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Jay Aspin, Chair

Craig Myles, Director of Education

The November 18, 2025 **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:

Jay Aspin, Chair
Bill Steer, Vice Chair
Ashley St. Pierre
Howard Wesley
John Arkwright
Caren Gagne
Louise Sargent
Shane Hall
Krista Messenger
Student Trustee Trudeau
Student Trustee Bassi

Administrative Staff Present:

Seija Van Haesendonck, Director Designate
Gay Smylie, Superintendent of Education
Timothy Graves, Superintendent of Education
Melanie Gray, Superintendent of Teaching and Learning
Kim Pauli, Superintendent of Education
Maureen Egan, Director's Office®
Gerri-Lyn Cicciarelli, Executive Assistant
Glenn Morrison, Manager IT
Deb Bartlett, Communications

Absent: Craig Myles, Director of Education

Other:

Lisa Reinhardt, OPSBA
Staff, media, union partners, members of the public

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Aspin called the Regular Public session meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Steer delivered a personalized version of the Land Acknowledgement.

2.0 Request for Leaves of Absence

None noted

3.0 Attendance

3.1 Confirmation of Quorum

Attendance indicated that 11 Trustees were present, including two student trustees. Quorum was confirmed.

3.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion: 25-11-19 C.Gagne/S.Hall

That the Agenda for the Board meeting of November 18, 2025 be approved – CARRIED

5.0 Closed Session

Motion: 25-11-20 L.Sargent/J.Arkwright

That the Board move into Closed Session in order to discuss items pertaining to the Education Act, R.S.S. 1990 , c.E.2.section 207 (2) (e) – CARRIED

Motion: 25-11-21 S.Hall/C.Gagne

That the section of the Education Act identified in the motion to move to a closed session be amended to read: 207 (2) (e) (b) - CARRIED

Following a return to the regular session at 7:54 pm, Chair Aspin noted that a motion was required to extend the regular session of the board meeting in accordance with BL-117, Section B, paragraph 4.

Motion: 25-11-22, S. Hall/C.Gagne

That the meeting be extended by an additional 45 minutes - CARRIED

6.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: 25-11-23 C.Gagne/J.Arkwright

That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of October 14, 2025 be approved as presented – CARRIED

Motion: 25-11-24, C.Gagne/L.Sargent

That the minutes of the special board meeting of November 3, 2025 be approved as presented – CARRIED

7.0 Communication to the Board

7.1 Information Items

The following Items for information purposes were included in the board package:

7.1.1 Monthly Tender Report - nil

7.1.2 Adult Education AG (Consultation)

7.1.3 Exclusion of Students AG (consultation)

7.1.4 Home Instruction AG (consultation)

7.1.5 Director's Update

7.1.6 Correspondence (letter dated November 3, 2025, to Minister Calandra from NNDSB)

7.2 Chair's Remarks

Chair Aspin reminded the Board of the work that is required to adhere to the Minister of

Education's Binding Directions, noting that the Trustees make up a strong team. He further expressed his confidence in Trustees moving forward.

7.3 OPSBA Report

Vice Chair Steer reminded the Trustees that *Bill 33, Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025* will soon reach its third reading. He also noted that there will be an OPSBA Executive Council Meeting in Toronto on November 22-23, 2025, followed by a Public Education Symposium in January 2026.

7.4 Student Trustees' Update

Indigenous Youth Circle Update

Indigenous Student Trustee Trudeau read her report which focussed on the Indigenous Youth Circle's charitable work for the Chanie Wenjack Fund. Several events are planned by IYC including a moccasin workshop. Concerns regarding racism were noted by students at IYC.

Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Bassi reported that student council initiatives this month include collecting socks to donate to shelters and an anti-vaping campaign. A concert is being planned to raise funds for Out Loud North Bay. Trustee Bassi noted that he hosted two student trustee sessions at the fall OSTA conference.

