

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

November 26, 2019

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 26th, 2019, meeting was called to order by Chair Wigton at 1:05 p.m.

Chair Linda Wigton, Trustees, Diane Hagman, Sherry Jeffreys, Barb Maddigan, Judy Muir, Christine Peck, Anita Portsmouth, and Administrators Kevin Andrea, Superintendent, Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, Tamara Spong, Secretary Treasurer and Wendy Robertson, Recording Secretary, were present at this time.

Milly McGregor, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer and John Shoemaker (Clews & Shoemaker), Division Auditor, were present at this time.

Assistant Superintendent, Leslee Jodry and Trustee, Gerry Steinke, were absent from the meeting.

Treaty Land Acknowledgement

2. Treaty Land Acknowledgement

Vice Chair Sherry Jeffreys read the Acknowledgement.

**Additions/Deletions
to the Agenda**

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Addition:

- D.2) Motion added to action item.
- I.3.a) Legal Issue
- 1.3.b) TEBA AGM Report

Acceptance of Agenda

4. Acceptance of Agenda

4112-19

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the agenda for the November 26th, 2019 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**Appointments and
Delegations**

B. Appointments and Delegations

Audited Financial Statement – John Shoemaker

Auditor John Shoemaker of Shoemaker, Viney & Friesen presented to the Board the Audited Financial Statement for the year ending August 31st, 2019.

The report shows that the School Division's budget is in good financial order. For more information on the Audited Financial Statement, contact the Finance Department at 1-800-262-8674.

John Shoemaker completed his report at 1:49 p.m. and left the meeting along with Milly McGregor.

**Minutes of the
October 29th, 2019
Organizational Meeting**

4113-19

**C. Minutes of the October 29th, 2019
Organizational Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Portsmouth– that the minutes of the October 29th, 2019 Organizational Meeting be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried

**Minutes of the
October 29th, 2019
Regular Board Meeting**

4114-19

**Minutes of the October 29th, 2019
Regular Board Meeting**

Moved by Trustee Peck– that the minutes of the October 29th, 2019 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried

Action Items

**Audited Financial
Statement**

4115-19

D. Action Items

Audited Financial Statement

Moved by Trustee Muir – that the Board accept the Audited Financial Statement as presented for the period ending August 31st, 2019.

Motion Carried

Budget Update

4116-19

Budget Update

Moved by Trustee Muir – that the Board approve the 2019 – 2020 Fall Budget as presented.

Motion Carried

4117 -19

Moved by Trustee Muir – that a Committee of the Whole meet on December 10th, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. to review the Governance Budget and Expenditures.

Motion Carried

Additional Action Items

Additional Action Items

Nil

Information/Reports

E. Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA

ASBA/PSBAA

ASBA:

Board Chairs' Meeting: (Linda Wigton)

Written report provided for information.
(Attached)

Rural Caucus: (Anita Portsmouth)

Trustee Report for the November 17th, 2019 meeting.

- Discussion about the increases to insurance costs. Reps were asked how much it affected each division. Increases ranged from \$200,000 to \$1.4 million.
- Report that the Rural Education Symposium will be shifting the focus away from municipal partnership to a 2020 theme and what will education look like in the future.
- Received financial report. Membership will be \$315 (reduction from estimated fee) due to being under budget.

- Did Funding Rural Education workshop with Lara Jollymore. Lara is working on her doctoral thesis on Funding Education in Rural Alberta. This was a table discussion. Same issues at my table (transportation costs, small schools underfunded with current funding model, difficulty in finding qualified staff).
- I will forward the survey from Lara for those that are willing to complete it.

PSBAA: (Judy Muir)

Report from the PSBC November 2019 meeting provided for information.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Report provided for information.

Finance

Finance

Reports provided for information:

- SJFR Report
- Division Financial Reports
- Enrolment Report

Results Review

Results Review

Board Chair Linda Wigton reported:

- Impressed with the work that admin are doing to move their schools forward.
- CRM and QLE are having an impact.
- Schools have prepared well, overall positive picture for the year.
- Concerns re: the spring budget.

- Using reserves has helped school weather first cuts.
- The passion that school leaders have evidenced throughout their presentations was greatly appreciated by the Board.

Board Annual Work Plan

Board Annual Work Plan

Provided for information.

Motion Review Cycle

Motion Review Cycle

Provided for information.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Reports

Anita Portsmouth

Hillside High School Drama performances scheduled for the evening of November 26th and 27th, 2019.

Seven grade eleven students and two staff members toured several schools in Reykjavik and Akureyri (Northern Iceland). Would the Board be interested in having the students report on their trip at a Board meeting? Onoway students will be on a trip to Finland soon, so Board will invite both groups to report after the Finland trip.

Linda Wigton

Central School has a partnership with the Whitecourt Wolverines, where they come in and engage with the students and the students do interviews with the members of the Wolverines.

Whitecourt students can now send staff recognition cards if they wish. Cards are

available at the school.

Whitecourt School will be live streaming their Christmas Concert on their Facebook page this Christmas.

Diane Hagman

Mayerthorpe Sr/Jr High School parent council is struggling to get parents to attend the meetings. Only four parents attended the last meeting.

Elmer Elson's parent council meets the 4th Tuesday on each month at 6:00 p.m.

Christine Peck

On November 5th, the Senior Girls were crowned GCAA Volleyball Champs.

On November 6th, the Junior Boys hosted and competed well at the zones here in OJSH.

The Junior girls were in Morinville for their zones where they did well in the round robin before meeting their match in the semi-finals.

Additional Report Items

4118-19

Topics for Future Discussions

Additional Report Items

Nil

Moved by Trustee Maddigan – that the Board accept Information/Reports E1-E9 as information.

Motion Carried

F. Topics for Future Discussions

1. Letter to Town of Wct to meet and also to MLA Martin Long.

Requests for Information

2. Evaluate our Board Self-Evaluation – January Board Meeting

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

1. Audited Financial Statement
2. John Shoemaker – Division Auditor
3. Financial Reports (In-depth)
4. Results Review Comments

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, left the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

In-Camera Items

I. In-Camera Items

4119-19

Moved by Trustee Hagman – that the Board move into In-Camera at 4:34 p.m.

Motion Carried

Trustee Portsmouth left the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

Trustee Muir left the meeting at 5:00 p.m. due to a conflict of interest.

4120–19

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – that the Board move out of In-Camera at 5:06 p.m.

Motion Carried

4121-10

Moved by Trustee Muir – that the Board write a letter to MLA Todd Loewen and invite him to meet with the Board of Trustees.

Motion Carried

4122-19

Moved by Trustee Hagman – that the Board supports the Employee Retirement Transition Opportunity being offered for the 2019-2020 school year as presented.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

J. Adjournment

4123-19

Moved by Trustee Maddigan - that the meeting be adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer