



YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD of TRUSTEES
Regular Board Meeting
AGENDA

September 9, 2025 – 6:30 PM

(In Camera from 6:30 - 7:00 PM)

Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/apx-ogkd-cku>

1. Call to Order - 6:30 PM (in camera until 7:00 PM)
2. Land Acknowledgement
We respectfully acknowledge 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
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Adoption of Agenda
6. Delegations & Presentations - Peter Curran, Music Programs Across YK1
7. Review and Approval of Minutes
 - 7.1 August 18, 2025 - Organizational Meeting Minutes
 - 7.2 August 18, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting Minutes
8. Business Arising from the Minutes
9. Trustee Statements

Per Bylaws: Trustee Statements are individual opinions and are not intended to represent the views of the Board. Statements must be submitted in advance of the meeting so that they can be included in the agenda package.

Trustee statements are not debatable and there will be no opportunity for rebuttal or questions
10. Unfinished Business
11. New Business
 - 11.1. École William McDonald Middle School Mid-Life Retrofit (Trustee Wasylciw)
 - 11.2. Planning Meeting with Yellowknife MLAs (Chairperson Bell)
12. Reports
 - 12.1. Chairperson's Report
 - 12.1.1. Trustee Reports
 - 12.2. Standing Committee Reports
 - 12.2.1. Finance & Facilities Committee
 - 12.2.2. Policy & Governance Committee
 - 12.2.3. Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee
 - 12.2.4. Audit Committee

- 12.2.5. Committee of the Whole Committee
- 12.2.6. NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee
- 12.2.7. USW-Board Advisory Committee
- 12.3. Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - 12.3.1. Negotiations Committee - NWTTA
 - 12.3.2. Negotiations Committee - USW
- 12.4. Superintendent's Report
 - 12.4.i Strategic Plan Update (Superintendent Zouboules)
 - 12.4.1. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Learning Report
 - 12.4.1.i Draft 2024-2025 Annual Report Update
 - 12.4.2. Assistant Superintendent of HR & Learning Report
 - 12.4.3. Secretary Treasurer Report
 - 12.4.3.i Director of Operations Report
- 13. Announcements – events calendar attached
- 14. Date and Time of Next Meetings

October 14, 2025	12:10 PM	Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting
October 14, 2025	6:30 PM	Executive Session (In-camera)
October 14, 2025	7:00 PM	Regular Board Meeting

- 15. Chairperson's Closing Remarks
- 16. Adjournment

Board Presentation by Peter Curran

Regular Board Meeting for September 9, 2025

My presentation will make the point that we should consider establishing a district-wide position that advances the priorities of arts programming, with a particular focus in the near term on music programming. The good work being done by individual teachers would be enhanced and the experiences of our students would be improved if we had some reliable and regular coordination of efforts and resources across district schools. My hope is that the board will direct senior admin staff to examine the feasibility of creating a paid arts coordinator position.

I believe that a resourced coordinator's position will help in the following areas:

- Guidelines for 'time on instrument'
- Guidelines for performance experiences
- Planned and balanced instrument repair
- Grant proposal writing
- Guidelines for establishing and maintaining ensembles
- Professional development
- Mentorship
- Hiring of new staff
- Pedagogy
- Concert collaborations
- Enrichment programming/academies
- Standards for playing/singing spaces
- Community partnerships
- Student exchanges/music trips
- Securing/organizing special guests/travelling ensembles
- Profiling careers in the arts
- Linking the arts to broader achievement and success



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

August 19, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

District Office Boardroom & Video Conference

- Trustees Present: Allan Shortt (online), Barbara Bell, David Wasylciw, Jason Snaggs (online), Michelle Peters (online), Terry Brookes and Tina Drew
- Regrets: None
- Administration Present: Shirley Zouboules, Landon Kowalzik, Graham Arts, Lisa Vass, Jordan Martin, Annie Lagomasino, and Pat Thagard
- Guests present: Kim Lee (online)
- Meeting Chairperson: Superintendent Zouboules chaired at the start of the meeting then Chairperson Bell took over once the election of the Board Chairperson was completed.
- Meeting Recorder: Pat Thagard
1. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM. Seven (7) Trustees were present, quorum was met.
 2. Superintendent Zouboules 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.
 - She then encouraged everyone to reaffirm their commitment to truth and reconciliation. She thanked all the trustees for the work they do for our students and staff; their guidance is invaluable.
 3. Superintendent Zouboules welcomed everyone to the meeting.
 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.
 5. Review and Approval of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Election Process

Superintendent Zouboules reviewed the process that would be followed per the By-Laws. The process for electronic voting was also reviewed. Assistant Superintendent Arts went over the electronic voting process.

Motion #: 01/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees acknowledge that this election will follow the process outlined in the Board By-Laws.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw; Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

6. Election of Chairperson

Superintendent Zouboules introduced Assistant Superintendents Arts and Kowlazik as the scrutineers for the election for the Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson positions.

Superintendent Zouboules called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

- ❖ Trustee Shortt nominated Trustee Bell
- ❖ Trustee Snaggs nominated Trustee Wasylciw

Superintendent Zouboules then made two more calls for nominations. Sixty seconds after the third call Superintendent Zouboules declared the nominations for Chairperson closed. No additional nominations were made.

Trustee Wasylciw was asked if he accepted the nomination. He declined the nomination.

