



Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole Meeting MINUTES

May 9, 2023 @ 12:00PM

District Office Boardroom & Video Conference

Trustees Present: Allan Shortt, Barbara Bell, David Wasylciw, Jason Snaggs (video conference), Michelle Peters, Terry Brookes, Tina Drew

Absent: none

Regrets: none

Administration Present: Jameel Aziz, Shirley Zouboules, Landon Kowalzik, Tram Do, Jordan Martin & Pat Thagard

Guests present: none

Meeting Chairperson: Chairperson Brookes

1. Meeting called to order at 12:08PM. Seven Trustees were present, quorum was met. Chairperson Brookes 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.
2. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting.
3. **Motion #: 05-01-22/23**
I move to accept the agenda as presented.
Moved by: Trustee Peters; Seconded by: Trustee Shortt **Carried**
4. **Motion #: 05-02-22/23**
I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees accept the minutes of April 11, 12 & 29, 2023 as circulated (or as amended).
Amendment: none
Moved by: Trustee Snaggs; Seconded by: Trustee Bell **Carried**
5. **2023/2024 Budget Approval**
No feedback was received from the public or staff. The 2023-2024 Budget is in agenda package for approval tonight;
The Board raised a concern about \$700K deficit and that the funds from the Nordic Arms sale will be whittled away. A discussion will be held by the Board regarding what could be done with those funds. In the past when the YK1 budget surplus was high the board took a systematic approach to using the money to bring it within an acceptable amount. Administration noted that if the staff contingency funds are not used the deficit will only be approximately \$400K. Staff housing concerns were also discussed during the Apr 29th mini Board retreat. It was suggested that the Finance Committee could discuss this topic to put some suggestions together for the Board to consider and the Board needs to have a big picture discussion about Nordic Arms funds and staff housing as well. These topics will be discussed in camera before board meeting tonight to determine a strategy moving forward.

6. Board Training in June

Some Board development meetings have been held. The Board is looking into hiring a consultant in to assist with Board development and possibly Board and Superintendent evaluation as well.

The meeting dates have been set for June 16 – 18. Details to follow in the next couple of weeks. Consultant that will do Board training may also be asked to help with Superintendent and Board evaluations.

7. Community Survey Update

Administration sent out a survey to all parents and grade 4, 7, 10 & 12 students. The survey is a BC satisfaction survey changed so that the questions are specific to Yellowknife. As of Thursday, May 4th, 300 surveys have been submitted. A synopsis will be shared once survey period closes. Former Communications staff, Mike Gibbins, has been contracted to help with the survey. The responses will give YK1 the opportunity to make improvements, policy changes, etc. The student survey is mandatory and will be completed in classrooms. Moving forward all students will have a PIN number assigned for surveys. PIN numbers allow for a #, as opposed to a name, to be attached to a survey. The survey contains a confidentiality statement. There may be the option to get completion numbers to ensure we get a certain % of surveys completed. Schools have paper copies of the survey for parents that don't have access to tech.

8. Education Services Follow-up

Chairperson Brookes thanked Ed Services for the presentation they gave at mini-retreat and thanked them for all the work that went into preparing the presentation.

Assistant Superintendent Zouboules indicated people can email her with any questions they may have.

9. School Names

A member of the public sent the Board a request to change the name of NJM.

Generally speaking, the Board of Trustees decide a name change is needed, then a committee will be formed. Currently we do not have specific triggers for a name change. Trustees suggested that PACs could have a discussion and bring a request and suggestions for a name change forward to the Board.

The Public Relations committee to look at what threshold(s) would be to initiate a name change. It was also suggested a request for a name change should come from a PAC rather than from individuals and the school principal should be given an opportunity to weigh in as well.

The Policy Committee to review existing policy and give this topic some thought for future consideration.

10. Board PD Policy – deferred to in camera session before Board meeting.

11. Motion #: 05-03-22/23

I move that this Committee of the Whole meeting of the YK1 Board of Trustees be adjourned

Moved by: Trustee **Wasyliw**; Seconded by: Trustee **Shortt** **Carried**

The meeting adjourned at **12:53PM**

Pat Thagard, Secretary

Signed after update, as required and approval:

Committee Chairperson Brookes

Secretary Treasurer Do