

**Members Present:**

C. Edwards	Ward 1
G. Kissel	Ward 1
R. Ripkens	Ward 1
K. Packard	Ward 2
M. Skogen	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
K. Jackson	Recording Secretary

**Regrets:**

R. Young	Ward 2
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**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Northern Lights Public Schools acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 First Nations Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We honour the history and culture of all people who first lived and gathered in these lands and commit to enhance our relationship with one another. We acknowledge our roles as educational leaders to learn, teach and engage in the communities we serve. Our recognition of this land is an act of reconciliation and an expression of our gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

Additions:

- 10.13 Facility Update
- 10.14 Facility Tour

Revisions:

- 7.1.2 Should read "Q1 Operations Report"

CARRIED.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

88. The minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on January 15, 2025 were approved by unanimous consent.

CARRIED.

## TRUSTEE/ADMIN INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustees Norton and Phillips attended Aurora Middle School's Outdoor Education class and judged their bannock cooking contest. Trustee Norton was asked to judge their lip sync competition and highlighted the teacher's closing number. Trustee Kissel has been following the Glendon School basketball teams including the Peter Doonanco Basketball Tournament in Glendon. Trustee Phillips was a part of the Vera M. Welsh Elementary School design team presenting the design. Trustee Ripkens attended the Alberta Teachers Association Conference saying the sessions were great, the keynote speaker was excellent, and it was a great opportunity to connect with staff. Nicole Garner presented "Good News" from across the Division. This was received as information only.

## APPOINTMENT: COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER NICOLE GARNER

89. Moved by Trustee Kissel to approve the Seven Teachings Award and Resilience Award as presented by Nicole Garner, Communications and Public Relations Manager.

CARRIED.

## 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 (December and January) - Secretary-Treasurer
2. Review of Quarterly Operations Report (Q1) - Secretary-Treasurer

### Committees

1. ASBA/Zone 2/3
2. PSBAA
3. Policy Committee
4. Student Achievement Committee
5. Communications and Recognition Committee
6. Finance Committee
7. Ad Hoc Policy 12 Committee

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 11:00 A.M. and reconvened at 11:07 A.M.

## MOTIONS COMING OUT OF REPORTS

90. Moved by Trustee Edwards to accept **Board Policy No. 28: Student Code of Conduct** as reviewed by the Policy Committee with no revisions required.

CARRIED.

91. Moved by Trustee Edwards to Rescind **Board Policy No. 21: Recognition and Celebration**.

DEFEATED.

92. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to approve the Student Achievement Committee's Terms of Reference as presented.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** Deputy Superintendent Irvine left the meeting at 11:45am

93. Moved by Trustee Edwards to approve in principle **Board Policy No. 12: Role of the Superintendent** as presented. The policy will be sent for review by legal before returning to the Board for approval.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** Deputy Superintendent Irvine returned to the meeting at 11:58am

## BOARD BUSINESS

### APPROVAL OF 2025/2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Received as information only.

### APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF DRAFT CALENDARS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Received as information only.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 12:11 P.M. and reconvened at 12:47 P.M.

### ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION FRIENDS OF EDUCATION AWARD

Received as information only.

### PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA ADVANCING ASSOCIATION BUSINESS AND INITIATIVES

Received as information only.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA DICK BAKER LEGACY AWARD**

Received as information only.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA PROMOTING AND ADVANCING ONE OR MORE OF THE CALLS TO ACTION OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF ALBERTA**

Received as information only.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Received as information only.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLIC EDUCATION: MEDIA**

Received as information only.

**NOTE:** Deputy Superintendent Irvine returned to the meeting at 12:52 P.M.

**NORTHERN LIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS' FINANCIAL REPORTING PROFILE**

Received as information only.

**ALBERTA SCHOOL COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

Received as information only.

**APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

94. Moved by Trustee Edwards that the Superintendent's Professional Development Plan be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

**TRUSTEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

95. Moved by Trustee Phillips to approve the Trustee Professional Development Plan as amended.

CARRIED.

## BUFFALO LAKE REQUEST

96. Moved by Trustee Skogen to approve Trustee Lozinski's attendance at the Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement Council Meeting on March 5, 2025.

CARRIED.

## MINISTER OF ADVANCED EDUCATION REQUEST

Received as information only.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received the following correspondence as information only:

- Letter to Jenna Tkachuk, student at Iron River School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated January 1, 2025
- Letter to Jocelyne Langevin, student at Vera M. Welsh Elementary School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated January 1, 2025
- Letter to Honourable Rick Wilson, Minister of Indigenous Relations, from Scott Cyr, MLA - Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, re: Urgent Advocacy Request Regarding Jordan's Principle Funding Delays, dated January 17, 2025
- Letter to School Board Chairs, from Daryl Scott, Board Chair, Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan, re: Premium Rates, dated January 22, 2025
- Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, re: Alberta Education's Funding Model, dated January 22, 2025
- Letter to Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, from Tasha Oatway-McLay, Board Chair, Sturgeon Public Schools, re: Funding Challenges, dated January 23, 2025
- Letter to Nadine Parent, staff member at Ecole Plamondon School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated February 1, 2025
- Letter to Evan Bonner, student at Ecole Plamondon School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated February 1, 2025
- Letter to Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, from Luci Henry, Board Chair, Wolf Creek Public Schools, re: Clarity Regarding Implementation of the Education Amendment Act (2024), dated February 13, 2025
- Letter to The Board of Trustees, Northern Lights Public Schools, from The Planning and Development Department, Lac La Biche County, re: Rezoning Notification, dated January 15, 2025

- Letter to Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, from Joan Nellis, Board Chair, Grande Prairie Public School Division, re: Funding Concerns, dated February 21, 2025
- Letter to Colleagues, from Michael Borgfjord, Superintendent, Black Gold School Division, re: Registration for the 2025 Alberta Rural Education Symposium, not dated
- Letter to Whom it May Concern, from Anna Brockoff, Board Chair, Lakeland Catholic School Division, re: Indigenous Services Canada, not dated

97. Moved by Trustee Kissel to accept the correspondence file as information only.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** Communications Officer Nicole Garner left the meeting at 1:30 P.M.

#### CLOSED MEETING

98. Moved by Trustee Edwards to convert to a closed meeting at 1:30 P.M.

CARRIED.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 1:59 P.M. and reconvened at 2:12 P.M.

**NOTE:** The Board recessed at 4:12 P.M. and reconvened at 4:19 P.M.

#### REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

99. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to revert to a regular public meeting at 5:09 P.M.

CARRIED.

100. Moved by Trustee Lozinski to accept the Communications and Recognition Committee's nomination recommendations for the 2025 Northern Lights Public Schools' Friends of Education Award.

CARRIED.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Packard adjourned the meeting at 5:10 P.M.

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K. Packard, Board Chair

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K. Jackson, Recording Secretary