Trustee Bell was asked if she accepted the nomination. She accepted the nomination.

Superintendent Zouboules declared Trustee Bell was acclaimed as Board Chairperson for 2025-2026. She then turned the meeting chair over to Chairperson Bell.

Chairperson Bell called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson. The following nominations were made:

- ❖ Trustee Snaggs nominated Trustee Wasylciw
- ❖ Trustee Peters nominated Trustee Shortt
- ❖ Trustee Brookes nominated Trustee Peters
- ❖ Trustee Bell nominated Trustee Drew

Two more calls for nominations were made. Sixty seconds after the third call Chairperson Bell declared that no other nominations had been made. She then asked each of the nominees if they would accept their nomination. Trustees Wasylciw, Peters and Drew declined the nomination. Trustee Shortt accepted the nomination. Trustee Shortt was acclaimed as the Vice Chairperson for 2025-2026.

7. Other Organizational Items

A Committee Assignments list will be sent to Trustees to sign up for committee positions for the coming year.

8. Adjournment

Motion #: 02/08-19/25-26

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

Moved by: Trustee Drew; Seconded by: Trustee Wasylciw

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM

Barbara Bell, Chairperson

Lisa Vass, Secretary Treasurer



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

August 19, 2025 – 6:00 PM
In-person and online via Google Meet
(in camera 6:00 - 7:00 PM)

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

Regrets: Allan Shortt and Michelle Peters

Administration Present: Shirley Zouboules, Landon Kowalzik, Graham Arts, Lisa Vass,
Annie Lagomasino, and Pat Thagard

Regrets: Jordan Martin

Guests present: Kim Lee (online)

Meeting Chairperson: David Bell

Meeting Minutes by: Pat Thagard

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. Five (5) Trustees were present. Quorum was met.

Motion #: 01/08-19/25-26

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

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

Motion #: 02/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move out of in camera at 7:02 PM.

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

Board meeting called back to order at 7:10 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge 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 to the meeting. She is honoured to be the new chair and looks forward to working with everyone in the coming year.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 03/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the August 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting agenda, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw

Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

6. Delegations & Presentations - none

7. Review and Approval of Minutes

7.1. June 17, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Motion #: 04/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the June 17, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes

Seconded by: Trustee Drew

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

8.1. Business Arising

none

8.2. Action Items

Motion #: 05/08-19/25-26

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 Drew

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.

9.1 Trustee Wasylciw

10. Unfinished Business

10.1. None

11. New Business

11.1. The draft Annual Report is included in the agenda package is the same as what was shared with the Board of Trustees in July. Now that the YK1 Education Services staff are back, the remaining information will be added. The report is due to the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) by the end of September.

Trustees asked if ECE gave any feedback on the first draft. Administration indicated they did not.

Trustees asked if YK1 could have different goals from the ECE goals

provided or should we be matching our goals to ECE's goals?
Administration responded that we respond to the indicators ECE provides.
That however, does not preclude us from having our own goals.
Trustees indicated that the charts are difficult to read. Administration noted that we are not able to change colours or formatting of the ECE template.

Motion #: 06/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move into in camera at 7:50 PM.

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

Motion #: 07/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees move out of in camera at 7:52 PM.

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

11.2. Trustee School Liaison Program

Trustee Wasylciw provided a review of recent discussions around the creation of a trustee liaison program in place of trustee PAC Assignments.
Trustee Drew indicated she would be voting against because she would rather see trustees engage the YK1 community rather than assigning one trustee per school.

Motion #: 08/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the included updated Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee that includes an outline for a YK1 Trustee School Liaison Program, based on the previously provided examples and based on discussion at previous Board Meetings.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw Seconded by: Trustee Drew **Defeated**

Trustee Wasylciw is concerned about the lack of trustee engagement with schools and the potential for over-commitment of trustees.
Trustee Brookes indicated that he does not support the motion. He referenced Trustee Snagg's comments in the past and agrees that the trustee's role should be limited to chain of command. He also noted that the Abbotsford school district has a good community engagement section on their website that could be drawn upon, while being careful not to move into operational areas.
Trustees appreciate Trustee Wasylciw putting the document forward.

11.3. Superintendent/CEO Annual Evaluation

Motion #: 09/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the Superintendent's Evaluation Report, as developed in the facilitated evaluation workshop of June 24, 2025, as an accurate accounting of the Superintendent's performance for the period July 1, 2024 to June 1, 2025.

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

12. Reports

12.1. Chairperson's Report

Outgoing chairperson Wasylciw's report is included in the agenda package.
No questions.

12.2. Standing Committee Reports

12.2.1. Finance & Facilities Committee

No report is included in the agenda package. An invitation will be distributed for next meeting to be arranged for review of the budget.

12.2.2. Policy & Governance Committee

No report is included in the agenda package. Trustee Drew indicated a lot of work remains to be done. A handover report has been completed.

12.2.3. Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee

Trustee Brookes is putting some information together for future work. A handover report has been completed.

12.2.4. Audit Committee

Chairperson Bell reviewed the audit timelines and upcoming dates, which will include a special COW.

Secretary Treasurer Vass indicated that the auditor is not available on the originally suggested date. A new date will be determined. The Audit Committee members must remain the same until the audit is complete.

Secretary Treasurer Vass asked for the commitment for Audit Committee be changed to 2 years for consistency. She noted that this is a common practice for Audit Committees.

