

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 | 5:30 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 and 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) (e).

3.0 Approval of the Agenda ✓

Motion:

That the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting of November 11, 2025, be approved.

4.0 Review of Previous Minutes ✓

Motion:

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of October 14, 2025, be approved.

5.0 Business Arising

5.1 Parry Sound New JK-12 School update ✓

5.2 Minister's Report and Directives update ✓

6.0 New Business

6.1 Notice of Motion B. Steer re rescinding motion re CSPNE May 2025 ✓

7.0 Adjournment

Motion:

That on November 11, 2025 we do now adjourn at _____ pm.



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

The October 14, 2025 **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, Chair
Howard Wesley, Vice Chair®
John Arkwright
Jay Aspin
Caren Gagne
Louise Sargent
Bill Steer
Krista Messenger
Student Trustee Trudeau
Student Trustee Bassi

Administrative Staff Present:

Craig Myles, Director of Education
Gay Smylie, Superintendent
Seija Van Haesendonck, Superintendent of Business
Timothy Graves, Superintendent
Melanie Gray, Superintendent
Kim Pauli, Superintendent
Maureen Egan, Director's Office
Gerri-Lyn Ciccirelli, Executive Assistant
Glenn Morrison, Manager IT
Liana Blaskievich, Officer Corporate Affairs

Regrets: S. Hall

Other:

Staff, media

1.0 Call to Order

Chair St. Pierre called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Vice-Chair Wesley read the declaration aloud.

1.2 Attendance

Attendance indicated that 8 trustees and two student trustees were present.

1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Chair St. Pierre asked for declaration of conflicts. None arose.

2.0 Approval of Agenda – As Amended ✓

Motion: CW25-10-01, J. Arkwright/C. Gagne

That the Agenda be amended to include item 2.1 Closed Session. - CARRIED

2.1 Closed Session

Motion: CW 25-10-02, J. Arkwright/C. Gagne

That the committee move into closed session to discuss items pertaining to *The Education Act* RSO 1990, c.E.2 section 207 (2)(e). – CARRIED

3.0 Review of Previous Minutes

Motion: CW 25-10-03, J.Aspin/B.Steer

That the minutes for the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 9, 2025, be approved – CARRIED.

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 Parry Sound New Jk-12 School Update

The Director referred to the report in the meeting package noting that the Board continues to move forward with the Parry Sound build. The Director encouraged the Board and members of the public to access the Near North District School Board website for the most recent information noting that the information is updated as soon as it received.

5.0 New Business

5.1 OPSBA Emerging Issues Information

The Chair called upon Trustee Steer to present information relating to information being presented at the OPSBA Northern Region Meeting on October 17-18, 2025. Some items include insufficient funding and proposed changes to governance structure. Following a fulsome discussion, the following motion was presented:

Motion: CW 25-10-04, J.Aspin/C.Gagne

That the Near North District School Board express its strong support for the new proposed two-tier governance model for presentation at the OPSBA Conference on October 17 and 18, 2025 - CARRIED

6.0 Adjournment

Motion: CW 25-10-05, J.Aspin/L.Sargent

That on October 14, 2025 we do now adjourn at 6:37 pm. – CARRIED

Title:	Parry Sound JK-12 Build Project
Contact:	Director of Education Craig Myles
Date Submitted:	November 4, 2025, 2025
Background	<p>The Near North District School Board (NNDSB) remains committed to the successful completion and future occupancy of the new Parry Sound JK–12 School. The Near North District School Board (NNDSB) continues to make steady progress toward the completion and eventual occupancy of the new Parry Sound JK–12 School. While construction of the new building portion is now over 90 percent complete. Appendix A and the items outlined below provide a snapshot of the ongoing and completed work. Progress has been slower than anticipated in certain areas.</p>
Current	<p>Progress Update</p> <p>Since the last reporting to the Board of Trustees on October 14th regular classrooms, both elementary and secondary, now have millwork, sinks, whiteboards, tackboards, finished flooring, lighting, and communications consoles completed, marking a significant step forward. The Child Care and EarlyON areas have completed their teaching spaces, with only minor items—such as the installation of commercial appliances in food servery areas—remaining.</p> <p>New classroom furniture has been ready for delivery for some time. The process of receiving and tagging items for installation is expected to begin in the coming weeks. The gymnasium flooring is complete and ready for bleacher installation, while the athletic training room has been prepared to receive workout equipment transferred from the existing school, with flooring already in place.</p> <p>Special features such as the lobby ceilings and cafetorium are nearing completion and are expected to create a warm and welcoming first impression at the main entrance. The hexpod portable classrooms have had their exterior decks completed and are now awaiting final electrical hookups and inspections. Additionally, specialty spaces—including Science Labs, the Fine Arts classroom, the Learning Commons, Indigenous Studies, Dramatic Arts, and the Hospitality/Foods program—are ready for use once furniture is installed.</p> <p>Ongoing Construction Deficiency Inspection</p> <p>A construction deficiency inspection is a normal but formal review process used to identify incomplete, incorrect, or substandard work in a building project. It is conducted by the prime consultant who is responsible for ensuring construction quality and</p>

compliance. While this process is standard, it is disappointing that, at this advanced stage of the JK-12 school project, the prime consultant continues to identify a number of deficiencies across various areas including areas previously mentioned in this report. These findings indicate that several components expected to be complete remain outstanding, delaying the full readiness of the facility.

Next Steps Toward Occupancy

To proceed with occupancy of the new JK–12 school facility, all inspections required under the building permit must be successfully completed, and a Notice of Completion or Notice of Substantial Performance must be issued by the Architect. The general contractor is actively working to close out any outstanding inspections which occur regularly to ensure compliance. In addition to internal construction reviews, inspections from external regulatory bodies—including the municipal Building Department, Fire Department, Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), Electrical Safety Authority (ESA), and the local Health Unit—must also be completed and approved.

Concurrently, efforts are underway to resolve major construction deficiencies identified during recent inspections. These include finalizing installations in key areas throughout the school. Once all deficiencies are addressed and all required approvals are in place, the project will be cleared for final occupancy.

Next Steps Beyond Occupancy

Once students from the current on-site Parry Sound High School (PSHS) building have been relocated to the new JK–12 facility, the following activities are scheduled to occur as part of Phase 2 of the project:

- The existing two-story building will be demolished to make way for site redevelopment.
- Rock blasting will be conducted after school hours and on weekends to minimize disruption; this may incur additional costs.
- Underground civil works will be carried out to support infrastructure upgrades.
- The site will be graded to ensure proper drainage and prepare for surface treatments.
- Curbs and sidewalks will be installed to enhance accessibility and safety.
- Asphalt paving will be completed to finalize roadways and parking areas.
- Landscaping will be undertaken to improve the aesthetic and environmental quality of the site.
- Cleaning and road marking will be performed to prepare the site for full operational use.

Conclusion

The Near North District School Board remains committed to delivering a high-quality learning environment that meets the diverse needs of students from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12. While challenges have emerged during various stages of construction, the Board continues to work diligently to ensure that the new Parry

	Sound JK–12 School is safe, functional, and welcoming upon opening. However, the NNDSB is not in receipt of an approved construction schedule that can reliably predict when occupancy will be possible. The completion of Phase 1 and the transition to Phase 2 will mark a significant milestone in the Board’s long-term vision for educational excellence and community development.
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Appendix A: Site Photos



Photo 1 – Cafetorium under construction



Photo 2 – Gymnasium flooring complete.



Photo 3 – Main lobby view



Photo 4 – Gymnasium with stage



Photo 5 – Hexpod portable classrooms



Photo 6 – Small gym view



Photo 7 – Exterior building view



Report to the Honourable Minister of Education Calandra

REPORT #1 OF 3 NOVEMBER 10, 2025

November 10, 2025

Honourable Paul Calandra Minister of Education

Dear Minister Calandra:

Re: Near North District School Board Review Sept 26, 2025

Near North District School Board is pleased to submit the following report on the progress made in the first 5 days of receiving the Minister's binding directions. We are grateful for your guidance. The Board of Trustees as it is currently composed in collaboration with the Director of Education are dedicated to ensuring that your directives are met in the service of Near North District School Board students, staff, families and community.

The following report outlines the recommendations. Each is followed by a chart to outline at a glance the Minister's binding directives and then immediate actions taken. We have also included the projected plans moving forward.

Please note that where applicable and as per the Minister's direction all next steps will reflect recent legislative and regulatory changes.

Addressing Governance Dysfunction

Recommendation 1. The Board of Trustees should immediately retain the services of an external expert, subject to Ministry of Education approval, to undertake a robust, transparent appraisal of the Director of Education's performance in accordance with Ontario Regulation 83/24 – Director of Education Performance Appraisal. The performance appraisal must involve a 360-degree assessment that includes confidential feedback from senior administration, principals, teachers, students, trustees and representatives of the NNDSB community.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>1. In the most expedient manner possible, the Board of Trustees shall retain the services of an external expert, subject to Ministry of Education approval, to support the Board in conducting a robust, transparent Director of Education performance appraisal for the 2025- 2026 school year. The performance appraisal must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be conducted in accordance with Ontario Regulation 83/24 – Director of Education Performance Appraisal• involve a 360-degree assessment that includes confidential feedback from senior administration, principals, teachers, students, trustees and representatives of the NNDSB community.	<p><i>The Board of Trustees has contacted Ted Doherty at OESC to immediately request referral to an approved external expert for completion of the 360-degree DPA survey. Once the Minister has approved of the consultant the procurement process will begin and the survey will commence under the guidance of said consultant.</i></p>	<p>Under the guidance of OESC, the DPA will be completed in compliance with bill 83/24 and will include all meetings, feedback opportunities and reports to the Minister of Education.</p>

In keeping with the Minister's directive timeline: Within **five business days** of receiving the directions, the Board shall submit the name(s) of the proposed external expert(s) for ministry approval and resubmit its 2025-2026 DPA attestation reflecting the intent to conduct a 360-degree assessment. NNDSB Board of Trustees is pleased to inform the Minister that OESC Executive Director Ted Doherty has provided the following names of external experts who can perform the 360 DPA review; Erin Kelly and Scott Yake. We respectfully submit these two names to the Minister for approval.

Following the Minister's directive, within **five business days** of receiving ministry approval for the external expert, NNDSB must initiate the procurement process. This directive will be followed.

Recommendation 2. The Board should create a professional development plan and require its members to complete in-person professional development in the following priority areas:

Effective Financial stewardship
 Director of Education Performance Appraisal
 Conflict of Interest
 Principles of Good Governance
 Duties and Authority of Boards
Effective Community Engagement
Code of Conduct

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>Within five business days of receiving the directions, the Board must submit a professional development (PD) plan, to be undertaken by all members of the board. The PD plan must include the names external facilitator(s) or organization, dates for the completion of each priority area, and the method that will be used to evaluate trustees' understanding of the content. These evaluations must be submitted to the ministry upon completion.</p> <p>The PD sessions must be completed in-person by January 30, 2026, in the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Financial Stewardship • Director of Education Performance Appraisal* • Conflict of Interest • Principles of Good Governance* • Duties and Authority of Boards* • Effective Community Engagement* • Conflict Resolution* • Code of Conduct* <p>For the priority areas identified by an asterisk (*), the facilitator(s) should deliver the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC).</p>	<p>Please find the draft plan for professional development attached as appendix 1</p>	<p>Professional development outlined in Appendix 1 will be followed by ongoing PD opportunities. Trustees' attention will also be drawn to all available OPSBA and OESC focused training that becomes available.</p>

Recommendation 3. The school board should provide immediate and ongoing support for the Board Chair to ensure meetings and Board business are conducted in accordance with principles of effective and accountable governance.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
The school board must provide for immediate and ongoing support for the Board Chair to ensure meetings and Board business are conducted in accordance with principles of effective and accountable governance. A plan detailing this immediate and ongoing support must be submitted within 15 business days of receiving the directions.		

Recommendation 4. The school board should ensure that recordings of all public Board meetings are posted to the NNDSB' website in a timely manner and provide for public delegations at its regular Board meetings.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
4. a) Within 15 business days , the school board must ensure that all public Board meetings are recorded and posted to the NNDSB's website within three business days following those meetings. b) Effective immediately , provide for public delegations at regular Board meetings.	a) IT staff are prepared to commence recording of Public Board meetings. IT staff will ensure the posting of recorded meetings within three days following the meetings. b) The NNDSB Governance manual describes a process for public delegation	a) NNDSB staff are investigating the most efficient way to post board meetings which may include a separate Youtube channel. b) The Governance committee will ensure the process for public delegation is easily understood and accessed by the public prior to approval of a final copy of the manual.

Recommendation 5. The NNDSB should ensure all agendas and minutes from Board and committee meetings are posted on the School Board's public website within 48 hours of those meetings.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
Effective immediately , agendas for Board and Committee meetings must be posted in advance and minutes must be posted within 48 hours following those meetings. The NNDSB must also immediately ensure that all past agendas and minutes from Board and Committee meetings since November 2022 are posted on the school board's public website.	Communication was sent on November 5, 2025, to all committee Chairs to immediately arrange for submission of all past agendas and minutes to the communications team for posting. In addition, that communication shared the expectation to share and post committee meetings in advance of each meeting. The communications team is working diligently to expedite the posting of any and all past agendas and minutes.	A process will be put in place whereby Chairs are reminded of these practices. This process will include the sharing of meeting invitations with the communications team and a shared agenda template that includes reminders regarding the posting of minutes within 48 hours. This process document will be shared with the Minister.

Recommendation 6. The Board should schedule Committee of the Whole meetings and Board meetings on separate days to provide members with sufficient time to review reports and consider Board matters.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
Effective immediately , the Board must schedule Committee of the Whole meetings and Board meetings on separate days to provide members with sufficient time to review reports and consider Board matters.	The new schedule of Committee of the Whole and separate Board Meeting dates is now posted on the website. Meetings are scheduled two weeks apart.	This action is provided for in the current Governance manual and will continue

Recommendation 7. The Board should develop a timeline for, and complete a review of, its policies and procedures and ensure that they are distinguished from administrative guidelines. As part of this review, the Board should prioritize ensuring their Trustee Code of Conduct and policies on electronic meetings and director performance appraisal reflect recent legislative and regulatory changes.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>Within five business days of receiving the directions, the Board must submit a timeline to the Ministry of Education for a review and update of its policies and procedures, including ensuring that these are distinguished from the board's current administrative guidelines. All policies must be updated by the end of the 2025-2026 school year.</p> <p>As part of the policy review, the Board must prioritize updating their Trustee Code of Conduct and policies on electronic meetings and director performance appraisal to reflect recent legislative and regulatory changes.</p>	<p>The Governance Committee worked with expert Wayne Joudrie to complete a comprehensive modernization of the Near North District School Board Governance Manual, encompassing both the Board By-laws and the Governance Policies including Trustee Code of Conduct and policies on electronic meetings. The Committee met Nov 6 to review.</p>	<p>The Governance Committee is finalizing the updates to the Bylaw and Governance manual for approval by the external expert approved by the Ministry within our good governance plans and timelines as attached.</p>

Within **five business days** of receiving the directions, the Board must submit a timeline to the Ministry of Education for a review and update of its policies and procedures, including ensuring that these are distinguished from the board's current administrative guidelines.

Please find the timeline attached as Appendix 2

Recommendation 8 *The Board should require the Parry Sound Building Committee to hold monthly open meetings until all students have transitioned to the new JK-12 Parry Sound school.*

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>The Board must immediately require the Parry Sound Building Committee to hold monthly open meetings in accordance with Ontario Regulation 463/97 – Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance until all students have transitioned to the new JK-12 Parry Sound school. The first of these meetings must take place within 20 business days of receiving the directions.</p>	<p>The Parry Sound Build Committee has been directed to reconvene monthly with open meetings in accordance with Ontario Reg 463/97 both virtual and in-person. The Committee Chair has scheduled the first meeting on November 26, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>These meetings will continue until all students have transitioned to the new JK – 12 Parry Sound school as per the Minister's direction.</p>

Addressing Leadership Issues

Recommendation 9. *The Director of Education's office should be immediately relocated to the main school board office. This action is complete*

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
The Director of Education's office must be immediately relocated to the main school board office, located at 963 Airport Road in North Bay.	This action is complete.	

Recommendation 10. The Director of Education should undertake professional development focussed on school board governance in order to effectively support the Board in his capacity of Secretary of the Board.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
Within 10 business days of receiving the directions, the Director of Education must, in consultation with the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE), undertake professional development focussed on school board governance in order to effectively support the Board in his capacity of Secretary of the Board.	The Director has completed the mandatory OPSBA modules and has been in discussions with the Executive Director of Code and will ensure this obligation is met.	The Director will work with Code on ongoing Professional Development.

Recommendation 11. The NNDSB should procure the services of a human resources professional to establish a robust cyclical performance appraisal process for executive leaders, senior staff and other direct reports.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
The NNDSB must procure the services of a human resources professional to establish an annual robust cyclical performance appraisal process for executive leaders, senior staff and other direct reports to the Director of Education. The procurement process to retain these services must be initiated within 10 business days of receiving the directions, and the performance appraisal process must be in place by December 31, 2025 .	The Director's office has begun to research human resources professionals to complete directive 11 and 12. The procurement process will be initiated by the 10 th business day.	After consultation a plan will be developed for ongoing cyclical performance appraisals to be housed in the HR system and monitored for completion through same

Recommendation 12. The NNDSB should procure the services of a human resources professional to establish a robust cyclical performance appraisal process for executive leaders, senior staff and other direct reports.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>The NNDSB must procure the services of an external party with relevant expertise to undertake a comprehensive review of its human resources practices since 2020, including but not limited to the establishment of senior and executive positions, recruitment, transparent and fair hiring practices, promotions, and performance appraisals. The review should determine whether these human resources practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adhere to school board policies and procedures any applicable legislation and ministry requirements or guidelines. • are appropriately documented; and • have received Board approval, as appropriate. <p>The procurement process to retain these services must be initiated within 10 business days. The review must be completed, and a full report submitted to the Ministry of Education by January 30, 2026.</p>	<p>The Director's office has begun to research human resources professionals to complete Directive 11 and 12. The procurement process will be initiated by the 10th business day.</p>	<p>After consultation, a plan will be developed for effective human resources practice</p>

Recommendation 13. The Director should develop a community engagement plan focused on rebuilding public confidence. The Director should lead those engagements, and meetings with the Parry Sound community should be prioritized.

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
<p>Within 15 business days of receiving the directions, the Director of Education must submit to the ministry a community engagement plan detailing measures that will be undertaken in order to restore public confidence in the Board. This plan must include in-person engagement sessions with the community, with the first session taking place within 10 business days of receiving the directions. The Director must lead these engagement sessions in-person. The community engagement session(s) with the Parry Sound community must be prioritized (i.e.,</p>	<p>The Director is planning a meeting with the Parry Sound community to occur prior to November 14th.</p>	<p>A more comprehensive plan for community engagement across the board is being developed. Consultation with OESC experts will be consulted in supporting this plan.</p>

be the first to occur). Minutes for each community engagement session must be posted on the NNDSB website within 48 hours of the engagement session taking place.		
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Recommendation 14. *The NNDSB should revise its communications protocol to reflect a more responsive and visible role for the Director of Education in responding to and interacting with NNDSB communities.*

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
Within 10 business days of receiving the directions, the board's communications protocol must be revised, implemented and posted on the school board website. The revised communications protocol must reflect a more responsive and visible role for the Director of Education in directly responding to and interacting with NNDSB communities.	The Communication protocol is being revised, and user-friendly information is currently being created for posting to the website.	NNDSB will consult with the Ministry approved governance experts regarding a comprehensive communication plan.

Recommendation 15. *The NNDSB should ensure that regular and timely updates are made to the New JK-12 Parry Sound School webpage and that all relevant information is available through that page, including reports and minutes from regular Board meetings pertaining to the new school.*

Binding Directives	Immediate Action	Long term Plan
Effective immediately , the NNDSB must ensure that regular and timely updates are made to the New JK-12 Parry Sound School webpage, including construction progress updates that clearly communicate what stages have been completed and what work remains. All relevant information must be made available through this webpage, including reports and minutes from regular Board meetings pertaining to the new school. Any missing records to-date must be added to the webpage within 15 business days .	The Communications Team is collaborating with the Senior Leadership Team and appropriate staff to ensure there are no missing updates or reports on the page. New updates will be regularly posted.	Communication with the Parry Sound Community will be a part of the larger communications plan moving forward.



Appendix 1 Plan for PD

Directive: Within **five business days** of receiving the directions, the Board must submit a professional development (PD) plan, to be undertaken by all members of the board. The PD plan must include the names external facilitator(s) or organization, dates for the completion of each priority area, and the method that will be used to evaluate trustees' understanding of the content. These evaluations must be submitted to the ministry upon completion.

The PD sessions must be completed **in-person** by **January 30, 2026**, in the following priority areas:

- Effective Financial Stewardship
- Director of Education Performance Appraisal*
- Conflict of Interest
- Principles of Good Governance*
- Duties and Authority of Boards*
- Effective Community Engagement*
- Conflict Resolution*
- Code of Conduct*

For the priority areas identified by an asterisk (*), the facilitator(s) should deliver the sessions using the relevant modules available through the [Ontario Education Services Corporation \(OESC\)](#).

All Professional Development sessions have been arranged through Ted Doherty OESC.

PD sessions are through Ontario Education Services Corp. (OESC).

