



Yellowknife Education District No. 1 (YK1) Board of Trustees Regular Meeting MINUTES

June 13, 2023 @ 7:00PM

District Office Boardroom & Video Conference

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

Absent: none

Regrets: Michelle Peters

Administration Present: Jameel Aziz, Landon Kowalzik, Tram Do, Jordan Martin, Jean-Marie Mariez, Shirley Zouboules, Iona Strachan and Lindsay Chiasson

Guests present: David Abernethy

Meeting Chairperson: Chairperson Wasylciw

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00PM. Six (6) Trustees were present, quorum was met.
2. 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 Wasylciw Opening Remarks - we are being transcribed today. Welcome to Mr. Abernathy for coming out today and everyone else. Busy week with meetings. Thank you very much for coming
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – none
5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 06-01-22/23

I move to accept the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes; Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

6. Delegations and Presentations – Mental Health Framework presented by Iona Strachan, Regional Inclusive Schooling Coordinator

Presentation briefly deferred- see motion #06-05-22/23 below.

Iona Strachan, Regional Inclusive Schooling Coordinator, has been working with Monique Thomas of Monique Thomas Consulting to collect info from each school in person. Surveys to follow with parents, students, teachers. Hoping to have a draft framework completed by September. Would like to contract Monique Thomas heading into next year to create strategic actions.

Superintendent Aziz noted that the N'dilo and Dettah school boards have contracted Monique Thomas as well. We are taking a leadership role and using the framework as an advocacy piece to get support from the GNWT.

Questions:

Indigenous representation/participation in mental health within our school is essential. Will the team be reaching out to elders and looking at intergenerational trauma? Absolutely. The team

will be working to incorporate cultural pieces that are aware of intergenerational trauma and culturally appropriate responses to mental health. We want everybody's voice. We are not just targeting indigenous families but making sure they are included/valued.

How will the team ensure data is collected since the indigenous community don't necessarily fill in surveys? Monique has had private conversations with staff (informally) and has also attended the Ndilo DEA meeting. We're working with them on the best way to collect info.

Surveys can be very poor representation of someone's thoughts, especially if a person is mentally unwell. It gives them a voice but their thoughts may not be well articulated through a survey. How is this being addressed? Monique is making connections personally so hoping more buy in on surveys.

How do you see changes to the CYCC program impacting the framework?

The framework will be the scope of what YK1 can do. CYCC's are external. We can't change what they offer. The framework will show that there are gaps in what is being offered. If we can be more focused on level 1 and 2 care, then CYCC's can focus on level 3 care.

7. Review & Approval of Minutes

7.1. May 9, 2023

Motion #: 06-02-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the minutes of May 9, 2023 as circulated.

Moved by: Chairperson Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

7.2. May 23, 2023

Motion #: 06-03-22/23 Moved by: Chair Was, second Bell

Carried

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the minutes of May 23, 2023 as circulated.

Moved by: Chairperson Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

Note: Business arising from the minutes was missed on the agenda

Question: What happened to the Nordic Arms accommodations budget line?

The budget was not passed during the May regular board meeting; this will need to be addressed.

Chairperson Wasylciw directed that we would include board action items in the Board package.

8. Trustee Statements - none

9. Unfinished Business

9.1. Bussing Update

Superintendent Aziz noted that a briefing note on bussing is in the board package. Work is continuing in meetings with various concerned parties. There are concerns about the workplace labour market challenge for bus drivers, management, and perceived safety from former bussing staff.

Questions:

Have partners expressed the ability to expand ie/after school care?

There is a willingness but they require capacity. Bussing remains a priority. We may have to put hard limits on walking distances. Hard decisions coming. Additional meetings may be needed to discuss/make decisions.

9.2. COVID Update

Dollars have been spent with sick leave expenditures and other purchases. A final report will be provided.

COVID update will be removed from future agendas.

Question:

What were the impacts of COVID around the schools?

This is a global challenge. We need to provide assurance that we are doing everything possible to close "gaps" in education. Our staff are doing their best to address. There are long term effects on staff and bussing. We need to deal with the post-COVID labour market and address mental health and physical health issues. We need more critical assessment by staff.

10. New Business

10.1. District Office Organization Chart

An attached memo provided the Board with a copy of revised organizational chart. Original organization was more corporate centric than education centric.

Iona Strachan arrived 7:19pm

Motion #: 06-04-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees accept the Organization Chart as presented with the addition of Regional Inclusive Schooling Coordinator (RISC).

Moved by: Chairperson Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

Motion #: 06-05-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees return to item number 6 on the agenda.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes; Seconded by: Trustee Shortt

Carried

10.2. Sacred Feather Indigenous Student Awards

Thanks to the trustees. An Ecole Sir John Franklin High School student was awarded their Sacred Feather last Saturday at the Indigenous Honour Ceremony.

Motion #: 06-06-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the recipients chosen by the PR committee for the Sacred Feather Indigenous Student Award for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved by: Trustee Bell; Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

Question:

Was the KDS Sacred Feather award that was presented at the Indigenous Honour Ceremony related to us? Organizer of the event didn't know that it was a YK1 board event and reached out to KDS to see who was presenting theirs. Meagan Wowk will confirm how to go forward next year.

We need to do better about educating about our initiatives. A press release will be issued after all are distributed.

10.3. Policy 2 – Role of the Board

Briefing note in board package

Motion #: 06-07-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees table the draft Policy #2.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes; Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

Track changes need to be distributed to the board.

10.4. Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee

Motion #: 06-08-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees table the draft Policy #3 as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes; Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

The Policy needs to be input into the appropriate template.

10.5. Policy 8 - Draft Appendix I – USW & Board Advisory Committee TOR

Motion #: 06-09-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees table the draft Terms of Reference for the USW-Board Advisory Committee.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes; Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

It was agreed in negotiations that this USW committee be in place by Sep 1, 2023.

Wording to be reviewed as there is some confusion about titles.

10.6. 5-Year Capital Plan

Motion #: 06-10-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees accept the 5-year Capital Needs Assessment as presented noting that a Google doc spreadsheet that is shared with Trustees has a breakdown of projects.

Moved by: Chairperson Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Snaggs

Carried

Detailed breakdown available to Trustees in a Google doc. We need to define what emergent means. We need to include all projects on this list even if the budget is not available to complete the project so they are moved forward to the next year.

10.7. Trustee Honorarium

Briefing note in package. A change to the honorarium calculation requires a change to the bylaws. Bring forward at COW or a group meeting. Review what the legislative assembly is doing for their honorariums.

Motion #: 06-11-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees recess for a break at 8:34pm.

Moved by: Trustee Drew; Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

Reconvened at 8:42pm.

11. Reports

11.1. Chairperson's Report – attached.

There was also an in camera session in CoTW and further notes emailed about ASBA Meeting. Chairperson Wasylciw and Trustee Shortt went to WMS to see student council yesterday. Written notes to follow about the meeting.

11.2. Standing Committee Reports

11.2.1 Finance (Chairperson - Trustee Snaggs) – attached in package May 17, 2023

Nordic Arms not included in the budget. Needs to be brought back to finance and then the board at a future date.

Finance committee asked administration to prepare a draft scope for expression of interest on accommodation to the finance committee due to teacher accommodation concerns. Superintendent Aziz noted philosophically, these are operational not board items. Using a real estate leasing agent may be an option which would go to tender. Military Families YK has information on their website for people new to YK. We could use document and adjust for YK1.

11.2.2 Public Relations (Chairperson - Trustee Bell) – attached (note Sacred Feather not Sacred Heart)

11.2.3 Policy (Chairperson – Trustee Brookes) - attached

11.2.4 Audit Committee (TBD) – no meeting till August

11.2.5 Committee of the Whole (Chairperson - Trustee Brookes) - attached CoTW meeting today discussed bussing, education leaders, PAC policy #16, training, and a joint meeting with YCS

11.2.6 Facilities Committee (Chairperson – Trustee Drew) - attached

Motion #: 06-12-22/23

I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees approve the addition of \$26,000 to the Maintenance Capital Budget for the purchase of Roof Climbing Deterrents for MHS and RLN.

Moved by: Trustee Drew; Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

11.2.7 NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee (Reps: Trustees Bell & Brookes) – attached in Package #2

Question:

Are we keeping statistics about kids who formerly went to TTC and harassment in the schools? We need to keep stats to push for opening it back up. Superintendent Aziz mentioned it's a health and safety issue. We have asked the NWTTA to have another meeting to talk more robustly about this.

11.3. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

11.3.1. Strategic Plan Committee – on pause getting training done – no report

11.3.2. Negotiations Committee – no negotiations but Superintendent Aziz noted we need to keep on top of what is happening with the GNWT negotiations

11.4. Trustee Reports

11.4.1. Trustee Brookes – PD - Attached

11.4.2. Trustee Peters – PD – Attached

11.5. Superintendent's Report – Attached

Superintendent Aziz feels well initiated and thanks you for your support. This is a wonderful community.

11.5.1. Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum & Learning - attached

Questions:

How many student teacher placements do we have per year and do they come back to teach? Shirley Zouboules answered we have 4 to 6 per year and yes, they come back to teach.

Was Shelley Moore here and is there anything that got dropped that needs to be picked up or did we get everything done? Shelley Moore was virtual. Everything was done but curriculum renewal is ongoing.

11.5.2. Assistant Superintendent - HR & Learning - attached

Landon Kowalzik reviewed internal posting numbers, EA position.

Trustee Shortt suggested compiling a list of who rents to give out to potential staff.

Trustee Snaggs would like to see feedback on the Assistant Principal mentorship meeting.

Landon

Kowalzik responded that there are some confidentiality issues but will share as much as possible.

11.6. Secretary Treasurer's Report – attached

Questions:

What are some of the concerns about the joint use agreement with the City of Yellowknife? Tram Do responded with summer usage, scheduling, field maintenance, equity in terms of exchange of use of City of YK Facilities versus YK1 Gymnasiums. A report is expected for September from the City of Yellowknife.

Has the lack of bus drivers affected our use of city facilities? No

Did we buy phones? We purchased but no invoice yet.

11.6.1. Director of Operations' Report - attached

Superintendent Aziz noted that ECE has decided that the roller deterrent system is more of a liability so back to the drawing board.

Question: What is happening with Laurier and the old IT portable? Jordan Martin responded that the portable belongs to ECE/Infrastructure. Our maintenance people have been involved with Infrastructure to point out deficiencies.

11.7. Trustee PAC Meeting Reports

11.7.1. École It'ò - no meeting

11.7.2. Mildred Hall School – attached

Two highlights: Fred Fox attended an assembly which was a huge rounding success; looking at changing the name of PAC as it may be deterring parents from taking part. Technically still PAC but can be called something different. If no longer PAC technically then there will be an issue if we need to rename The PAC advisory committee.

11.7.3. N.J. Macpherson School – attached

11.7.4. Range Lake North School

Trustee Bell didn't make it to family fun night and was very disappointed to miss it but Trustee Peters went and provided a report

11.7.5. École Sir John Franklin High School – attached

Trustee Brookes is requesting feedback from the district survey. Superintendent Aziz said it was provided to principals and they can share with PAC.

11.7.6. École William McDonald School – minutes in the package

12. Announcements

Events calendar in package

CoTW on Friday

Education Leaders meeting this week

CoTW Meeting Monday with ECE on New Curriculum

RLN Friday (?)

Any calendar additions to be sent to Pat

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting(s) – discussion and decision – August 16, 2023 @ 7pm

Organizational and Board meetings

14. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Chairperson Wasylciw thanked everyone for attending and wished all a fantastic 3 days.

15. Adjournment

Motion #: 06-13-22/23

I move that this board meeting of the Yellowknife Education District No.1 Board of Trustees be adjourned.

Moved by: Chairperson Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Bell

Carried

The meeting adjourned at **9:56pm**

Lindsay Chiasson, Secretary

Signed after update, as required and approval:

Chairperson Wasylciw

Secretary Treasurer Do