The Policy Committee will have to review Policy 8 - Committees of the Board and recommend changes. The policy currently indicates the Board Chairperson cannot sit on any Committee.

12.2.5. Committee of the Whole (COW)

The COW agenda and June Meeting Minutes are included in the agenda package. There were no questions.

12.2.6. NWTTA Teacher-Board Committee

There has not been a meeting. There were no questions.

12.2.7. USW-Board Advisory Committee

No meeting has been held. There were no questions.

12.3. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

12.3.1. Negotiations Committee

Negotiations with the NWTTA are ongoing. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Oct 15 - 17, 2025.

12.4. Superintendents Report

The report is included in the agenda package.

Trustee questions:

- What is the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) information related to? Administration indicated it is about a study about ATIPP that YK1 took part in.
- Will Lead testing on people be open to anyone? Administration indicated that anyone wishing to have additional testing beyond what our health care system can provide will require a very specific doctor referral to attend a toxicology clinic in Calgary. Administration is looking at what is available for people to access. If people have concerns they should go to Public Health.
- What is being done to notify families & staff? Administration noted the communication that has taken place to date. Administration is monitoring the issue and mitigation closely.
- Should a welcome back letter be sent with information about the water testing? Administration indicated the newsletter now contains a Board information section. The Board Chairperson could do a welcome back message containing information via that forum.

12.4.1. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Learning Report

Information is included in the Superintendent's Report.

There were no questions.

12.4.2. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Learning Report

Information is included in the Superintendent's Report.

There were no questions.

12.4.3. Secretary Treasurer Report

No report was provided. Focus is currently on completing the audit.

New Benefits & Payroll Officer position has been filled. The new staff member started yesterday.

12.4.3.1. Director of Operations Report

No report in the package. Director Martin sent his regrets.

12.5. Trustee Reports

12.5.1. Trustee Brookes' report is included in the agenda package.

No questions.

12.5.2. Trustee Drew recommended that all trustees attend CSBA. She liked Cindy Blackstock's comments about Jordan's Principle funding. She spoke about new French teachers leaving the teaching field after 1 year. More studying of this is planned across the board of all teachers.

No questions

- 12.6. Trustee PAC Meeting Reports - none
13. Announcements - events calendar attached
Calendar to be shared
Superintendent Zouboules invited trustees to attend the Indigenous Language & Education PD Keynote presentation on August 26th. The presentation will start at 9:30 AM at NACC.
14. Date and Time of Next Meeting
- | | | |
|-------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| September 8, 2025 | 12:10 PM | Committee of the Whole Meeting |
| September 9, 2025 | 6:30 PM | Executive Session (In camera) |
| September 9, 2025 | 7:00 PM | Regular Board Meeting |
15. Chairperson's Closing Remarks
Chairperson Bell thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She will reach out to trustees in the next couple of weeks regarding Committee assignments and the year ahead. She's looking forward to the next year and working with everyone. She also thanked Trustee Wasylciw for his service as Chairperson and looks forward to discussions with him in the future.
16. Adjournment

Motion #: 10/08-19/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adjourn the August 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.

Moved by: Trustee Drew Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM

Chairperson Bell

Secretary Treasurer Vass



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Planning Meeting for upcoming engagement with MLAs
Contact:	Barbara Bell
Date:	September 8, 2025

The upcoming meeting with Yellowknife MLAs is scheduled for September 25th. To move forward, we need to finalize the topics for discussion and share them with the MLA office as soon as possible. This will allow everyone to prepare and ensure the meeting is focused and productive.

Draft Topics for Discussion:

- Jordan's Principle
- Lead in water
- WMS Retrofit

Key considerations for trustees:

- Do we want them to provide a short presentation with key points, or keep it as a discussion.
- Trustees Prepare questions based on the topics we choose



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Chairs Report
Contact:	Barbara Bell
Date:	September 9, 2025

Over the past few weeks, I’ve been focused on building strong communication with our Superintendent and helping to keep our governance processes steady and clear. We now have weekly meetings in place, and I’ve been in regular contact so that new and emerging items don’t get lost along the way.

Thank you to everyone who has reached out with questions or concerns — I truly appreciate the openness, and I hope I’ve been able to respond in a way that has been helpful. The weekly emails I send will help ensure that all 7 of us are seen and heard.

Right now, much of our attention is on preparing for engagement opportunities, including upcoming town halls and meetings with MLAs and the Minister, as well as continuing our advocacy with the GNWT and the District Office.

Looking ahead, the Board will be focusing on the Education Leaders meeting, school open houses, and beginning (or continuing) our committee meetings. These conversations, together with our ongoing work on the strategic plan, will help us stay grounded in YK1’s long-term vision and priorities.

I’m grateful for the input and thoughtful engagement from each trustee, and I look forward to continuing our work together as we move into what promises to be a busy and meaningful fall.



YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD of TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
AGENDA

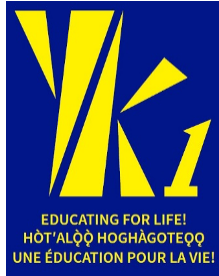
September 8, 2025 – 12:10 PM

Meeting Link:

<https://meet.google.com/muz-rzvb-aiu>

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on Chief Drygeese Territory in the Akaitcho region, the traditional territory of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation.
- 3.0 Adoption of Agenda
- 4.0 Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1 August 18, 2025
- 5.0 Chair's Communication
- 6.0 2025-26 Budget Reductions Preparations (Trustee Brookes)
- 7.0 BCSTA Trustee Academy (Trustee Wasylciw)
- 8.0 Education Committee (Trustee Brookes)
- 9.0 CSBA Hand-off (Chairperson Bell)
- 10.0 Action Items
- 11.0 Adjournment



**YELLOWKNIFE EDUCATION DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD of TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

**August 18, 2025 – 12:10 PM
In-person and online via Google Meet**

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

Regrets: Allan Shortt

Administration

Present: Shirley Zouboules, Lisa Vass, Graham Arts
and Pat Thagard

Regrets: Landon Kowlazik, Jordan Martin, and Annie Lagomasino

Meeting Chairperson: Trustee Drew

Meeting Recorder: Pat Thagard

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Drew 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. Adoption of Agenda

Motion #: 01/08-18/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adopt the August 18, 2025, Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting agenda as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Brookes

Seconded by: Trustee Wasylciw

Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion #: 02/08-18/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees approve the June 16, 2025, Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting minutes, as presented.

Moved by: Trustee Bell

Seconded by: Trustee Wasylciw

Carried

Trustee Brookes asked that Principals remind students and parents of their school's cell phone policy at the start of the school year.

5. International Travel Update

Trustee Wasylciw provided an update. He noted that communication with the Minister covered approval delays, and the definition of duty travel as it relates to professional

development. Possible solutions are being discussed. Administration was asked to remind staff to get requests in as soon as possible. Discussions to continue.

6. Water Testing Update and Related Plan for Start of School Year

Administration indicated there have been weekly meetings with a higher level steering committee and a working group. Mitigation measures have been put in place. A testing protocol will start on Wednesday, August 20th, starting with NJ Macpherson School. A Public Service Announcement (PSA) is expected to be shared on August 27th with details about mitigation plans and testing results. Bottled water will be on hand when schools open. Discussions also include holding a town hall meeting to inform parents and answer questions. Trustees support town halls and suggest having them for families and for staff. The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission (WSCC) is also involved in discussions about the water test findings. Staff are encouraged to submit a claim if they choose. Administration also indicated that the Department of Education, Culture and Employment has committed to cover the costs associated with the mitigation measures. More details will be provided at an upcoming meeting. Trustees asked for key messages for this topic. Trustees also recognized district staff for all the work that has been done to date. Administration noted that a root cause analysis is being planned for next summer.

7. Jordan's Principle Update

Administration reviewed some misinformation that had been shared by the media. YK1 has not had any applications denied yet. The YK1 applications are in a review phase. If any applications are denied, YK1 will use the denial appeal process that is in place. YK1 Administration has been in discussions with other Yellowknife school boards.

Trustees noted that there might be a legal approach as well, but it will cost to go that route. Trustees also pointed out that the same amount of funds was budgeted by the Federal government this year as last; therefore, it is difficult to understand what is holding things up.

Administration indicated that work is ongoing to alleviate some of the pressure being put on teaching staff. The Inclusive Schooling Review may provide some information for consideration and action.

8. Adjournment

Motion #: 03/08-18/25-26

I move that the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees adjourn the August 18, 2025, COW meeting.

Moved by: Trustee Wasylciw

Seconded by: Trustee Brookes

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 PM

Trustee Drew, Chairperson

Lisa Vass, Secretary Treasurer



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Chair Communication
Contact:	Barbara Bell
Date:	September 8, 2025

I want to make sure our communication as a board feels clear, consistent, and manageable for everyone. We all send and receive a lot of emails, and while they're important, it can sometimes be hard to keep track of what's been responded to or followed up on.

To help with this, I'll be keeping a running list of trustee emails in a spreadsheet and bringing those forward in my regular meetings with the Superintendent. From there, I'll pull everything together into a "Chair's Weekly Report."

The report is meant to:

- Act as my reply to trustee emails (unless it's something urgent that needs an immediate response).
- Show what I've been working on with the Superintendent.
- Help us see if anything has been missed or needs further discussion.

I'll keep the report updated throughout the week, so some details may shift as things evolve. Trustees are encouraged to review the report, flag anything that doesn't look right, and let me know if I've missed something.

The goal isn't to change how we work together, but to give us one central, reliable place to see updates and keep things from slipping through the cracks. Thanks for working with me as we try this out — I'm hopeful it will make things smoother for all of us.



