

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Chairperson Bell welcomed everyone and then thanked everyone for their hard work and advocacy throughout the year, and expressed gratitude for working with the team.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 03/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees adopt the December 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting agenda, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Shortt Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Motion #: 04/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees amend motion 03/12-09/25-26, by adding - 11.4 Consultation on Mail-in Ballots for Yellowknife Education Body Elections to New Business.

Moved by: Trustee Shortt Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

Motion #: 03/12-09/25-26 (amended)

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees adopt the December 9, 2025, Regular Board Meeting agenda, as amended.

Moved by: Trustee Shortt Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

6. Delegations & Presentations

6.1. North Slave Metis Alliance

The presentation is included in the agenda package.

The Board will keep working on their land acknowledgment. The NSMA will send materials to YK1's Superintendent as they become available.

7. Review and Approval of Minutes

7.1. October 14, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Motion #: 05/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the October 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Peters

Carried

7.2. October 31, 2025 - Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion #: 06/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees defer the October 31, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes to the January 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Carried

9.1 Technology in Classrooms (Trustee Wasylciw)

Meeting recessed for 5 minutes

10. Unfinished Business

None noted.

11. New Business

11.1. Bill 32, An Act to Amend the *Public Service Act*, No. 2- (Trustee Wasylciw)

Trustees discussed how Bill 32 proposes moving certain public bodies, including the education districts, out of legislative schedules and into regulations. This change would make it easier for the Minister to change the list of excluded bodies without Cabinet oversight. If the district were removed from the exclusion of the *Public Service Act*, it could jeopardize existing contracts with excluded staff.

Motion #: 12/12-09/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees direct the chair to make a written and the Board to make verbal submission regarding Bill 32.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Motion Withdrawn

Motion #: 13/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees direct the Chair to make both written and verbal submissions to the Standing Committee at the upcoming public hearings on behalf of YK1, requesting that MLAs restore the existing definition of public service, and include the same, or equivalent, Schedules A & B in the new bill.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

11.2. NWTSA Meetings Report (Superintendent Zouboules)

Administration updated the board on the inclusive school review. The report on the review is expected to be distributed in January.

Administration also noted that the GNWT plans to provide standardized cell phone policy guidelines across the territories.

11.3. Education Leaders Follow Up (Trustee Bell)

Motion #: 14/12-09/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the Terms of Reference and the Communication Collaboration and Information Sharing Agreement, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Trustees noted historical issues. The provision allowing board members to discuss meeting content with superintendents and other board members, which was a change the boards previously fought hard to achieve, was a welcome change.

11.4 Mail-in ballots

Trustees discussed their support for the use of mail-in ballots as a way to improve voter participation. Conversations between Yellowknife Catholic Schools, YK1 and Elections NWT about administering the 2026 election are ongoing. Also discussed was that if the ability to use mail-in ballots is extended to school board elections, the cost of providing this form of voting will have to be considered in the 2026-2027 budget.

12. Reports

12.1. Chairperson's Report (Trustee Bell)

The report is included in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

12.2. Trustee Reports

12.2.1. Trustee Brookes

The report is included in the agenda package.

There were no questions.

12.3 Canadian School Board Association Report (Trustee Brookes)

Some articles from the CSBA were received and shared with trustees.

The CSBA invited YK1 to send a speaker. Trustees discussed sending someone to talk about YK1's Indigenous Language and Culture program. Concern was raised that a tight budget may not allow us to send someone.

There will be a CSBA meeting in early February.

12.4 Superintendents Report (Shirley Zouboules)

Report included in the agenda package.

Discussion and questions resulted in the following information:

- The Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) requested a RILE review, which was quickly completed.
- Cultural awareness workshops were/will be held on December 1st and December 19th which staff are invited to take part.
- 2026 will be the last year for writing Alberta government diploma exams, with the grade 12 community having mixed reactions to this change.

12.4.1 Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Learning Report (Graham Arts)

Report included in the agenda package. Discussion and questions resulted in the following information:

- Data is still being collected for school improvement plans at some schools. Getting schools to create two to three tightly focused goals has been challenging. Working on the clarity of goals is ongoing. The

next report is due to be out in May.

