

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

November 24th, 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 November 24th, 2015 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:08 a.m.

Chair Judy Muir, Trustees Jim Govenlock, Cindy Granley, Jim Hailes, Sherry Jeffreys, Robyn O’Neill, Albert Schalm, 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.

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, was present at this time.

Trustee Terry Slemko was absent from the meeting.

**Additions/Deletions
to the Agenda**

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

I.1.a) Potential Legal Action – Capital Project

Acceptance of Agenda

3. Acceptance of Agenda

3210-15

Moved by Trustee Schalm– that the agenda for the November 24th, 2015 Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**Draft Minutes of the
November 10th, 2015
Regular Public Board
Meeting**

3211-15

**Appointments and
Delegations**

**C. Draft Minutes of the November 10th, 2015
Regular Public Board Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys– that the draft minutes of the November 10th, 2015 Regular Public Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

Gord Ashmore, Fox Creek for The Children Fundraising Society, entered the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

B. Appointments and Delegations

Fox Creek School Playground:

Gord Ashmore Society Chairperson, Fox Creek for the Children Fundraising Society, presented to the Board on the Recreation Area Proposal at the Fox Creek School.

The Society's goal is to build a playground area for grades 4 to 6 at the Fox Creek School as this age group currently does not have any equipment access during their recess time. The Society intends to fundraise for the new playground equipment and also to complete upgrades to other recreation areas at the school. The presentation included the three Phases outlining the overall project goals as well as a draft cost of the playground equipment.

Mr. Ashmore also asked two questions of the Board, which were:

1. Do we have the School Boards permission to put this equipment on the school grounds and if so;

2. Will the School Board maintain the playground equipment?

Administration advised the Board will respond to the Society with a letter answering their questions.

Mr. Ashmore completed his presentation at 10:34 a.m. and left the meeting.

Sheila Ranslam, Assistant Superintendent, entered the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

AERR & Three Year Education Plan 2015-2018

Sheila Ranslam, Assistant Superintendent, presented to the Board a draft of the publication "A Comprehensive Approach – Looking Back: Annual Education Results Report 2014-2015 and Moving Forward: Three Year Education Plan 2015 –2018." This document is a combination of the Annual Education Results Review Report and the Three Year Education Plan.

Sheila Ranslam completed her report at 11:41 a.m.

Action Items

AERR and Three Year Education Plan

3212-15

D. Action Items

AERR and Three Year Education Plan

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board accept the Draft AERR and Three Year Education Plan 2015-2018 as amended.

Motion Carried

Additional Action Items

Additional Action Items

Nil

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, entered the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Appointments and Delegations

B. Appointments and Delegations

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, presented to the Board on the current bus routes within the Sangudo area and possible solutions to improve ride times for students.

Presentation provided for information.

Discussion:

- went from 7 routes to 5 routes September 2015
- increased some ride times by 32 minutes
- did not budget for another bus for Sangudo
- looking at changing two routes into three routes

3213-15

Moved by Trustee Govenlock – that the Board direct Administration to enter into discussions with Southland to determine routes/cost analysis of going from 2 to 3 routes.

Motion Carried

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, completed his presentation and left the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Information/Reports

E. Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA Update

ASBA/PSBAA Update

ASBA

Trustee Hailes reported he had forwarded the November 27th, 2015 ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting agenda to all trustees. The process for submitting proposed policies at Zone 2/3 is one item on the agenda.

Reports from the ASBA FGM:

Trustee Hailes attended the session "Dealing with diversity at the board table" and found it very helpful.

ASBA should schedule sessions for the afternoon instead of ending at noon. Chair Muir advised there were sessions but ASBA did not let people know that.

Trustee Schalm attended the session "To vote or not to vote". Trustee Schalm reported from this session that the Quebec Minister is doing away with school boards due to low voter turnout.

Trustee Govenlock attended the session "Breaking legal news", with a discussion on "Duty to Accommodate".

PSBAA

Chair Muir reported from the PSBAA November, 2015 meeting:

- The 2015-2018 Association Work Plan was approved.
- The Key Messages from the work plan were approved.
- PSBAA wants everyone to focus on one key message which states "Diversity in a public school education system means choice, opportunity and respect". This is the message PSBAA wants to deliver.

- Religious Instruction in Public Schools – if Divisions have a Policy regarding the Lord’s Prayer or Religious Instruction – please forward a copy to PSBAA.
- A presentation from “Alberta Wellness Association” was made at the meeting.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent’s Report

Written report provided for information.

Additional report items:

Bill 8- Public Education Collective Bargaining Act

Education Minister David Eggen was to introduce a new collective bargaining bill for teachers today.

This was tabled due to a death of a staff member.

Deputy Superintendent’s Report

Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, gave a brief report on her trip to Paris, France to participate in the planning of the EF Vimy Ridge 100th Anniversary 2017. This EF group was there when the Terrorists attacked Paris. Deputy Superintendent Brennick relayed what transpired up to and after the attack.

Finance

Finance

Written reports provided for information.

Town of Fox Creek Multi Plex

Town of Fox Creek Multi Plex

Letter provided for information.

Administration to have discussions with the Town and provide feedback to the Board.

**Municipal District of
Greenview No. 16**

Municipal District of Greenview No. 16

Letter provided for information.

Administration reported they had responded to the MD's five questions with a letter of response.

**Board Annual Work
Plan**

Board Annual Work Plan

Provided for information.

3214-15

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board accept Information/Reports E1 – E7 as information.

Motion Carried

Trustee Reports

Trustee Reports

Judy Muir

Chair Muir attended a Parent Council meeting at Onoway High School, where she reported trustees had just attended the PSBAA and ASBA FGMs. Staff and parents had questions about the meetings as they had watched it on a live Webcast.

Jim Hailes

Trustee Hailes reported he had attended a session at ASBA FGM on "The art of chairing a board meeting." At this session they advised Boards not to have Caucus meetings, but to have the majority of their meetings in Public, and that

other Boards are moving away from this practice.

Further discussions on this will continue at the January 12th, 2016 Board meeting.

Additional Report Items

Additional Report Items

Nil

Topics for Future Discussions

F. Topics for Future Discussions

1. Policy – Caucus Meetings

Requests for Information

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

1. AERR & Three Year Education Plan
2. Fox Creek Parent Presentation
3. Transportation Report

In-Camera Items

I. In-Camera Items

3215-15

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board go in-camera at 3:24 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, Michelle Brennick, and Michael Gramatovich be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

3216-15

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board come out of in-camera at 3:46 p.m.

Motion Carried

3217-15

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board Chair respond to the Minister`s letter re: expenditure of funds for PSBAA.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

J. Adjournment

3218-15

Moved by Trustee Govenlock– that the meeting be adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer