

Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of Northern Gateway Public Schools

February 10th, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Board Room of the Division Office in Whitecourt, AB

Opening

A. Opening

**Call to Order
and Roll Call**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The February 10th, 2015 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:05 a.m.

Chair Judy Muir, Trustees Jim Govenlock, Cindy Granley, Jim Hailes, Sherry Jeffreys, Albert Schalm, Terry Slemko, Beverly Smith, Gerry Steinke, and Administrators Kevin Andrea, Superintendent, Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, Michael Gramatovich, Secretary-Treasurer, and Wendy Robertson, Recording Secretary, were present at this time.

Milly McGregor, Assistant Secretary Treasurer and Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, were present at this time.

**Additions/Deletions
to the Agenda**

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

- D.1.a) Community Lunch Box Program
- D.1.b) Letter to MLA

Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

3003 -15

3. Acceptance of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the agenda for the February 10th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

Draft Minutes of the January 27th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

3004-15

C. Draft Minutes of the January 27th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

Moved by Trustee Govenlock– that the draft minutes of the January 27th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

Action Items

D. Action Items

Nil

Additional Action Items

Additional Action Items

Community Lunch Box Program

3005-15

Community Lunch Box Program

Moved by Trustee Govenlock– that the Board authorize two trustees to attend the Community Lunch Box fundraiser on February 21st, 2015 to represent the Northern Gateway Public Schools.

Motion Carried

Letter to MLA

3006-15

Letter to MLA

Moved by Trustee Govenlock– that the Board write a letter to MLAs' George VanderBurg and Everett McDonald voicing concerns of the implications to implement Alberta Health Care premiums and the cost to this Board; letter to be cc to ASBA and PSBAA.

Motion Carried

Dave Christie, Christie Consulting Services Ltd. and Randy Lovich, Director of Maintenance, entered the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Appointments & Delegations

3007-15

B. Appointments & Delegations

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – that the Board go in-camera at 10:16 a.m. and that Kevin Andrea, Michael Gramatovich and Milly McGregor be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

Dave Christie and Randy Lovich completed their Facility Review presentation and left the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

3008-15

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board come out of in-camera at 11:35 a.m.

Motion Carried

3009-15

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board accept the Facility Review and Three-Year Capital Plan recommendations (2015-2018) for information.

Motion Carried

Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA Update

E. Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA Update

ASBA

No report.

ASBA President's Email #28:

Administration received an email from the ASBA President with a link to find a release from the Alberta Government offering an opportunity to provide input in the upcoming Alberta budget. The link is: <http://alberta.ca/Budget.cfm> and they are encouraging the Board to take this opportunity to ensure their thoughts and insight are reflected.

PSBAA

Written report provided by Trustee Steinke on the PSBAA Council meeting held in Nisku, February 4th – 7th, 2015. Report attached for information.

Roger Lacey, Director of Learning Services, Emma Friars, Claire Patience, Quintin Scott, Terri Kennedy Fynn and Jemina Moore, Northern Gateway Jurisdiction Student Engagement Team, entered the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Appointments & Delegations

B. Appointments & Delegations

Northern Gateway Jurisdictional Student Engagement Team presentation.

The Northern Gateway Jurisdictional Student Engagement Team is a group of ten NGPS students who are passionate about giving students a voice.

Two students from each of our five high schools were selected for the team based on their interest and enthusiasm for engaging their fellow students. The team formed in December following the Education Minister's request to have teams of students working with each other in their own schools to:

- seek opportunities to gather student voice in their schools
- form communication links among high schools
- form student advisory councils or support existing student advisory councils within their schools
- organize Speak Out events at their school
- become involved with the Board of Trustees to carry their voice to the governance level.

Five members of NGJSET met with the Board of Trustees at their February 10th, 2015 Board meeting where they introduced themselves and shared with the Board their provincial mandate, their vision for NGJSET and their excitement for gathering the student voice.

The team feels that building comfort in their own schools and connections with students at different schools is important to their endeavor. They want to see a school environment where everyone feels comfortable to share their voice, feel that their opinion is important and know that there are real ways for their voice to be heard.

NGJSET Mission: We are equal. We make changes. We create community. We are students and we have a voice.

Roger Lacey, Director of Learning Services, Emma Friars, Claire Patience, Quintin Scott, Terri Kennedy Fynn and Jemina Moore, Northern Gateway Jurisdiction Student Engagement Team left the meeting at 2:00 p.m

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Written report provided.

Additional report items:

Education Agreement:

Administration received the Draft standards for Education Services with First Nations on February 9th, 2015.

Whitecourt Learning Campus Meeting:

Next meeting for the Whitecourt Learning Campus is scheduled for March 11th, 2015. Discussions related to an overall site plan will continue.

Finance

Finance

Michael Gramatovich reviewed the following report:

- Site Finance Reports as at January 31st, 2015.

Budget Assumptions

Budget Assumptions

Administration reviewed the Budget Assumptions document presented as information.

Government seeks input on Budget 2015

Government seeks input on Budget 2015

A new online survey asks Albertans to identify spending reductions and revenue opportunities to address the financial changes caused by low oil prices. Ideas are also invited on how to stabilize Alberta's revenue over the longer term.