- There was no update about funding for students who live on the Ingraham Trail but attend school in Yellowknife.
- Administration noted correspondence from homeschooler families about the allocated amount and highlighted that ECE was unable to provide a definitive formula for how the historical homeschool grant amount was calculated, as the formula varies by region and student cluster. Concerns were raised about the cost to absorb the current 75 homeschooled students back into the system, which would increase the in-school student FTE by about 37.5 and result in more funding from ECE. More detailed information will follow at a later date.
- The YK1 Board will continue to advocate and follow up with the Minister of Health and Social Services to discuss public health involvement in schools to support students.
- The lack of numeracy in the school goals was noted. Administration indicated that some schools have listed broader goals, which may include numeracy.
- Information about homeschool funding was provided. Historical funding provided for homeschool students was reviewed. It was noted that ECE is not able to provide a formula that is used to determine homeschool funding.
- YK1 has committed to providing \$4,000 per homeschooled student this year. Historical funding amounts cannot be determined mathematically as a result of a lack of information from ECE.
- Administration suggests the Board consider getting a legal opinion.
- Trustees suggested moving this topic to a COW for further discussion but decided to make the following motion as well.

Motion #: 15/12-09/25-26

The YK1 Board of Trustees direct the Superintendent to seek a legal opinion regarding the NWT's 1996 Home School Directive to clarify:

- The District's obligations and responsibilities under the Directive;
- The degree of flexibility the Directive grants the District to determine the annual funding allocated to children whose families choose to home school them.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Motion #: 16/12-09/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees extend the meeting to complete the items on the agenda.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

The motion did not receive unanimous consent

Motion Failed

Motion #: 17/12-09/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees extend the meeting by 15 minutes to complete the items on the agenda.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

The motion did not receive unanimous consent

Motion Failed

The motions were not carried unanimously; therefore, the meeting will end at 10 PM.

12.4.2 Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Learning Report
(Landon Kowlazik)

The report is included in the agenda package.

Funding information was received today and will be available for the COW in January.

12.4.3 Secretary Treasurer Report (Lisa Vass)

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustees were asked to email any questions they may have to Superintendent Zouboules.

12.4.4 Director of Operations Report (Jordan Martin)

The report is included in the agenda package.

While waiting for testing at École Sir John Franklin High School (SJF), the school will use alternative water sources for drinking and food preparation.

There have been changes to the process. Not everything needs to be filtered. The focus will now be on sources of drinking and cooking water.

As a result of recent break-ins, entry sound alarms are being considered.

13. Standing Committee Reports

Committee chairpersons asked to advise Board Chairperson Bell of their meeting dates.

13.1. Audit Committee

The committee has not met yet.

13.2. Committee of the Whole (COW)

The report is included in the agenda package.

13.3. Finance Committee

The report is included in the agenda package and draft minutes have been circulated to trustees.

Motion #: 17/12-09/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees set a preliminary direction for a balanced budget to Administration in their initial development of the 2026-27 District Budget, and for Administration to come back to the Board with options to achieve this goal.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Motion died*

*At 10 PM the meeting ended before the motion could be voted on.

The remaining agenda items (items 13.3 to 18) were deferred for a future meeting.

- 13.4. NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee
- 13.5. Policy & Governance Committee
- 13.6. Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee
- 13.7. USW Board Advisory Committee
- 14. Ad Hoc Committees
 - 14.1. Negotiations Committee - NWTTA
 - 14.2. Negotiations Committee - USW
- 15. Announcements - events calendar attached
- 16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

January 12, 2026	12:10 PM	Committee of the Whole Meeting
January 13, 2026	6:30 PM	Executive Session (In camera)
January 13, 2026	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
January 20, 2026	6:00 PM	Board Education Information Session

- 17. Chairperson's Closing Remarks
- 18. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM per a lack of unanimous consent on motions to extend the meeting.

Chairperson Bell

Secretary Treasurer Vass