7.5 Community Involvement

Scheduled Delegations – n/a

8.0 Items for Decision

8.1 Motion: 25-11-25, S.Hall/J.Arkwright

That the following trustees be approved to attend the OPSBA Public Education Symposium in Toronto on January 23 and 24, 2026:

- Chair Aspin
- Vice Chair Steer
- Trustee Gagne
- Trustee Wesley
- Student Trustees Bassi and Trudeau -CARRIED

8.2 Motion: 25-11-26, L.Sargent/K.Messenger

That the Board of Trustees approves changing the PA day from Thursday, June 4, 2026 to Friday, June 5, 2026 – CARRIED

8.3 Motion: 25-11-27, H.Wesley/S.Hall

That the Board appoint Narmada Subramanian to the Audit Committee as an external member to fill a three-year term effective immediately and ending on November 17, 2028, as recommended by the Audit Committee External Member Selection Committee. -CARRIED

8.4 Motion: 25-11-28, L.Sargent/J.Arkwright

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the NNDSB reinstate the

Minutes of the Public Session Board meeting of the Near North District School Board held November 18, 2025

Committee of the Whole Meetings to be held on the second Tuesday of each month from November 2025 to June 2026 and September to June thereafter.

That the Board of Trustees reinstate the Regular Board meetings during the fourth Tuesday of each month beginning November 2025 to June 2026 and September to June thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees receive the By-Law amendments for consideration and endorse the modifications to update our By-Laws in sections BL 102, BL 104 and BL 107 - CARRIED

8.5 Motion: 25-11-29, S. Hall/A.St.Pierre

That the Near North District School Board approve and endorse the Math Achievement Action Plan submission to the Ministry of Education (Initial Report dated November 14, 2025) – CARRIED

9.0 Committee Reports and Minutes

9.1 Audit Selection Committee Unofficial Minutes – 2025-10-03

Included in meeting package, no questions noted.

9.2 Governance Committee Unofficial Minutes – 2025-11-06

Included in meeting package. Committee Chair Gagne and Trustee Messenger spoke to the development of a technical Road Map to identify the timelines to complete the Ministry's Binding Direction number 7.

9.3 SEAC Unofficial Minutes – 2025-09-24

Included in meeting package, no questions noted.

10.0 Next Meeting Date: December 16, 2025

Motion: 25-11-30, L.Sargent/A.St.Pierre

That due to the December break, the December board meeting will be held on December 16, rather than the fourth Tuesday in December. - CARRIED

11.0 Adjournment

Motion: 25-11-31, B.Steer/S.Hall

That on November 18, 2025, we do now adjourn at 8:26 p.m. - CARRIED

RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Motion: 25-11-19 C.Gagne/S.Hall	That the Agenda for the Board meeting of November 18, 2025 be approved – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-20 L.Sargent/J.Arkwright	That the Board move into Closed Session in order to discuss items pertaining to the Education Act, R.S.S. 1990, c.E.2.section 207 (2) (e) – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-21 S.Hall/C.Gagne	That the section of the Education Act, identified in the motion to move to a closed session be amended to read: 207 (2) (e) (b) - CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-22, S. Hall/C.Gagne	That the meeting be extended by an additional 45 minutes - CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-23, C.Gagne/J.Arkwright	That the minutes of the regular Board meeting of October 14, 2025 be approved as presented – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-24, C.Gagne/L.Sargent	That the minutes of the special board meeting of November 3, 2025 be approved as presented – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-25, S.Hall/J.Arkwright	That the following trustees be approved to attend the OPSBA Public Education Symposium in Toronto on January 23 and 24, 2026: -Chair Aspin -Vice Chair Steer -Trustee Gagne -Trustee Wesley - Student Trustees Bassi and Trudeau -CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-26, L.Sargent/K.Messenger	That the Board of Trustees approves changing the PA day from Thursday, June 4, 2026 to Friday, June 5, 2026 – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-27, H.Wesley/S. Hall	That the Board appoint Narmada Subramanian to the Audit Committee as an external member to fill a three-year term effective immediately and ending on November 17, 2028, as recommended by the Audit Committee External Member Selection Committee. - CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-28, L.Sargent/J.Arkwright	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the NNDSB reinstate the Committee of the Whole Meetings to be held on the second Tuesday of each month from November 2025 to June 2026 and September to June thereafter. That the Board of Trustees reinstate the Regular Board meetings during the fourth Tuesday of each month beginning November 2025 to June 2026 and September to June thereafter. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of

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	Trustees receive the By-Law amendments for consideration and endorse the modifications to update our By-Laws in sections BL 102, BL 104 and BL 107 - CARRIED
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Motion: 25-11-30, L.Sargent/A.St.Pierre	That due to the December break, the December meeting will be held on December 16, rather than the fourth Tuesday in December – CARRIED
Motion: 25-11-31, B.Steer/S.Hall	That on November 18, 2025, we do now adjourn at 8:26 p.m. - CARRIED

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