BOARD REPORT

Title:	2025-26 Budget Reductions Preparations
Contact:	Terry Brookes - Trustee
Date Submitted:	3 rd September 2025
Mandate:	<p>Policy 2 - Role of the Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board shall monitor the fiscal management of the District. <p>Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustees shall recognize their fiduciary responsibility to the District.
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GNWT is the main contributor to the YK1 District's budget. There is a good chance that budget reductions from the GNWT will be occurring to the YK1 District in the near future. This is a result of many factors such as; the closure of some parts of the diamond mines, the GNWT that is currently heavily in debt and the general economy. Major downs in the up-down economic business cycle has occurred previously in the history of the District, and the District has had to take steps to maintain its budget within its limits. These steps are not easy to do. It takes a careful plan to minimize the impacts of budget reductions on the education of students. For the 2024-25 District budget, at the time of its approval, there was a \$730K deficit projected. By the near close of that fiscal year a \$983K deficit was being projected. For the 2025-26 District budget, at the time of its approval, there is a \$1,186K projected deficit. (Information from the 2025-26 budget submission before amortization.) This is \$2M over two years. The fiscal trend is not good. In simple terms the District is spending beyond its means. A new financial management direction needs to be developed and implemented. The District does have a surplus fund, but this surplus will be eroded very quickly if annual fiscal spending is not managed. Experience tells me the longer you wait to manage your budget and possible fiscal reductions the harder the impact on the District.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I propose that the Board start now on its fiscal deficit situation. As a simple start I propose that the Board eliminate the lunches and dinners that are currently provided at Board and Committee meetings. This meal elimination does not apply on occasions when the Board hosts guests or other special occasions. • This meal elimination has been done at other times during my tenure as a Trustee when fiscal restraint was the order of the day. And it does not affect educational services. • This could result in a cost savings of around \$5K. Small in comparison to the million-dollar annual deficit in 2025-26, but, as noted, it is a start, sets a pattern, and an understanding by the Board of impacts for fiscal decisions. When you are a little hungry (pun intended) you will be more concise and analytical in your decision-making. • An added bonus is that staff do not need to provide any catering/clean-up services for the Board. Their time can be focused on more educational matters. • Whether the Board approves this small savings, as noted it still remains that the Board will need to prepare a fiscal restraint plan. The District is approximately one quarter through its fiscal year. Time is of the essence for this action.
Other Headings as appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current - Survey Response - Information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Finance Committee begin the process and planning for the potential of budget reductions.
Proposed Motion (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I move that the YK1 Board of Trustees, as a cost saving, discontinue the serving meals at Board and Committee Meetings, unless special occasions warrant the providing of meals.



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Education Committee
Contact:	Terry Brookes - Trustee
Date Submitted:	3 rd September 2025
Mandate:	Policy 5 – Board By-Laws Policy 8 – Committees of the Board
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board has been convening some “Board Meetings” for education presentations and information, in addition to the regular monthly Board Meetings. • While the presentations have been excellent and should continue, the calling and recording of these meetings as “Board Meetings” contravenes the Board By-Laws. • The By-Laws state that a regular Board Meeting will happen once a month, and that it has a set agenda format. The only other type of meetings the Board can have are “Special Meetings” or meetings that are regulated, such as the Rate-Payers Meeting. These “education meetings” don’t fall into any of these categories, or have been practiced as such. • In addition, the Board does not allow any motions with respect to the presentations until the next regular Board Meeting. And I am not sure for all these meetings whether notification is going to the public of these meetings as it would for any type of Board Meeting. • In current practice the “education meetings” are being implemented as more of a COW meeting than a regular Board Meeting. • I have attached a draft terms of reference for a proposed “Education Committee”. Setting these education meetings as a committee meeting likely would give the Board more flexibility in implementation. I suggest the Policy Committee use this information for a potential separate committee, or perhaps include parts into the existing Committee of the Whole terms of reference.

Other Headings as appropriate: - Current - Survey Response - Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I recommend that the Policy Committee give a review of the proposed terms of reference for an Education Committee as presented, or some other alternative to meet the needs of the Board for educational presentations.
Proposed Motion (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">



Terms of Reference YK1 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TERMS of REFERENCE

Type

The Education Committee (herein, the Committee) is a Standing Committee of the Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees (herein, the District).

Purpose/Scope

This Committee will provide an open forum of discussion between Board Members, and District Administration. It will provide an opportunity for discussion, and presentations by invited guests, Board Members or District Administration. Presentations will be about topics of educational interest and educational governance.

Specifically, the Committee will:

- Meet on matters relating to the quality, manner and form of education in the District. This may, but is not limited to, strategic planning, curriculum, instruction, Board accountability, Indigenous education, inclusive education, program assessment, student assessment, student services, special needs education, community education, research, asset management, and fiscal responsibility;
- Perform consultative/liaison discussions relative to communicating with parents, students, teachers, administrators and the community on educational matters; and,
- Work on matters affecting educational services provided to students and their family.

Authority

In its attempts to govern the District in an effective and efficient manner, the Board, as per its By-Laws and Policies, may establish such Board Committees as it deems necessary.

The Board has created this Committee is a non-decision-making committee which is only granted the authority to make recommendations to the Board.

Membership

The Committee shall be made up of all the Members of the Board of Trustees. The Committee shall be supported by senior administrators to be named by the Superintendent, and, from time to time, other administrative officers and managers as may be required by the Committee. The Committee Chair will be the Vice-Chair of the Board.

Meeting Format

The Committee meetings shall be open to the public, with reasonable notice given.

Meetings that are required to be In-Camera will be arranged by trustees, and senior staff and others, by invitation, as required.

The preparation of the agenda for a meeting of the Committee shall be the responsibility of the Committee Chair in consultation with the assigned senior administrator. The meeting agenda and supporting materials shall be created and distributed when available.

Reporting

The Committee shall prepare and submit minutes, or a report, to the Board, which will be included in the agenda package of the Board Meeting following the Committee meeting.

Resources

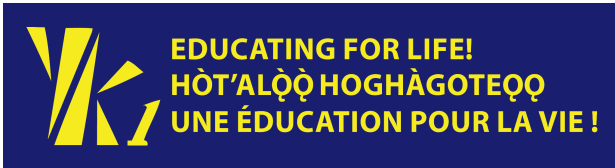
The Superintendent may appoint resource personnel to work with the Committee, and shall determine the roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements of the resource personnel.

BOARD of TRUSTEES - Action Items - 2025-2026						
No.	Date	Meeting	Action Item	Assigned to	Due Date (if applicable)	Status
2	2024-06-13	Board Meeting	Update on Joint Use Agreement report from the City, including facility usage, costs and included facilities	Board & Administration	Fall 2025	In Progress
4	2024-08-20	Board Meeting	Provide an update on the creation of an asset registry	Administration	January 2026	In Progress
5	09-10-2024	Board Meeting	Strategic Plan review	Chairperson	October 2025	In Progress
9	2024-10-08	Board Meeting	Chair & Administration to contact Minister of ECE regarding application of Financial Administration Act and FAM regarding decision making authority	Chair and Admin	Fall 2025	In Progress
15	2024-11-12	Board Meeting	Follow up on 1 Year warranty start date on Ecole Itlo list of rolling completion dates	Administration	First quarter of 2025	In Progress
26	2025-03-11	Board Meeting	Schedule Meeting for when USW Representative will be in Yellowknife	Administration	April 1, 2025	In Progress
27	2025-04-13	Board Meeting	Contact YKDFN about possibility of a meeting	Chair & Superintendent	Spring 2025	In Progress
28	2025-05-13	Board Meeting	Write letter to the Department of Infrastructure about Bus Driver Testing	Chair & Superintendent	Spring 2025	In Progress
30	2025-05-13	Board Meeting	Update on School Improvement Goals from Reviews	Administration	Fall 2025	In Progress
32	2025-05-20	Board Meeting (Education)	consider and recommend alternative approaches to inclusive schooling funding and reporting	Administration	Fall 2025	In Progress
Recently Completed:						
31	2025-05-13	Board Meeting	Letter of thanks for education meeting presenters	Chair	June 2025	Completed
Action Items REFERRED to COMMITTEE - 2024-2025						
I	2023-04-11	Board Meeting	Finance Committee to work with Administration to create a risk register	Finance & Facilities Committee & Administration	Spring 2025	In Progress
II	2024-04-09	Board Meeting	Determine best way to share communications publicly	Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee	Winter 2024/2025	In Progress
III	2024-08-20	Board Meeting	Continue to explore the creation of a Pride version of the YK1 logo	Public Engagement & Advocacy Committee	Winter 2024/2025	In progress
IV	2024-11-12	Board Meeting	Explore development of Risk Management Policy	Policy & Governance Committee	Spring 2025	In Progress
V	2025-05-13	Board Meeting	Policy & Governance Committee review the Trustee honorarium structure with respect to full-day commitments of Trustees.	Policy & Governance Committee	Fall 2025	In Progress



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Superintendent's Board Report
Contact:	Shirley Zouboules, Superintendent
Date Submitted:	September 9, 2025
Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate a culture of holistic wellness • Honour and celebrate Indigenous Language and Culture for all learners • Ensure inclusive, equitable and authentic learning experiences • Foster critical understanding of local, national and global issues
Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent Keynote speaker, Jo Chrona • Smooth start up. Staff and families are glad to be back • Jordan's Principle • Water testing • Strategic Planning with Adelee Penner is underway • Working with NACC and Infrastructure to support an accessible washroom at SJF • Preparing a submission for the Interim Student Assistant Initiative
Looking ahead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 11th - visiting dignitaries to visit MHS - Consul Generals, arranged with Indigenous and Intergovernmental Relations • Open House dates & times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ September 11 SJF 7:00 ◦ September 11 RLN 6:30 ◦ September 16 WMS 7:00 ◦ September 16 MHS 6:30 ◦ September 17 Itlo 6:30 ◦ September 18 NJ 6:30 • Completion of the 2024-2025 audit • Strategic Planning - Community Engagement September 19th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Working with YK1 DBO & Trustees September 20th • Meeting with Minister Cleveland September 10th • Meeting with the Yellowknife MLAs September 25th • Orange Shirt Day - feeding the fires at schools
Recommendations	Accept as information
Attachments	Yes_x____ No____ (list attachments) Superintendent Board Report



September 9, 2025

Superintendent Board Report

This report highlights the work being done in educational leadership, fiscal responsibility, human resources, policy & procedures, superintendent & board relationship, strategic priorities & reporting, organizational management, communications and community relations, and leadership practices. Through the lens of our strategic priorities, here are some of the activities reflective of our work in the past month:

Wellness:

Wellness remains a cornerstone of our district's mission. September has just begun and it is already shaping up to be a busy one. Staff and students were in good spirits for the start up of the new year, in spite of the challenges we are all facing. YK1 continues to work with the GNWT to ensure safe, potable water for students and staff. All point of use fixtures have been replaced at William McDonald School, and work is underway at Range Lake North and NJ Macpherson Schools. A cycle of water testing is still being developed by the GNWT.

We will continue advocacy efforts for reinstatement of Jordan's Principle funding to an appropriate level to meet the needs of Indigenous students. The recent announcement of the Support Assistant Initiative may provide YK1 with much needed bridge funding for the 2025-2026 school year. The goal of the initiative is to staff for the support assistants applied for through Jordan's Principle. We will submit our request to align with the applications already submitted to Indigenous Services Canada.

Highlights include:

- Advocacy for Jordan's Principle funding continues
- Hands-on learning at the District Indigenous Language and Education day
- School specific activities for staff and students - lunches, special assemblies
- Feeding The Fire to welcome a new school year and to honour Truth and Reconciliation Day September 30th

Indigenous Language & Education:

We are committed to Indigenous education, guided by principles of reconciliation, respect, and understanding. As the summer begins to wind down, schools will take advantage of getting out on the land to walk in nature, fish and share the teachings.

Recent efforts include:

- Keynote speaker Jo Chrona speaks to the need for anti-racist work in schools
- Students and staff will prepare for Orange Shirt Day through a variety of learning opportunities.
- Staff will participate in professional learning focused on a whole school approach to language and outdoor activities during the September 29th STIP day

Learning:

Academic excellence remains a key focus as we strive to provide high-quality learning experiences for all students. A key element to student success is staff. Presently, we have all homeroom teachers in place and are working to access the recently announced Student Assistant Initiative funding to provide a bridge while we wait on Jordan's Principle funding decisions.

Notable achievements this month include:

- YK1 participated in training related to the Foundational Skills Assessments in July. We are preparing for the Grade 7s to take part this year
- Enrolment in all programs is currently at 2389. We are looking forward to an increase in enrolment this year.
- Leadership Council will take on a new structure this year. School leadership teams will be identifying topics they want to focus on for their own professional learning that will support them in their role.
- Planning for professional learning for teachers is well underway. We will be creative in how we are able to provide continued support for staff learning.

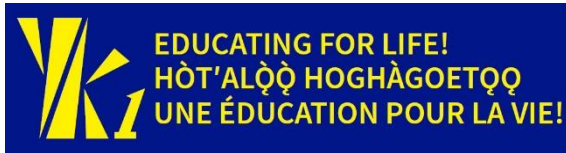
Community:

Strong community partnerships are essential for the success of our district, fostering a sense of belonging and collective responsibility. The Board has initiated work with Elk Willow consultant Adelee Penner to review the current Strategic Priorities. To date, meetings with senior leadership and Ms. Penner have taken place to determine next steps, including community engagement. The engagement will include parents, students and staff, Trustees and community members. This will take place September 19th and be facilitated by Ms. Penner.

The recent evacuation of two communities that have connections to friends and families in Yellowknife has reminded us of the importance of community. Students who have been displaced are welcome in any of our schools, whether that be temporary or long term. We know that consistency and routine are critical for students' success.

Recent endeavours include:

- Contacting the Superintendents of Decho and Tlicho schools to offer support during evacuations
- Met with Adrian Bell, NWT Arts Centre
- Schools are taking part in the Terry Fox run. Staff are again offering support for parking lot patrol
- Schools will be attending Berry Camp in the next few weeks and learning about the land around us and how to be a responsible environmental citizen
- Planning for upcoming Consul General visit to MHS on September 11th. Dignitaries from Greece, UK, Portugal, Ireland, Poland, Switzerland and Germany will tour the school



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Learning Report
Contact:	Graham Arts – Assistant Superintendent
Date Submitted:	for September 9, 2025
Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate a culture of holistic wellness • Honour and celebrate Indigenous Language and Culture for all learners • Ensure inclusive, equitable and authentic learning experiences • Foster critical understanding of local, national and global issues
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YK1 is off to a great start for the 2025-2026 School Year, and the ILE Day planned by Andrea Harding was very well received. Teachers, educational assistants, school and district leaders appreciated Jo Chrona's presentation on understanding systemic racism, identifying and eliminating it. • The Education Services Team has met to review the catalogue of data available to the district and schools to assist in improvement planning. This will be refined with schools and more explicitly incorporated into our process for developing school improvement plans.
Recommendations	Accept for information
Proposed Motion (if applicable)	N/A
Attachments?	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning Monthly Report for September, 2025

Board Report
September 3, 2025

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning Report

	Wellness Cultivate a culture of holistic wellness <i>1.1 Recognize the importance of relationships in learning</i> <i>1.2 Foster and promote personal wellness</i> <i>1.3 Create healthy, safe and caring learning environments</i>	Indigenous Language & Education Honour and celebrate Indigenous Language and Culture for all learners <i>2.1 Create a welcoming environment for all learners</i> <i>2.2 Integrate an Indigenous approach to education</i> <i>2.3 Strengthen Indigenous Language Instruction</i>	Learning Ensure inclusive, equitable and authentic learning Experiences <i>3.1 Engage learners through meaningful and innovative teaching and learning practices</i> <i>3.2 Strive for excellence</i> <i>3.3 Celebrate diversity of all learners</i>	Community Foster critical understanding of local, national and global issues <i>4.1 Inspire critical thinking through innovation and pursue sustainable practices</i> <i>4.2 Embrace diversity and encourage empathy to promote global citizenship</i> <i>4.3 Model and encourage ethical leadership and engage in opportunities for service learning</i>
Education Services Updates	During the district ILE day, staff had the opportunity to work with colleagues and forge new relationships with elders and knowledge holders through teaching, learning and shared experiences.	All YK1 staff participated in a district ILE day. Staff were introduced to Chief Fred Sangris (N'dilo) and Chief Ernest Betsina (Dettah), and listened to Jo Chrona's Keynote "Indigenizing Education: A path forward" In the afternoon staff had the opportunity to participate in a variety of learning opportunities and ended the day with a drum dance. Students at William McDonald worked with Ms.Madelaine to create orange heart pins. They then gifted those pins with the legislative assembly members.	Neurolinguistic Approach training led by David Macfarlane offered to new IF/PIF and Core French staff August 20-22. 4 YK1 teachers and 1 SSDEC (Hay River) teacher participated. Part 2 of the training will be offered in Oct School team meetings with instructional coordinators. Topics include curriculum renewal, district assessments, and supporting school goals.	YK1 was represented at the "Welcoming Day for Newcomers" event hosted by CFA (Francophone Welcoming Community) and CDETNO at Somba K'e Park on Aug 26



BOARD REPORT

Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Contact:	Graham Arts – Assistant Superintendent
Date Submitted:	September 4, 2025
Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate a culture of holistic wellness • Honour and celebrate Indigenous Language and Culture for all learners • Ensure inclusive, equitable and authentic learning experiences • Foster critical understanding of local, national and global issues
Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Report is submitted to ECE annual by the end of September. It reports on the elements of the Operating Plan for the school year in question (2024-2025). • Audited financial statements must be included with the submission of the Annual Report. • Feedback received from ECE on the submission of the draft was minimal, and focused on including information that we were still in the process of gathering. That work is now complete and the Annual Report is ready for adoption once the Audited Financial Statements have been approved by the Board of Trustees
Recommendations	Accept for information
Proposed Motion (if applicable)	None at this time
Attachments?	None



BOARD REPORT

Title:	Assistant Superintendent of HR and Learning Report
Contact:	Landon Kowalzik, Superintendent
Date Submitted:	September 4, 2025
Mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HR: To recruit, support and retain staff in order to provide students with the best possible opportunities and educating for life. ● Learning: Providing students with the best possible opportunities and educating for life.
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As of September 4, 2025, we have 87 active substitute teachers and new subs are being added daily ● Update on enrollment, as of September 4, 2025 complete. See attachment. ● We have hired 7 new teachers for the 2025/26 school year, with 2 of those teachers previously working for YK1. ● Currently looking to fill 1.4 FTE teacher positions for YK1 and an additional 1.0 FTE teacher position for K'alemi Dene School.
Looking Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will begin working with school administrators on staff evaluations for the 2025/2026 School Year. ● Developing recruitment plan for openings that may occur during this school year and for the 2026/27 School Year.
Recommendations	Accept as information
Attachments?	Yes__x__ No_____ (September Enrollment Report)

Yellowknife Education District No. 1

Enrolment Report: Estimated enrollment as of September 4, 2025

School	JK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Jun-25	Totals			
																	Change	est Sep-25	Sep-24	Change
Mildred Hall	29	15	28	39	30	27	35	33	26	39					301.00	278	23.00	301.00	287.00	14
Ecole Itlo (French)	68	45	65	44	57	46	41								366.00	344	22	366.00	337.00	29
William McDonald (All)								127	98	104					329.00	315	14	329.00	286.00	43
N.J. Macpherson	44	41	44	49	49	43	64								334.00	349	-15	334.00	364.00	-30
Range Lake North (All)	17	22	17	30	23	30	23	14	18	12					206.00	226	-20	206.00	206.00	0
Ecole Sir John Franklin											151	164	226	138	679.00	650	29	679.00	696.00	-4
Totals	158	123	154	162	159	146	163	174	142	155	151	164	226	138	2215.00	2162.00	53.00	2215.00	2176.00	52

Enrolment Report: September 4, 2025-note this is not an official FTE but rather is based on students actually attending so far.

School	JK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	Jun-25	Totals			
																	Chang	est Sep-25	Sep-24	Change
Mildred Hall	23	14	27	37	29	26	33	34	27	36					286.00	278	8.00	286.00	287.00	-1
Ecole Itlo (French)	64	43	62	40	55	44	39								347.00	344	3	347.00	337.00	10
William McDonald (All)								118	99	106					323.00	315	8	323.00	286.00	37
N.J. Macpherson	43	37	43	45	46	41	57								312.00	349	-37	312.00	364.00	-52
Range Lake North (All)	17	20	16	30	22	30	23	14	17	12					201.00	226	-25	201.00	206.00	-5
Ecole Sir John Franklin											148	157	212	135	652.00	650	2	652.00	696.00	-44
Totals	147	114	148	152	152	141	152	166	143	154	148	157	212	135	2121.00	2162.00	-41.00	2121.00	2176.00	-55



Upcoming Events:
 August & September 2025

September 2025

Concussion Awareness Month


Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Labour Day					Read a Book Day
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Board COW Meeting International Literacy Day	Regular Board Meeting World First Aid Day	World Suicide Prevention Day	RLN Open House 6:30 pm		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Grandparents Day		MHS Open House 6:30 pm WMS Open House 7:00 pm	Itlo Open House 6:30 pm	Itlo PAC Meeting NJM Open House 6:30 pm		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
World Gratitude Day	Gender Equality Week >>> First Day of Autumn					
28	29	30				
		National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day				



Upcoming Events:
August & September 2025

October 2025

**Canadian Islamic, German,
and Latin America History/Heritage Month
Women's History Month
ADHD Awareness Month**

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
		National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day	National Seniors Day			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
World Teachers' Day						International Day of the Girl Child
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	 Thanksgiving	Board COW Regular Board Meeting Terry Fox Run				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Board Education Session				
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
					Halloween 