This online consultation has 16 questions and will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey will be available until February 28th, 2015. Survey is posted at: www.budget.alberta.ca

Rural Transportation Update

Rural Transportation Update

Darcy Eddleston, Chair, Buffalo Trail Public Schools, provided an update to Rural Transportation since the last meeting. They have received 17 transportation surveys back and are just finishing compiling the data into a presentation format. He has been in contact with the admin assistant of the MLA rural caucus chair as to setting up a meeting with them. More information about the presentation will be sent out when date and time are confirmed.

Board Annual Self Evaluation Plan

Board Annual Self Evaluation Plan

Board Policy 7 – Board Operations No. 13.1 states: The Board self-evaluation process will complement the Superintendent evaluation process described in the document entitled Superintendent Evaluation Process, Criteria and Timelines. This states that notwithstanding, the Superintendent shall be evaluated according to Policy 12 a minimum of once every 24 month period. The Board chooses to be linked to the Superintendent evaluation timeline.

Shaping the Future Conference Report

Shaping the Future Conference Report

The 2015 conference brought together individuals from school communities and organizations across Alberta and Canada working to achieve optimal health, wellness and ideal

learning environments for all students. This year's theme is "inspiring, connecting and celebrating healthy school communities."

Shaping the Future always includes daily wellness and active breaks which allow attendees to participate in activities such as snowshoeing, ice hockey, walking, jogging and cross-country skiing.

Trustees Sherry Jeffreys and Beverly Smith attended the Shaping the Future Conference held January 29th – 31st, 2015 at the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis and provided the following report:

Conference Purpose:

- Inspiring, connecting and celebrating health school communities;
- This conference brings together leaders from health, education and active living sectors who have a vested interest in supporting healthy school communities;
- 4 national and provincially recognized keynote speakers;
- 3 preconference sessions, 3 unique workshops and over 30 concurrent sessions;
- Innovative App to engage participants.

Other Agenda items were Mental Health Opportunities (Mental Health Matters) and Wellness Opportunities.

There was also a discussion on Policy Opportunities in schools:

- Would like to see an initiative that aims to build health and wellness in our schools;
- Should focus on developing strategies that build and support a more equitable foundation for resiliency in our youth; and
- This could include ensuring our students receive enough physical activity to keep them engaged, interested and attentive throughout the day.

Ad Hoc Awards Committee Meeting Record

Ad Hoc Awards Committee Meeting Record

Trustee Hailes reviewed the Ad Hoc Awards Committee Meeting Record of February 3rd, 2015.

No changes were made to the record.

Discussion:

- next step for the committee is to establish specific criteria;
- develop a checklist for criteria;
- do not make this a competition for students;
- students need to do this for the right reasons
- cut back on criteria;
- no application process, go with a nomination procedure;
- decide on monetary award amount for age groups; and
- look at class ring or watch for high school students along with monetary award.

Onoway High School Mural

Onoway High School Mural

Superintendent Kevin Andrea provided an update to the Board on the wall Mural painted by an Onoway High School student as part of an art class project. The situation around displaying and/or removal of the Mural has received the attention of the community, media, students and parents of Onoway High School.

Next Steps:

The Onoway High School will provide an opportunity to have an open conversation with the students, staff and parents. The conversation will inform Onoway High Schools culture, practices and policies going forward and:

- The school administrator will speak at the Parent Council meeting on February 11th, 2015; and

- A Thoughtstream Survey will be sent to parents, students and staff.

Division administration will continue to update the Board.

Board Annual Work Plan

Board Annual Work Plan

Changes made to Policy 2 – Role of the Board

Appendix B:

Amend current 4th bullet under the month of June to now read: “Conduct the CEO and Board Evaluation”

Enrolment Report

Enrolment Report

Provided for information.

Suspension Report

Suspension Report

Provided for information.

Additional Report Items

Additional Report Items

Yellowhead Regional Library Report

Yellowhead Regional Library Report

Trustee Slemko attended the YRL Executive Committee meeting on February 6th, 2015 and reported:

- The Executive Committee moved to recommend to the YRL Board that the draft 2014 Audited Financial Statements be approved.

- The Executive Committee moved to recommend to the YRL that the General Fund surplus of \$235,123.00 be transferred to the Capital Fund.
- Canada Revenue Agency approved the application for YRL as a municipality for GST purposes.
- An application for the reimbursement of approximately \$54,000.00 to be submitted for the recouping of GST expended over the last four years for purchases of vehicles and building renovations.
- The Summer Village of Sandy Beach and the Summer Village of Sunrise Beach will be withdrawing from YRL effective August and September 2015.
- The 2015 Alberta Library Conference is scheduled from April 30th to May 3rd, 2015.
- Director's evaluation was tabled to the April meeting.

Topics for Future Discussions

F. Topics for Future Discussions

Nil

Requests for Information

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

1. NGJSET Presentation
2. Government seeds input on Budget 2015
3. Facility Review

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, left the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

In-Camera Items

3010-15

G. In-Camera Items

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board go in-camera at 4:45 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, and Michael Gramatovich be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

3011-15

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board come out of in-camera at 5:02 p.m.

Motion Carried

3012-15

Moved by Trustee Smith – that the following Communities be invited to meet with the Board:

MD of Greenview
Town of Mayerthrope
Town of Onoway
Alberta Beach

Motion Carried

Adjournment

3013-15

I. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the meeting be adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer