

# YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD of TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

# October 8, 2024 - 7:00 PM In-person and online via Google Meet

Trustees Present: Allan Shortt, David Wasylciw, Jason Snaggs (online),

Michelle Peters, Terry Brookes, Tina Drew

Regrets: Barbara Bell

Administration Present: Shirley Zouboules, Lisa Vass, Landon Kowalzik,

Graham Arts, Jean-Marie Mariez, Pat Thagard, and Bronwyn McPhail

Meeting Chairperson: David Wasylciw

Meeting Recorder: Pat Thagard

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Wasylciw 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 Wasylciw welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it is National Cyber Security Month. He urged everyone to be careful about online, email, and phone transactions and suggested always calling the institution back and signing up for alerts.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 01/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the October 8, 2024, Regular Board Meeting agenda as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Shortt Carried

- 6. Delegations & Presentations
  - 6.1. Presentation by Kirstin Prescott Community Liaison Counselor, connected to Alison McAteer house.

Copy of presentation slides were included in the agenda package.

6.2. Presentation by Andrew Gilmour - NWT School Sports Association

Mr. Gilmour was not able to attend.

This presentation will be postponed to a future meeting date.

- 7. Review and Approval of Minutes
  - 7.1. Minutes of September 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

#### Motion #: 02/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the September 10, 2024, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Brookes Carried

7.2 Minutes of September 25, 2024, Special Board Meeting

#### Motion #: 03/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the September 10, 2024, RSpecial Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Drew Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the minutes.

8.1. Action Items List

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

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the updates, as discussed, to the Board's Action Item List.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs Carried

9. Trustee Statements

None submitted

- 10. Unfinished Business
  - 10.1. Alternative Learning Report Back

A board report was included in the agenda package.

Administration referenced the alternative learning example included in the agenda package. YK1 is exploring other options. Administration has met with the Yellowknife

Young Parent Program (YYPP). Discussions are ongoing with YYPG and other stakeholder groups to develop a comprehensive plan. Existing programs are being assessed to determine need, what has worked in the past and suggestions for the future.

Chairperson Wasylciw indicated that the Minister has expressed interest in this program.

Trustees appreciate seeing the evolution of alternative learning opportunities.

#### Motion #: 05/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees direct the Chair to write to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to request land near Ècole Sir John Franklin High School and repurposing of existing portables to pursue plans for an alternative education and childcare space.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Peters Carried

Trustees asked whether or not Route 51 aligns with the British Columbia (BC) curriculum. Administration indicated that the number of credits required for NWT graduation currently differs from the BC requirements. Route 51 is using a staged approach for students in that program to start working toward aligning with the BC requirements.

Trustees suggested doing a thorough investigation into the costs associated with the installation of a portable. This information could then be included in a business model for the alternative education and childcare space. It was also suggested that Administration request permission from the GNWT to use the land where the former IT portable was located as that land is part of the Ecole Sir John Franklin High School property.

#### Motion #: 06/10-08/24-25

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees direct the Superintendent to work in partnership with the Yellowknife Young Parent Program to develop plans for childcare spaces combined with a new alternative education and childcare space and report back in March 2025.

Moved by: Trustee Peters Seconded by: Trustee Brookes Carried

Trustees are happy to see YK1 continue to provide alternative programming to the community. Service to the community is one of the Board's strategic priorities.

#### 11. New Business

### 11.1. International Professional Development (PD)

Three applications for international PD are included in the agenda package.

Administration outlined the importance of professional development.

#### Motion #: 07/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the three requests for international professional development as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Brookes Carried

Trustees thanked the Superintendent for the information provided. They agree with the importance for PD but asked that in the future more detail be provided in the PD Request Form regarding who is paying for all or parts of the PD. Costs included in the PD Request form must be quoted in Canadian dollars.

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

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees direct the Chair to work with the Superintendent to contact the Ministers of Education, Culture and Employment and Finance to clarify the application of the Financial Administration Act and Manual to YK1 and ensure recognition of the role of the Board of Trustees in local decision making.

Moved by: Trustee Peters Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs Carried

Trustees agreed that it would be good to get clarification regarding decision making authorities. Others feel that getting clarification will put YK1 in a better position by ensuring YK1 is in compliance with legislation and policy. Given that the Financial Administration Manual (FAM) is focused on government departments some Trustees feel that authority has been given to the Board.

Trustee Snaggs excused himself from the meeting at 7:49 PM because of another engagement.

Trustees agreed that if the Board is not happy with the response, work can be started to request a change in the policy. It was also noted that YK1 has contractual agreements that must be adhered to. It was also noted that the motion is broadly worded as a request for information about how the FAM and/or financial management legislation applies to YK1.

#### 11.2. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Update

The report in the agenda package gives an update on what has been done. A draft AI Administrative Procedure (AP) has been developed. Once the Board IM/IT Policy is finalized Administration will ensure the new AI AP aligns with the Board Policy.

Trustees suggested the AP and Policy be reviewed regularly to ensure YK1 is keeping pace with AI changes. Trustees also suggested that the AP be written with a broader lens to avoid gaps that people may take advantage of.

**Action:** Administration to provide an AI update in November.

#### 11.3. Workplan Update

A track changes version of the Workplan was emailed to everyone and will be included in the updated in the agenda package for this meeting.

#### Motion #: 09/10-08/24-25

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the updated Workplan as distributed.

Moved by: Trustee Peters Seconded by: Trustee Shortt Carried

Trustees like the Workplan. It will assist the Board with staying on track and provides transparency regarding Board tasks.

#### 11.4. Ingraham Trail

A cover sheet is included in the agenda package.

Currently, YK1 does not get funding from the City for students that live outside of Yellowknife city limits. We only receive the 80% funding from the GNWT for those students. In the past, there had been additional funding from ECE for those students but this ceased a number of years ago.

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

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees direct the Chair to contact the Chair of Yellowknife Catholic Schools (YCS) to discuss a joint proposal by the two school boards requesting the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) allocate the school property taxation form the Ingraham Trail area to the two Yellowknife school boards based on their respective enrolment proportions.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes Seconded by: Trustee Peters Carried

Trustees suggested broadening the request to any students who do not live within city limits and suggested adding this topic to a joint meeting agenda.

#### 12. Reports

#### 12.1. Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson's report is included in the agenda package.

#### 12.2. Standing Committee Reports

#### 12.2.1. Finance & Facilities Committee

The committee will meet later this month. Regular meetings of the committee have been scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month.

#### 12.2.2. Policy & Governance Committee

Regular meetings of the committee have been scheduled for the second Friday of each month.

#### 12.2.3. Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee

The minutes are included in the agenda package. Regular meetings of the committee have been scheduled for the third Friday of each month.

#### 12.2.4. Audit Committee

Information is included in the agenda package.

## 12.2.5. Committee of the Whole (COW)

Information is included in the agenda package.

#### 12.2.6. NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee

No meeting has been held to date.

#### 12.2.7. USW-Board Advisory Committee

No meeting has been held to date.

#### 12.3 Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Currently, no ad hoc committees are active. Chairperson Wasylciw indicated that negotiations will begin this year with both the USW and NWTTA and asked any trustees interested in sitting on a negotiations committee to let him know.

#### 12.4 Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent's report is in the agenda package;

Foundational skill assessment has begun. Professional Development was held last week with people from BC. Assessment will begin with grade 4s.

Trustees asked if the Board would be able to get a simplified report of results. Administration indicated that currently there are a lot of unknowns that are being worked on.

Trustees asked for a clarification on bussing numbers. Administration reviewed bussing numbers allocations. We are currently waiting for information from the bus company on how many seats are still available to YK1.

#### 12.4.1. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Learning Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

The Operating Plan and Annual Report were submitted on time. Administration thanked all the staff for the work that went into their completion.

Responses to trustee questions: CLEVR is the platform currently being used to track school safe and caring programs. YK1 currently has 67 home-schooled students so their FTE would be 33.5. The Mental Health Plan will remain in draft format for a couple of years, per current GNWT practice.

#### 12.4.1 Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Learning Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

The official full-time equivalent (FTE) figures were made available yesterday. It shows that YK1 has a 28-student FTE increase from last year. Many of the new students were in French Immersion. At RLN the number of Junior Kindergarten (JK) students starting coming in this year was lower than the grade 8s that left last year.

**Action:** Administration to provide the Board with information from each school on enrolment and the % of school capacity.

Administration also indicated that anyone that a workshop on how negotiations work can be done for trustees interested in being on the negotiations committee.

#### 12.4.3. Secretary Treasurer Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

Financial documents have been submitted to ECE with the Annual Report and Operating Plan. Finance is currently working on reporting on the first quarter. Having the Board Work Plan is helpful to Finance. Financial visits to school are underway and operational school visits are scheduled for the end of October.

#### 12.4.3.i Director of Operations Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

The RFP process for all the capital projects is planned to start in November.

#### 12.5 Trustee Reports

The report is included in the agenda package.

#### 12.6 Trustee PAC Reports

#### 12.6.1. Ècole Itlo

The PAC is being established. They have elected a Chair and have started working on a variety of projects. The Trustee that was going to attend on behalf of the trustee assigned to the Itl'o AC was unable to attend last month's PAC meeting due to illness.

#### 12.6.2. Mildred Hall School

The meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

12.6.3. N.J. Macpherson School The meeting is being held tonight.

#### 12.6.4. Range Lake North School

The Trustee representative missed the meeting last month because of travel.

#### 12.6.5. Ècole Sir John Franklin High School

During the September meeting, there were some concerns about fewer students getting music in pre-high school grades resulting in fewer students wanting to take music in high school. PAC asked if the school reviews could be provided to PACs. The bathrooms in the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (NACC) were also a topic of discussion.

#### 12.6.6. Ècole William McDonald Middle School

Difficulty finding the meeting dates, times and locations by parents was noted. It was suggested all schools use the same platform to advertise PAC dates and times. Parents

were encouraged to bring a presentation to the Board regarding offering swimming lessons during YK1 pool time. People have indicated to the Trustee that the YK1 website is not very mobile-friendly.

#### 13. Announcements - events calendar attached

#### 14. Date and Time of Next Meetings

Committee of the Whole (COW)	November 12, 2024 at 12:10 PM
Board In-Camera Session	November 12, 2024 at 5:30 PM
Regular Board Meeting	November 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM

#### 15. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Thanks to all for attending this meeting. A lot was accomplished this evening.

Adjournment 16.

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

I move that Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adjourn the October

8, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.	Postrice No. 1 Board or Trastees da	journ the octor
Moved by: Trustee Shortt	Seconded by: Trustee Brookes	Carried
Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM		
Chairperson Wasylciw	Lisa Vass, Secretary Treasurer	