

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
J. Irvine	Associate Superintendent
B. Driedger	Associate Superintendent
K. Jackson	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

44. The agenda was adopted for this meeting by unanimous consent with the following additions:

- 8.12 CFB Cold Lake Holiday Reception
- 8.13 Cold Lake Transportation Master Plan Open House

CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

45. The minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on October 23, 2024 were approved by unanimous consent.

TRUSTEE/ADMIN INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustee Edwards enjoyed many events including IGNITE, the Alberta School Boards' Association Fall General Meeting, and the Board's recent meeting with school councils. She highlighted the H.E. Bourgoin School Halloween activities, getting to hand out candy and connecting with the students. Edwards said the Iron River School Remembrance Day ceremony was a highlight of the year so far with students of all ages involved, and staff and community coming together to honour veterans like William McGregor who is 101. Trustee Kissel attended the

Glendon School Remembrance Day ceremony and said it was a great program with each grade doing a song or presentation followed by lunch. Trustee Ripkens laid a wreath at the Bonnyville Centralized High School Remembrance Day ceremony organized by Gina Elock, an Educational Assistant at the school. He said it was well organized, and although they were unable to get a guest speaker they showed a powerful video and heard comments from students who recognized the age of soldiers being similar to them. Trustee Norton was the MC of Lac La Biche's Festival of Trees. The event had jigging performed by Kikino School students, and songs performed by Vera M. Welsh Elementary School students. Trustee Lozinski was impressed by the Outreach Schools' Remembrance Day ceremonies saying that they have not generally held these in past years. The ceremonies had videos shown, a moment of silence, and a lecture on World War I and World War II. Trustee Lozinski also attended Caslan School's Remembrance Day ceremony that included performances by each class and a local Korean War veteran who spoke and shook the hands of all the students. Trustee Phillips spoke at J.A. Williams High School's Remembrance Day ceremony which included dignitaries from Lac Lac Biche County and Kikino Metis Settlement, and bagpipes, and was impressed by how respectful the students were. She also attended the Walk of Hope put on by the Hope Haven Women's Shelter and said it was touching to hear many local people speak. Trustee Packard attended Art Smith Aviation Academy and North Star Elementary School's Remembrance Day ceremonies and echoed the respectfulness of students and honouring the veterans. She said it was a pleasure to attend the Alberta School Boards' Association Awards ceremony where they honoured the Bonnyville Friendship Centre as a Friends of Education Award recipient. Received as information only.

REPORTS

The following reports were included as part of the board package in advance of the meeting and have been filed:

Administration

1. Monthly Board Operations Summary (October) - Secretary-Treasurer
2. 2023-2024 School Council Reports
3. Final Approval of the Annual Education Results Report (AERR) - Superintendent

Committees

1. ASBA/Zone 2/3
2. ASBA FGM
3. PSBC
4. Support Staff Liaison Committee
5. Communications Committee
6. Policy Committee

MOTIONS COMING OUT OF REPORTS

46. Moved by Trustee Ripkens that letters be written to each of the School Councils' Chairs to acknowledge their efforts in submitting their Annual School Council Reports to the Board.

CARRIED.

47. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to approve the 2023-2024 Annual Education Results Report for the Northern Lights School Division as per the attached **Appendix "A"** to these minutes.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 11:43 A.M. and reconvened at 11:53 A.M.

CLOSED MEETING

48. Moved by Trustee Edwards to convert to a closed meeting at 11:54 A.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: Trustee Skogen arrived at the meeting at 12:14 P.M.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

49. Moved by Trustee Norton to revert to a regular public meeting at 12:31 P.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed for lunch at 12:31 P.M. and reconvened at 1:01 P.M.

APPOINTMENTS: AUDITOR JEFF ALLISTON, METRIX GROUP - AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

50. Moved by Trustee Norton that the Audited Financial Statements be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 1:23 P.M. and reconvened at 1:31 P.M.

MOTIONS COMING OUT OF REPORTS

51. Moved by Trustee Edwards to approve the 2024-2025 Board Public Relations Plan as amended.

CARRIED.

BOARD BUSINESS

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE APPROVAL

52. Moved by Trustee Edwards that the Terms of References for the Finance, Audit, Advocacy, Policy, and Communications and Recognition Committees of the Board be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

REQUIRED ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSURANCE MEASURES

Received as Information Only.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Received as Information Only.

DECEMBER 9TH SCHOOL PLAN MEETING WITH ADMINISTRATORS

Received as Information Only.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS AND EVENTS

Received as Information Only.

2025 ELECTION UPDATE

53. Moved by Trustee Lozinski that Secretary-Treasurer Elock be appointed as Returning Officer.

CARRIED.

54. Moved by Trustee Young that the following individuals be appointed as Substitute Returning Officers for Northern Lights Public Schools:

- Audrey Macdonald
- Bonnie Sutherland
- Brittany Steunenberg
- Jackie Kovatch
- Janell Unrau
- Karina Jackson
- Lynda Untereiner
- Lynn Matthews
- Paula Berenguer
- Peter Desmond
- Stephanie Atkinson, and
- Tammy Costard

CARRIED.

55. Moved by Trustee Skogen that the Returning Officer shall receive nominations on normal business working days between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm from January 1, 2025 until June 30, 2025, and September 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 and between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 10:00 am and 12:00 pm on Fridays for the months of June and July, during the nomination period at the Bonnyville Division Office.

CARRIED.

CLAYTON BELLAMY FOUNDATION LOAN GUARANTEE

56. Moved by Trustee Ripkens that a loan for the construction of the Strathcona Performing Arts Centre be guaranteed for the Clayton Bellamy Foundation through Lakeland Credit Union.

CARRIED.

2024-2025 CALENDAR AUGMENTATION APPROVAL

57. Moved by Trustee Kissel that the closure of North Star Elementary School on December 2, 2024 for the professional development of staff be approved.

CARRIED.

BUFFALO LAKE MÉTIS SETTLEMENT LETTER OF SUPPORT

58. Moved by Trustee Lozinski that a letter of support for a school to be built on Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement be written on behalf of the Board and shared with Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement council to use in their advocacy efforts to secure funding and approval for a school.

CARRIED.

LAC LA BICHE COUNTY HIGHWAY 663 LETTER OF SUPPORT

59. Moved by Trustee Phillips that a letter of support be written and sent on behalf of the Board to the Minister of Transportation regarding Lac La Biche County's request to address the condition and maintenance of Highway 663 east of Lac La Biche.

CARRIED.

DATES FOR MEETING WITH THE ATA LOCAL

Discussed as information only.

CFB COLD LAKE HOLIDAY RECEPTION

60. Moved by Trustee Kissel that Trustee Skogen, Trustee Packard, Trustee Ripkens, and Trustee Young attend the CFB Cold Lake Holiday Reception on December 10, 2024.

CARRIED.

COLD LAKE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE

Discussed as Information Only.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received the following correspondence as information only:

- Letter to Board of Trustees, from Kelly Chamzuk, Board Chair, Athabasca County, not dated, re: Agricultural Education
- Letter to Education Sector Leaders, from W. Doug Wylie, Auditor General of Auditor General of Alberta, dated October 30, 2024, re: Report of the Auditor General - An Analysis of Performance Reporting by School Authorities
- Letter to Mr. Scott Cyr, MLA - Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St Paul, from Dennis MacNeil, President, Public School Boards' Association of Alberta, dated October 31, 2024, re: Advocacy for Public Schools
- Letter to The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Education, from Dennis MacNeil, President, Public School Boards' Association of Alberta, dated November 4, 2024, re: Funding
- Letter to The Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation, from Paul Reutov, Mayor, Lac La Biche County, dated November 7, 2024, re: Highway 663 Concerns
- North Star Elementary School Remembrance Day Ceremony Program
- Art Smith Aviation Academy Remembrance Day Ceremony Program
- Alberta School Boards' Association 2024 Awards Evening Program, Dated November 17, 2024
- Letter to The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, from Dennis MacNeil, President, Public School Boards' Association of Alberta, dated November 25, 2024, re: Consideration to Offer Free Access to National Parks for Student Groups Across Canada
- Letter to The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Education, from Dennis MacNeil, President, Public School Boards' Association of Alberta, dated November 25, 2024, re: Formal Request that "Public" be Used to Describe Public Schools Only
- Cold Lake High School Indigenous Learning Space Dedication Ceremony Invitation

61. Moved by Trustee Norton to accept the correspondence file as information only.

CARRIED.

62. Moved by Trustee Edwards that a letter be written to the Minister of Education requesting an increase of per-student funding.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 3:14 P.M. and reconvened at 3:26 P.M.

CLOSED MEETING

63. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to convert to a closed meeting at 3:26 P.M.

CARRIED.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

64. Moved by Trustee Norton to revert to a regular public meeting at 4:28 P.M.

CARRIED.

65. Moved by Trustee Young that the Board give Bylaw No. 2025/01 - Ward Boundaries of The Northern Lights School Division confirming the ward boundaries and number of trustees of the school division first reading as amended.

CARRIED.

66. Moved by Trustee Lozinski that the Board give Bylaw No. 2025/01 - Ward Boundaries of The Northern Lights School Division confirming the ward boundaries and number of trustees of the school division second reading as amended.

CARRIED.

67. Moved by Trustee Norton to proceed to the third reading of Bylaw No. 2025/01 - Ward Boundaries immediately.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

68. Moved by Trustee Kissel that the Board give Bylaw No. 2025/01 - Ward Boundaries of The Northern Lights School Division confirming the ward boundaries and number of trustees of the school division third and final reading as amended.

CARRIED.

69. Moved by Trustee Kissel that the New Teacher Induction and Staff Recognition Night be planned for May 2, 2025 in Glendon.

CARRIED.



ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Packard adjourned the meeting at 4:33 P.M.

K. Packard, Board Chair

K. Jackson, Recording Secretary