

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

March 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 March 10th, 2015 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:02 a.m.

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

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

Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent, Milly McGregor, Assistant Secretary Treasurer and Trustee Cindy Granley, were absent from the meeting.

**Additions/Deletions
to the Agenda**

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

D.6.a) Edwin Parr Nominee

D.6.b) Meetings with Town of Mayerthorpe and Onoway

I.4.a) Personnel

Acceptance of Agenda

3024 -15

3. Acceptance of Agenda

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

Motion Carried

Appointments & Delegations

B. Appointments & Delegations

Nil

Draft Minutes of the February 24th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

3025-15

C. Draft Minutes of the February 24th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys– that the draft minutes of the February 24th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

Action Items

Hillside High School Field Trip

3026-15

D. Action Items

Hillside High School Field Trip

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board approve in principle the Hillside Jr./Sr. High international field trip, "Free the Children Community", Nicaragua, scheduled for March 21st – 28th, 2016, subject to a review of the proposed travel dates.

Motion Carried

**Fox Creek School
Field Trip**

3027-15

Fox Creek School Field Trip

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board approve in full the Fox Creek School international field trip to London, Paris France and Rome Italy scheduled for April 2nd – 11th, 2015.

Motion Carried

**Hilltop High School
Field Trip**

3028-15

Hilltop High School Field Trip

Moved by Trustee Govenlock – that the Board approve in full the Hilltop High School international field trip to Ireland and Scotland, scheduled for April 2nd – 12th, 2015.

Motion Carried

MLA Meetings

3029-15

MLA Meetings

Moved by Trustee Smith – that the Board schedule the following meetings for those trustees that can attend:

MLA George VanderBurg -
April 10th @ 11:15 a.m. in Whitecourt

MLA Everett McDonald –
April 21st @ 10:30 a.m. at the Legislature Annex
9718 – 107 Street, Edmonton

Motion Carried

Space Camp Program

3030-15

Space Camp Program

Moved by Trustee Govenlock – that the Board support the initiative of the Space Camp Program provided by Lac Ste. Anne County and appoints Trustee Jeffreys to sit on the Selection Committee as the representative from Northern Gateway Public Schools with Trustee Slemko as the alternate.

Motion Carried

Additional Action Items

Meeting with Town of Mayerthorpe/Onoway

Additional Action Items

Meeting with Town of Mayerthorpe/Onoway

A meeting has been scheduled with the Town of Mayerthorpe for April 14th, 2015. Time to be determined.

Agenda Items:

1. Division Facility Review
2. Budget 2015
3. Emergency Generator Location
4. Sanitation Contract
5. Space Camp Program
6. Water/Sewer/Utility Rate
7. Hwy 43 – Hwy 22 Safety
8. Paving Project
9. Diamond Centre

Administration to send a letter to the Town of Onoway with the suggested meeting dates of April 28th or May 12th, 2015.

**Edwin Parr Nominee
Process**

3031-15

Edwin Parr Nominee Process

Moved by Trustee Govenlock – that the Board appoint Trustee Slemko and Trustee Jeffreys, and the Superintendent, to review the applications for the Edwin Parr Award and bring a recommendation to the March 28th Board Meeting.

Motion Carried

Information/Reports

E. Information/Reports

ASBA/PSBAA Update

ASBA/PSBAA Update

ASBA

Trustee Hailes reported from the February 2015 meeting:

1. Chair's Report – ASBA policy positions, proposed amendments, reaffirmations or deletions of existing positions, please prepare documentation to present at the April 24 Zone meeting. Proposals should be in to the Zone Secretary by April 13 so they may be put on the April 24 Agenda. We are still looking for an Auditor for Z one 2/3. March PD plan ASEBP presentation as well as Audit committees.
2. Presidents Report – all Trustees are encouraged to re-tweet items of an Education interest so that they may reach a greater audience. Great concern was expressed over the anticipated effects of the upcoming Provincial budget. Advocacy Prep is in high gear for the 2015/16 Advocacy plan.
3. Director's Report – 2015/16 Budget roll over will be April 24.
4. Alberta Education – there will be a 4th intake for High School Redesign. The question was asked as to why SLA results were only

- available to Teachers and not Administrators. A response will be forth coming.
5. There was a presentation on Regional Collaborative Service Delivery. Trustee Hailes has a copy of the power point presentation if anyone is interested.
 6. There was a Q&A with a number of students from Speakout. Once again they were most impressive young people.
 7. Advocacy Report – This years' MLA Advocacy function will be held in the fall when we can get the full attention and attendance of our intended audience. The Zone will bring forth a decreased number of initiatives with the intent of better focus. As per the surveys our issues will be Transportation, Infrastructure and Rural schools by necessity.
 8. Reminder of the Edwin Parr event May 22.

