

The Board meeting was called back to order at 7:00 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Bell respectfully acknowledged that we live, work, and learn on Chief Drygeese Territory in the Akaitcho region, the traditional territory of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation.

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Chairperson Bell welcomed everyone and thanked Trustee Shortt for chairing the last meeting in her absence.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 05/02-10/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees adopt the February 10, 2026, Regular Board Meeting agenda, as amended.

Moved by: Trustee Shortt Seconded by: Trustee Wasylciw

Carried

Amendment: Item 11.3 was amended to remove the request from ECE regarding school tours and add Superintendent - Board Evaluations

6. Delegations & Presentations

6.1. NWT Music - Susan Shantora

Susan Shantora, representing the NWT Music Teachers Association, presented on music education in Yellowknife schools and the broader community. The presentation is included in the agenda package.

7. Review and Approval of Minutes

7.1. January 13, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion #: 06/02-10/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the January 13, 2026, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Shortt Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1. Action Items

Motion #: 07/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move Action Item #4 to the Facilities Committee.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Trustees discussed the development of an asset registry and the need to clarify the scope within the Facilities Committee.

Motion #: 08/02-10/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees bring this matter (deficit in substitute funding) forward to the MLA meeting, and that all information to be brought to the MLA meeting be provided by Administration.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Carried

Administration provided an overview of substitute costs and leave funding trends over the past five years, noting a funding shortfall and impacts on the District's financial position. Trustees inquired about the composition of leave costs and funding sources and discussed potential advocacy.

Following the discussion, Trustees noted that committee handoff materials following the fall election remain outstanding, and requested that the Board Chair follow up with individual trustees as needed.

Motion #: 09/02-10/25-26

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees accept the updates to the action items as discussed.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

9. Trustee Statements

No Trustee statements were received.

10. Unfinished Business

10.1. Follow-up to NSMN, Acknowledgement (Chairperson Bell)

Trustees discussed previous conversations regarding acknowledgements and noted ongoing discussions within the community, including work being undertaken by the City related to acknowledgement language. Trustees discussed the importance of consultation with Indigenous partners and noted differing perspectives regarding acknowledgement approaches.

It was noted that the current acknowledgement would remain in place while further information is gathered and opportunities for collaboration and consultation are explored.

10.2. Nursing Supports in Schools Response Letter (Chairperson Bell)

The response letter regarding Public Health nursing support in schools was included in the agenda package.

Trustees discussed challenges related to service capacity and opportunities to improve coordination with Health and Social Services. Discussion included early childhood screening, access to nursing supports, and potential advocacy regarding student health services.

Break from 8:27 to 8:34

Mr. Peter Curran left the meeting.

10.3. NWT Art Centre Initiative – Request for Letter of Support (Chairperson Bell)

Motion #: 10/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees send a letter of support for NWT Art Centre to use the land by Sir John Franklin High School.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Trustees discussed a request for a letter of support related to the proposed NWT

Art Centre initiative, including considerations regarding potential use of land in proximity to Sir John Franklin High School and the need to ensure flexibility for future school requirements.

Trustees discussed providing high-level support while ensuring that any future use of land does not impact school operations or potential expansion. Discussion also referenced opportunities to support initiatives aligned with reconciliation.

10.4. Policy 6 - Role of the Board Chairperson (Trustee Drew)

Motion #: 11/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the second reading of Policy 6 as revised.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Carried

Trustees discussed the proposed revisions, including considerations related to roles and responsibilities and workload distribution. A concern was expressed regarding the addition of section 10. Trustees also discussed the policy version naming convention and noted that the matter may be referred to committee for further review.

11. New Business

11.1. Joint YK1/YCS Letter - Jordan's Principle (Chairperson Bell)

Trustees discussed a proposed joint letter regarding Jordan's Principle, including awareness of related advocacy efforts by national organizations. Trustees discussed the importance of ensuring that statements within the letter are supported by accurate information and reflect current data. Discussion also included the potential impact of service gaps on students and classrooms.

Trustees discussed refining the draft letter and gathering additional information to support its development.

11.2. Consultation on Amendments to the *Student Record Regulations* Letter (Chairperson Bell)

Trustees discussed feedback on the draft letter regarding proposed amendments to the *Student Record Regulations*. Discussion included clarification of terminology related to modified programming, individualized supports, and student support plans, as well as considerations related to parental or guardian notification and consent.

