees with this approach and Wayne suggested we rely on OPSBA for common language that every board will use.

GP 202 Development of Policies, Administrative Guidelines and Bylaws was highlighted as a reminder from Wayne Joudrie that the Board does not approve AGs but needs to be aware of them. GP 203 and 206 deleted because both are already defined in the *Education Act*. Wayne suggested next steps include the Bylaw committee review the entire package; monitor OPSBA's suggestions re electronic meetings and attendance and re integrity commission for proper language.

In conclusion Wayne thanked the board for their work noting NNDSB was very engaged and knew how important this aspect of their role is.

Vice Chair Wesley thanked Wayne and the trustees who worked closed on this project and asked trustees for comments and questions. Trustee Sargent asked if the bylaw committee should be re-named governance committee. Wayne suggested that moving forward a governance committee role would be to monitor and edit the manual. Can be changed at the next re-organization meeting.

Vice Chair Wesley asked for consensus to refer the package to the Bylaw Committee for review and consensus was reached. Director Myles thanked Wayne Joudrie for his work and wished him well in his retirement.

#### 4.2 McDougall Public School

Trustee Gagne referred to a June board motion re a committee being formed to review the McDougall PS area. She believes we have enough data having from area

municipalities and would recommend we write a letter to the Ministry. She suggested rescinding the June motion and tabling a new motion. Trustee Fuscaldo agreed with not striking a committee and that we proceed to contact the Ministry.

Motion: CW 2024-10-03 C. Gagne/B. Steer

That the Board approve Trustee Fuscaldo to draft a letter to the Ministry of Education asking to keep McDougall School open and allow NNDSB to reconfigure the new school build in Parry Sound. – CARRIED

**5.0 Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee**

(TBD at November Organizational meeting and is a future standing item on CW)

**6.0 Adjournment**

Motion: CW 2024-10-04 L.Sargent/S.Hall

That on October 8, 2024 we do now adjourn at 6:20pm. - CARRIED