These are the OESC individuals who will be doing the training workshops:

Erin Kelly

Brian MacKay

David Wright

Scott Yake.

In Person PD Session	External Facilitator	Method	Completion date
Effective Financial Stewardship	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	January 22 11am-1pm
Director of Education	Ted Doherty and or his	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using	Nov 20 th or 24 th 11am-1pm

Performance Appraisal*	assigned consultant	the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	
Conflict of Interest	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Dec 4 th 10am-2pm
Principles of Good Governance*	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Dec 11 10am-2pm
Duties and Authority of Boards*	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Dec11 10am-2pm with
Effective Community Engagement*	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Jan 7 11am-1pm
Conflict Resolution*	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Jan 15 th 11am-1pm
Code of Conduct*	Ted Doherty and or his assigned consultant	Virtual delivery to face to face session or face to face delivering the sessions using the relevant modules available through the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) .	Dec 4 th 10am-2pm



Appendix 2

Near North District School Board – Governance Committee Update on Binding Direction #7

Executive Summary – Governance Committee Work Underway

The Governance Committee has initiated a comprehensive modernization of the Near North District School Board Governance Manual, encompassing both the Board By-Laws and the Governance Policies, to fulfill Binding Direction #7 and address the findings of the 2025 Governance Review.

At its November 6, 2025, meeting, the Committee confirmed its bi-weekly meeting schedule (Fridays at 11 a.m.) and adopted a two-stream approach to guide this work:

1. Compliance and Alignment – integrating all legislative and regulatory requirements arising from the Minister’s Binding Directions and Regulations 312/24 and 83/24; and
2. Governance Modernization – strengthening Board structures, meeting procedures, and accountability mechanisms to support effective and transparent governance.

A more detailed roadmap will be presented for trustee discussion at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 11, and once approved, it will be submitted as a supplementary update to the Ministry to support ongoing tracking of progress.

The Committee’s work is structured to achieve Board approval of the updated Governance Manual by March 31, 2026, ensuring compliance with the Minister’s June 30, 2026 deadline while maintaining sufficient buffer for deeper consultation if required. To support transparency and alignment with ministry expectations, the Board would also be pleased to provide interim materials or draft versions to the Minister or Ms. Rachel Osborne, the appointed governance reviewer, at key milestones during the process.

High-Level Timeline (November 2025 – March 2026)

Timing	Key Focus / Committee Activities	Board & Ministerial Oversight
November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governance Committee meetings held Nov 6 and 21 to launch the modernization process.• Board receives roadmap on Nov 18. Work begins to categorize consultant	Board briefing Nov 18 confirming endorsement of approach.

	recommendations and draft mandatory legislative updates.	
December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed drafting of compliance sections. • Development of a trustee input tool on structural and procedural options. • Early review of policy alignment with binding directions. 	Reflected in first ministerial implementation update.
January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and integration of trustee input • Committee of the Whole and Board review of direction and scope • Continued drafting of governance and process elements. 	Board confirmation of direction and continued alignment.
February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of integrated draft of the Governance Manual (By-Laws + Policies). • Launch of public consultation survey on clarity and accessibility. • External review by OESC and OPSBA prior to legal vetting. 	Committee of the Whole discussion Feb 25.
March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Committee finalizes the Governance Manual and recommends adoption at the March 24 Board meeting. 	Minister notified upon approval.
April – June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formatting, publication, and integration into the Board policy manual and trustee orientation materials. 	Included in final compliance submission.

Head Office

P.O. Box 3110
963 Airport Road.
North Bay, ON
P1B 8H1
Fax: 705.472.9927

Main switchboard
for all offices:
705.472.8170

Toll free:
1.800.278.4922

Web site:
www.nearnorthschools.ca

VIA EMAIL

May 29, 2025

Denis Labelle,
Président - Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario
820 Lakeshore
North Bay, ON

Dear Denis Labelle:

Re: Inquiry re Potential Land Acquisition

Further to your letter dated April 30, 2025 please be advised that at the May 13, 2025 Board meeting the following motion was passed by NNDSB trustees:

Motion: 25-05-03, L. Sargent/H.Wesley

That the Board draft a letter to Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario that NNDSB appreciates collaboration but Whitewoods PS and its property is not for sale.

Please know that NNDSB is open to discussing other opportunities for collaboration.

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ashley St. Pierre
Chair, NNDSB

cc: Craig Myles, Director of Education, NNDSB
Yves Laliberté, Director of Education, CSPNE
Trustees, NNDSB