Trustees discussed potential implications for administrative processes and administration noted that existing practices are in place to support communication and compliance.

Motion #: 12/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees that the Chair write a letter in support of this, but highlight that the word parent should be expanded to include guardian, public guardian, and caregiver.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

inclusive schooling. Trustees asked about the status of the inclusive schooling review, and Administration advised that a response from the Department of Education, Culture and Employment is pending and will be shared when available.

Trustees asked for examples of reconciliation and foundational planning work, and the Superintendent described the integration of Dene K'ede into planning, professional learning, and school practices.

Questions regarding the review of administrative procedures were addressed, with Superintendent Zouboules advising that timelines are being reassessed as outdated components that require additional work are identified.

Superintendent Zouboules provided an update on Jordan's Principle requests, noting that all applications have been denied and that timelines for potential appeals remain under consideration.

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

Trustees asked about staff presentations at an upcoming conference, and Administration advised that staff will be presenting on the "Now Play" project focused on oral language development and Indigenous language integration.

Clarification was provided on project costing of phone systems and capital work, with Assistant Superintendent Arts advising that contracts are in place and final costs are expected to be favourable, with some adjustments anticipated.

Questions regarding public address systems and phone integration were addressed, with Assistant Superintendent Arts noting interim solutions are in place while longer-term options are explored.

Discussion included alignment between school improvement plans and strategic priorities, with Assistant Superintendent Arts advising that work is underway to strengthen alignment and identify appropriate data sources.

Trustees also discussed the proposed 2026–2027 school calendar.

Motion #: 16/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees that Administration bring forward updated school improvement goals with identified metrics for each goal to the March meeting.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Defeated

Trustees discussed reporting timelines, and Administration advised that more comprehensive updates would be feasible later in the school year. It was noted that further discussion may occur at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion #: 17/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees that the meeting will go back and approve the school calendar

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Motion #: 18/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the school calendar for 2026-2027

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

Discussion included feedback received on the proposed calendar. Administration advised that limited feedback had been received from the community, with more input provided by staff. Key themes included considerations related to start and end dates, scheduling of breaks, professional development days, and potential impacts on instructional time.

Questions regarding assessment scheduling were raised, and Administration advised that while territorial assessments remain in place, schools are transitioning practices as curriculum evolves and end-of-year assessments will continue.

Trustees asked whether changes to the calendar could affect post-secondary preparation requirements, and the question was deferred as it was not directly related to the calendar.

Administration noted upcoming timelines for submission to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment.

A concern was expressed regarding approving the calendar at this time, noting that approval could occur at a later meeting if needed.

12.4.2. Assistant Superintendent of HR & Learning Report (Assist. Supt. Kowalzik)

The report was included in the agenda package.

Trustees asked about current recruitment efforts, and Administration advised that hiring remains challenging at this time of year, with several vacancies in progress.

Administration further advised that recruitment of education assistants is nearing completion.

Motion #: 19/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees extend the meeting to 10:30pm

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Defeated

Motion #: 20/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees amend the agenda to go to the policy committee now

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Carried

Discussion included upcoming policy reviews and updates, including Policies 8, 13, 16, 21, 26, 27, and 28, as well as a proposed Information Technology policy. Trustees discussed the need to ensure policies are shared electronically and made accessible.

It was noted that policies will be uploaded to Google Drive upon staff

availability, and that Trustee Drew will circulate materials to trustees. Discussion also referenced the need to advance Facilities Committee work and monitor potential impacts of *Public Service Act* regulations.

Motion #: 21/02-10/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees table the Policies 8, 13, 16, 21, 26, 27, and 28 and the draft Information Technology policy.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

13. Standing Committee Reports

13.6 Policy & Governance Committee, Chairperson: Trustee Drew

Discussion occurred as noted above (in item 10.4 and 12.4.2.1).

14. Announcements - events calendar attached

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

March 9, 2026	12:10 PM	Committee of the Whole Meeting
March 10, 2026	6:30 PM	Executive Session (In camera)
March 10, 2026	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
March 24, 2026	6:00 PM	Board Education Information Session

16. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Chairperson Bell thanked everyone for attending.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 PM due to the expiration of time prior to the completion of the agenda.

Chairperson Bell

Secretary Treasurer Vass