



**YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD of TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

April 08, 2025 – 6:30 PM
In-person and online via Google Meet
(in camera 6:30 - 7:00 PM)

Trustees Present: Barbara Bell, David Wasylciw, Jason Snaggs (online),
Michelle Peters, Terry Brookes and Tina Drew

Trustee regrets: Allan Shortt

Administration Present: Shirley Zouboules, Graham Arts,
Jordan Martin, Pat Thagard and Annie Lagomasino

Regrets: Landon Kowalzik, Lisa Vass

Guests: Veronica Huber

Meeting Chairperson: David Wasylciw

Meeting Minutes by: Pat Thagard

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM. Six (6) Trustees were present.
Quorum was met.

Motion #: 01/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move to in camera.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Bell **Carried**

Motion #: 02/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move out of in camera at 7:06 PM.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Bell **Carried**

Board meeting called back to order at 7:09 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that we live, work, play, 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 Wasylciw welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then expressed condolences on behalf of YK1 on the passing of Ted Blondin of Behchoko. Mr. Blondin has been involved with NWT education leaders for many years, and his loss is a huge loss for the NWT.

Chairperson Wasylciw cautioned everyone because with the arrival of spring and the ups and downs of temperatures, it is very slippery outside.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 03/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the April 8, 2025, Regular Board Meeting agenda, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

6. Delegations & Presentations

6.1. Recognition of Veronica Huber

David introduced Veronica Huber, who has worked for YK1 for 25 years. Veronica will be retiring this month. The Board wished her a happy retirement and thanked her for her years of service.

7. Review and Approval of Minutes

7.1. February 11, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Motion #: 04/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the February 11, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

7.2. March 11, 2025 - Regular Board meeting

Motion #: 05/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the March 11, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Peters

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1. Business Arising

Motion #: 06/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the final version of the 2025-2026 school calendar.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

8.2. Action Items

Motion #: 07/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the updated action item list as discussed.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Peters

Carried

9. Trustee Statements

Per Bylaws: Trustee Statements are individual opinions and are not intended to represent the views of the Board. Trustee statements are not debatable and there will be no opportunity for rebuttal or questions.

No statements were received.

10. Unfinished Business

10.1. Update on WMS Parking

Administration described what has been implemented as a low-cost solution, which may have to be revisited in the future.

10.2. Policy 5 - Board Bylaws

Motion #: 08/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the second reading of Policy 5 - Board Bylaws as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Peters Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Motion Tabled

(see Motion 09/04-08/24-25)

Discussion resulted in the tabling of the motion pending additional Trustee feedback.

Trustees were directed to send any questions or comments on the Policy to Committee Chairperson Peters.

Motion #: 09/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees table the motion on the floor [motion 08/04-08/24-25].

Moved by: Trustee Brookes

Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

11. New Business

11.1. Education Service Report

The report is included in the agenda package as part of the Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Learning report. Administration reviewed the contents of the report.

Trustees support the proposed plan and asked what the Board can do to support this initiative. Administration to provide Trustees with key speaking points for discussions with stakeholders and partners.

The associated professional development plan will be shared with the Board in the fall of 2025.

11.2. Jordan's Principle Update

Administration is currently attending meetings that are being held every 2 weeks. The changes put limitations on the NWT, which are of significant concern. The lack of support for families in need is also a concern.

Trustees recommend the Board Chairperson and Superintendent send a letter to both Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) with YK1 concerns, before the election, to ensure this becomes a highlighted issue early on for the new federal government.

The meeting took a brief recess at 8:14 PM.

Call to order at 8:20 PM

11.3. Conflict of Interest – Trustees at Parent Council Meetings

Information is included in the agenda package.

Motion #: 10/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board prohibit Trustees from attending regular PAC meetings at individual schools, except under specific circumstances as invited guests for board-approved consultations or district-wide engagement initiatives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board directs the Policy Committee and staff to amend the Board's Bylaws to reflect this restriction, and to clearly outline appropriate channels for Trustee engagement with school communities that uphold governance best practices and ethical standards.

Moved by: Trustee Snaggs

Seconded by: Trustee Drew

see vote result
(below)

Trustees noted that PACs are advisory in nature and Trustees are governance in nature and trustee attendance at PAC meetings blurs the lines between those two groups' mandate.

Motion #: 11/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees amend Motion 10/04-08/24-25 to include "being a parent of a child at a school" to the "specific circumstances" section of the noted motion.

Moved by: Trustee Bell

Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Defeated

Trustees noted that a legal opinion was sought in 2015 and again in 2018. The opinion stated that Trustees should not attend their child's PAC meetings. Trustees agreed that trustee attendance at their own child's PAC meeting is a separate matter and requested further information related to it.

Trustees noted that the Board has a legal obligation to meet with parents. Trustees feel there are other opportunities to meet with parents.

Motion #: 12/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees Call the Question.

Moved by: Trustee Drew

Seconded by: Trustee Wasylciw

Carried

Motion #10/04-08/24-25 (above)

Defeated

Motion #: 13/04-08/24-25

I move that the Board no longer assigns Trustees to attend regular monthly PAC meetings at individual schools and that the Board directs the Policy & Governance Committee to amend the wording in Policies 3, 5 and 16 to reflect this decision, and to bring these amendments to the Board for approval.

Moved by: Trustee Snaggs

Seconded by: Trustee Drew

see vote result
(below)

Motion #: 14/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees amend the previous motion [# 12/04-08/24-25] to include "as of fall 2025."

I move that the Board no longer assigns Trustees to attend regular monthly PAC meetings at individual schools as of fall 2025 and that the Board directs the Policy & Governance Committee to amend the wording in Policies 3, 5 and 16 to reflect this decision, and to bring these amendments to the Board for approval.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes

Seconded by: Trustee Peters

Carried

Motion #: 15/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees amend the current motion by appending to the end of the previous motion "Along with alternative methods for school community engagement," to read as follows:

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees no longer assign Trustees to attend regular monthly PAC meetings at individual schools as of fall 2025 and that the Board direct the Policy & Governance Committee to amend the wording in Policies 3, 5 and 16 to reflect this decision, and to bring these amendments to the Board for approval, along with alternative methods for school community engagement.

Moved by: Trustee Snaggs

Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

Trustees like that this amendment allows for some time for transition of the decision.

Amended, Main Motion 13/04-08/24-25 (above)

Carried

12. Reports

12.1. Chairperson's Report

The report was shared via email and hard copy along with the 2025 Federal Election document.

12.2. Standing Committee Reports

12.2.1. Finance & Facilities Committee

A meeting was held. The minutes will be included in the next Board meeting agenda package. The Committee has a meeting scheduled for April 17th.

12.2.2. Policy & Governance Committee

A meeting was not held since the last Board meeting due to availability of Committee members. The next meeting will be scheduled for before the next Board meeting.

12.2.3. Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee

The report is included in the agenda package.

The next meeting is this coming Friday at noon. Trustees asked to provide feedback on the Communication Plan before Friday.

12.2.4. Audit Committee

The Committee will not have another meeting until June.

12.2.5. Committee of the Whole

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustees noted that having Committee of the Whole (COW) meetings on Monday is generally not an issue.

12.2.6. NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee

Nothing to report.

12.2.7. USW-Board Advisory Committee

Nothing to report.

12.3. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

12.3.1. Negotiations Committee

Motion #: 16/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move to in camera at 9:22 PM.

Moved by: Trustee Drew

Seconded by: Trustee Peters

Carried

Motion #: 17/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move out of in camera at 9:40 PM.

Moved by: Trustee Peters

Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

Board meeting called back to order at 9:41 PM

12.4. Superintendents Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustees asked if equipment can be purchased with the Food funding.
Administration indicated that it is.

No further questions.

12.4.1. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Learning Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

An update was provided on the phone RFP process for the phones. It was also noted that the first draft of the Operating Plan for 2025-2026 is being worked on and is due to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) by May 15th. The Board will be provided a copy of the draft for consideration during the 2025-2026 budget process.

12.4.2. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Learning Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustees suggested analyzing demographics when working on strategies to increase enrolment at schools.

12.4.3. Secretary Treasurer Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

12.4.3.1. Director of Operations Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustees asked that protection of YK1 equipment from power outages be included in the Risk Assessment document being developed. Administration noted that an inventory of critical equipment spares are being put in place to help with these kinds of situations.

Action Item: Administration to provide an update on the WMS parking lot at the next Board meeting.

12.5. Trustee Reports

- 12.5.1. Trustee Peters gave a verbal report about attending the SJF Music Festival. She commended Ms. Shantora on the work she is doing with students. Trustee Peters also attended the SJF Talent Show and it was very interesting and beautiful. She indicated it was great to see that music and drama are alive and well in the high school.

Administration brought to the Board's attention that YK1 took two silver medals during the Music Festival.

- 12.5.2. Trustee Drew gave a verbal report about an Education Conference she attended, which included interesting subjects on education.

12.6. Trustee PAC Meeting Reports

- 12.6.1. Ècole It̓'ə
12.6.2. Mildred Hall School
12.6.3. N.J. Macpherson School
12.6.4. Range Lake North School
12.6.5. Ècole Sir John Franklin High School
12.6.6. Ècole William McDonald Middle School

13. Announcements - events calendar attached

It was noted that the Community Engagement Luncheon has been scheduled for May 5th.

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

April 15, 2025	6:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting (Education)
May 12, 2025	12:00 PM	Committee of the Whole
May 13, 2025	6:30 PM	Executive Session (In camera)
May 13, 2025	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting
May 20, 2025	6:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting (Education)

15. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Chairperson Wasylciw thanked everyone for attending and reminded trustees to provide feedback on Policy 5 and the Communication Plan.

16. Adjournment

Motion #: 18/04-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adjourn the April 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Chairperson Wasylciw

Secretary Treasurer Vass