PSBAA

Governance Seminar scheduled for Thursday, April 16th, 2015, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel West Edmonton – 16616 – 109 Ave NW, Edmonton.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Written report provided.

Additional report items:

MLA George VanderBurg announced that the Lac Ste. Anne County will be getting another tower installed to increase connectivity for surrounding areas.

Administration to provide a report on what would be required for cables, switches, access points to upgrade each of the Northern Gateway schools.

Town of Whitecourt Meeting:

3032-15

Moved by Trustee Slemko – that the Board appoint Trustee Govenlock to attend the “Community Learning Campus” meetings as the representative from Northern Gateway Public Schools.

Motion Carried

Finance

Finance

Michael Gramatovich reviewed the following report:

- Site Finance Reports as at February 28th, 2015.

MD of Greenview Letter

MD of Greenview Letter

Letter provided for information only.

Using Grade 1 – 12 Funding for Kindergarten

Using Grade 1 – 12 Funding for Kindergarten

Proposed policy distributed to all Board members submitted from Trustee Steinke.

- some jurisdictions have chosen to transfer funding from other areas of programming and services in order to offer full time kindergarten
- the consequence of this is becoming problematic: when one jurisdiction offers this and another doesn't, parental choice is often drawing more students to the full time program, forcing jurisdictions to compete against each other

- when Boards find resources to fully fund full time kindergarten it minimizes the motivation for Government to fund the full time kindergarten program
- ASBA has no policy position in place for full time kindergarten, only for at risk students
- should Northern Gateway become more competitive?
- should Northern Gateway submit the Proposal for the ASBA policy position?

3033-15

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the submitted Proposal for ASBA policy position and explanation be submitted to Zone 2/3, April 13th, 2015 meeting.

Motion Carried

Proposal for ASBA policy position to be brought back to the March 24th, 2015 Board meeting to finalize wording.

Infrastructure Funds distributed to Boards on Equitable Basis

Infrastructure Funds distributed to Boards on Equitable Basis

Under the current ASBA Policy Statement it states:

The Government of Alberta should enable school boards to access an amount of the local education tax equivalent to 2% of the replacement value of its facilities for the purpose of the preservation and maintenance of current facilities.

Administration to look into this further.

Letter from Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations

Letter from Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations

Letter provided for information.

Letter was received advising of a new formal complaint process for public procurements which will be introduced into the New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA).

Administration to confer with legal to see if this will affect our Custodian or Bus contracts.

Rural Ed Symposium

Rural Ed Symposium

Northern Gateway Board of Trustees and administration staff attended the Alberta Rural Education Symposium, March 1st – 3rd, 2015, held in Canmore, Alberta.

Symposium was very well received, well organized and keynote speakers had interesting topics.

Next years' symposium will be held on March 6th – 8th, 2016 at the Banff Centre.

Rural Boards: re Transportation Report

Rural Boards: re Transportation Report

Chair Muir reported from the Rural Boards: re Transportation meeting:

- top 10 transportation issues from the results of 17 surveys were reviewed
- discussions were held with the MLA rural caucus admin assistant
- looking to set up a meeting with the rural caucus

- our presentation could be sent to the Minister to inform him of our concerns, but we can do that ourselves
- after some discussion it was decided that we would develop a one pager of who we are and what we see are the issues causing a crisis in rural transportation
- draft one of the one pager was sent to the committee to review and provide feedback to Darcy Eddleston and then taken forward

Annual Board Work Plan

Annual Board Work Plan

Plan reviewed and no changes made at this time.

Enrolment Report

Enrolment Report

Report provided for information only.

Suspension Report

Suspension Report

Report provided for information only.

Additional Report Items

Additional Report Items

Nil

Topics for Future Discussions

F. Topics for Future Discussions

Nil

Requests for Information

G. Requests for Information

Nil

Meeting Highlights

H. Meeting Highlights

1. Approved Field Trips
2. Cosmodome Space Camp Program
3. Google Summit
4. Rural Education Symposium
5. Full Time Funded Kindergarten

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer, left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

In-Camera Items

G. In-Camera Items

3034-15

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board go in-camera at 1:30 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, and Michael Gramatovich be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

Kevin Andrea, Superintendent and Michael Gramatovich, Secretary-Treasurer, left the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

3035-15

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board come out of in-camera at 3:24 p.m.

Motion Carried

3036-15

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board accept the recommendation from the Support/Admin Compensation Committee meeting held on February 24th, 2015, including the insertion of Alberta Health Care.

Motion Carried

3037-15

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board adjust the Superintendent’s compensation as per the negotiated terms for the period from September 1st, 2013 to August 31st, 2015.

Motion Carried

Adjournment

I. Adjournment

3038-15

Moved by Trustee Smith – that the meeting be adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Motion Carried

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer