

**Members Present:**

C. Edwards	Ward 1	
G. Kissel	Ward 1	
R. Ripkens	Ward 1	
K. Packard	Ward 2	
M. Skogen	Ward 2	
R. Young	Ward 2	
L. Phillips	Ward 3	
B. Norton	Ward 4	
D. Lozinski	Ward 5	
R. Cusson	Superintendent	
P. Elock	Secretary-Treasurer	
B. Driedger	Associate Superintendent	
J. Irvine	Associate Superintendent	Regrets
B. Steunenber	Recording Secretary	

**CALL TO ORDER**

Trustee Packard called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The land acknowledgment was recited by Trustee Phillips.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

23. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve the agenda for this meeting with the following additions:

*Additions:*

- 7.10 Remembrance Day Ceremonies
- 8.3 Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) Transportation Town Hall

CARRIED.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

24. Moved by Trustee Lozinski to approve the minutes of the Organizational Board meeting held on August 28, 2023 with the following amendment:

- Change "Superintendent Cusson" under "Call for Nominations (Vice-Chair) to "Trustee Packard".

CARRIED.

25. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on August 28, 2023.

CARRIED.

## TRUSTEE/ADMIN INFORMATION ITEMS

Board Chair Packard congratulated Taylor Martin from Glendon School on being selected to serve on the Education Minister's Youth Council for 2023-2024. Board Chair Packard thanked NLPS staff for celebrating the start of the 2023-2024 school year with pancake breakfasts at the end of August. She also expressed her gratitude to the Bonnyville and District Fine Arts Society for their donation to the Clayton Bellamy Foundation for the Arts for the Strathcona Performing Arts Centre and for the invitation to the cheque presentation ceremony. Trustee Ripkens congratulated the Clayton Bellamy Foundation for the Arts on a successful gala and celebrity golf tournament held at the beginning of September. Trustee Edwards commended the staff and school councils at Duclos School and H. E. Bourgoin (HEB) School on their meet the teacher events. She also appreciated the opportunity to make pancakes with volunteers at HEB to kick off the school's Terry Fox Run. Trustee Lozinski thanked Lac La Biche County Council for confirming a site for a replacement school for Vera M. Welsh Elementary School. Associate Superintendent Driegder shared that Northern Lights has met its enrollment projections for 2023-2024 which is slightly above last year's total enrollment. Trustee Kissel complimented Glendon School on an excellent welcome back barbecue held in conjunction with the community's registration night, as well as the school's recent Grandparents' Day. Trustee Phillips was honoured to attend the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation ceremonies hosted by Lac La Biche County Family and Community Support Services (FCSS). Communications and Public Relations Manager Garner presented Good News highlights from schools throughout the Division. Received as information only.

## APPOINTMENTS

### DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION - TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

The Board welcomed Director Richter to share an update on transportation news around the Division. This year's startup went more smoothly than last year as all routes had drivers for the first day of school. A shortage of spare bus drivers is presenting challenges when drivers are unavailable to complete their routes for personal reasons and several routes have not operated if a driver is temporarily unavailable. Director Richter reported that the funding increase provided for student transportation has addressed some of the pressures that contractors were experiencing, however, inflationary costs continue to be an issue. The Division's driving school has been steadily training drivers and has modified its training program following the removal of MELT requirements in the spring. Received as information only.

## DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM: GRADE 7-12 SUMMER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Director Draycott shared highlights from Summer School 2023 which saw a total of 117 (one hundred and seventeen) students successfully complete courses in July. This is an increase of 60 (sixty) students from the previous year. The students had the option of in-person, hybrid, or virtual classes. Received as information only.

26. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to acknowledge the receipt of the Summer School Accountability report as presented by Director Draycott as information only.

CARRIED.

## BOARD BUSINESS

### OPERATIONS SUMMARY

27. Moved by Trustee Edwards to acknowledge the receipt of the Monthly Board Report - Operations Summary (August) as presented by Secretary-Treasurer Elock as information only.

CARRIED.

### QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

28. Moved by Trustee Norton to acknowledge the receipt of the Quarterly Budget report for the period ending May 31, 2023 (Q3) as presented by Secretary-Treasurer Elock as information only.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 11:04 A.M. and reconvened the meeting at 11:12 A.M.

### ANNUAL FEES REPORT 2022-2023

29. Moved by Trustee Edwards to acknowledge the receipt of the Annual Fees report for the 2022-2023 school year as presented by Secretary-Treasurer Elock as information only.

CARRIED.

### BOARD PRIORITIES

30. Moved by Trustee Norton to direct administration to enact the same consultation process as the 2018 Board Priorities Consultation with stakeholders.

CARRIED.

### ANNUAL BOARD EVALUATION DEFERRAL

31. Moved by Trustee Edwards to defer the annual Board Self Evaluation as required by **Board Policy No. 2 - Role of the Board** for the 2023-2024 school year and make amendments in Board Policy No. 2 as required.

CARRIED.

### POTENTIAL MINISTER'S VISIT

Received as information only.

### SEPTEMBER 26 MEETING WITH THE LAC LA BICHE COUNTY UPDATE

Received as information only.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed for lunch at 12:02 P.M. and reconvened the meeting at 12:33 P.M.

### POTENTIAL DATES FOR STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL TO THE BOARD

The Board discussed December 14, 2023 as the date to hold Student Advisory Council to the Board. Received as information only.

### SUPERINTENDENT PROFESSIONAL GROWTH PLAN

32. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve the Superintendent's Professional Growth Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

CARRIED.

### REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES

Received as information only.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### ZONE 2/3

33. Moved by Trustee Norton to acknowledge the receipt of the Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 report as presented by Trustee Ripkens.

CARRIED.

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

34. Moved by Trustee Phillips to approve **Board Policy No. - 8 Committees of the Board - Appendix E** as amended as per the attached **Appendix "A"** to these minutes.

CARRIED.

35. Moved by Trustee Kissel that Staff Recognition be held on May 3, 2024 in Glendon, AB.

CARRIED.

36. Moved by Trustee Skogen to acknowledge the receipt of the Communications Committee report as presented by Trustee Edwards.

CARRIED.

## ALBERTA STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL TOWN HALL

Received as information only.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The members of the Board received the following correspondence as information only:

- Letter from Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, to Karen Packard, Board Chair, re: requested access to operating reserves, dated August 31, 2023
- Email from Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, to Karen Packard, Board Chair, re: 2023/24 Minister's Youth Council, dated September 5, 2023
- Letter from Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, to Parents, re: Resuming engagement on draft Social Studies curriculum, dated September 18, 2023
- Letter from Karen Packard, Board Chair, to Mr. Paul Reutov, Mayor of Lac La Biche County, re: Status of Replacement School for Vera M. Welsh, dated September 21, 2023
- Email from Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, to Karen Packard, Board Chair, re: School Board Reserves, dated September 22, 2023
- Letter from Rogers Communications Inc, to the Board of Trustees, re: Public Consultation Notice, dated September 26, 2023
- Letter from Karen Packard, Board Chair, to Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, re: Capital Plan, dated September 28, 2023

- Letter from Karen Packard, Board Chair, to Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, re: Capacity Request for Vera M. Welsh Elementary School Replacement, dated September 29, 2023
- Letter from Muhammad Yaseen, the Honourable Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism, re: Thank You, n.d.
- Letter from Scott Cyr, MLA Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, to Karen Packard, Board Chair, re: Advocating for Northern Lights Public Schools Capital Plan, n.d.
- Letter from Demetrios Nicolaides, the Honourable Minister of Education, to Parents, re: Introduction and Update, n.d.

37. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to accept the correspondence file as information only.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** Trustee Skogen departed the meeting at 1:24 P.M.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 1:24 P.M. and reconvened the meeting at 1:39 P.M.

#### CLOSED MEETING

38. Moved by Trustee Edwards to convert to a closed meeting at 1:39 P.M.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** Superintendent Cusson, Associate Superintendent Driedger, Secretary-Treasurer Elock, and Recording Secretary Steunenber departed the meeting at 3:41 P.M.

#### REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

39. Moved by Trustee Kissel to revert to a regular public meeting at 3:41 P.M.

CARRIED.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Packard adjourned the meeting at 3:41 P.M.

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K. Packard, Board Chair

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B. Steunenber, Recording Secretary