



Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees Minutes

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Location: YK1 District Office Board Room
5402 50 Avenue

Members Present: Chairperson John Stephenson
Vice Chairperson Duff Spence
Trustee Terry Brookes
Trustee Jay Butler
Trustee Rajiv Rawat
Trustee Allan Shortt
Trustee Tina Drew

Staff Present: Superintendent of Education Metro Huculak
Assistant Superintendent of Education Ed Lippert
Director of Corporate Services Tram Do
Supervisor of Instruction (French Programs) Jean-Marie Mariez
Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Elvis Beaudoin
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Tracy Turk

Media and Others Present: Kevin Wallington, Evan French (*Yellowknifer*)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Chairperson Stephenson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Adoption of Agenda

01-5874-16

Moved by Trustee Brookes

Seconded by Trustee Shortt

I move to accept the agenda as presented.

Carried

4. Delegations and Presentations

4.1 Presentation: Polar Egg, Kevin Wallington

Chairperson Stephenson presented Mr. Kevin Wallington with a plaque and thanked him for all of his donations of fresh eggs to the schools for their food programs.

Mr. Stephenson noted how important breakfast is for the learning process. Polar Egg supplies 120 dozen eggs each month which are used for the Breakfast Programs in the schools.

Mr. Wallington said it is nice to come into contact with so many different people. Polar Egg produced 34 million eggs last year. He said he visited the schools today and spoke with the principals and heard what they are experiencing. Mr. Wallington said there is also perhaps potential for a milk program like one they have running in Hay River. He also noted as an egg producer they have access to all of the national advertising. He said he was very excited to see all of the schools.

Superintendent Metro Huculak said Mr. Wallington is working with the National Egg marketing program. He also noted that Mr. Wallington will be dropping off an extra 60 dozen eggs that will go out to families who are in need.

5. Review and Approval of Minutes

5.1. Regular Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2015

01-5875-16

Moved by Trustee Butler

Seconded by Trustee Rawat

I move the Board of Trustees of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2015 as presented.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

7. Trustee Statements

None.

8. Reports

8.1. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Stephenson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He said he had been in contact with the MLA Kieran Testart's constituency assistant to set up a meeting with the new MLAs.

8.2. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Metro Huculak presented a written report dated January 12, 2016. Superintendent Huculak said the NWTSA meetings are Feb 3 & 4, 2016. The Superintendents are meeting with the GNWT regarding Healthy Lifestyles. He said on Feb. 4 they are meeting with the DM and ADM. He stated we are starting the Kindergarten Information nights and there will be Fun Nights/Days at the schools as well. He also noted the draft school calendar will be going to Trustees tomorrow and then to parents and PACs. He said the Conversations With Parents are coming up as well and the dates are to come. He noted he is working with ECE to try and get some of our gym floors completely redone.

Trustee Brookes asked about the Conversations With Parents and if they are going to be the same format as last year. Mr. Huculak said they are going to be the same. Mr. Huculak also noted the Kindergarten Backpack Program is running again. We have applied for another grant from Dominion Diamonds Corp.

Trustee Drew asked if the Healthy Lifestyles meeting with ECE was open to everyone. Mr. Huculak said it is only for the people who are working on the committee however, he will report back what takes place.

Vice Chairperson Spence asked how do the Conversations With Parents go and what is the goal. Mr. Huculak said they are to look at the programs in each of the schools as we head into budgeting. He said if there are suggestions we can then take some of the things forward as we budget. Vice Chairperson Spence asked if handing these conversations over to the PACs if it would legitimize their role a bit more. Mr. Huculak said he also meets with PAC Chairs and parents at the Open Houses. Trustee Drew said that they did this in the past through the PACs and the turnout was not that good.

8.2.1. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Ed Lippert presented a written report dated January 12, 2016. Mr. Lippert said it was hectic before Christmas with all of the activities. Leyton Schnellert is arriving Wednesday and continuing work with the CR4YR group and they will be focusing on the data teachers are collecting. He is also working Saturday with grade level reps. Mr. Lippert noted Leyton is also going to be working with the Master's level course. Carole Fullerton is returning in February and doing similar things but with Math.

Mr. Lippert said the Canadian Tire JumpStart funding was applied for and WMS will receive \$4,500 for their after school yoga program. MHS received just under \$5,000 to run their Lights On program. This program provided a safe place for kids and had fun activities over the Christmas Break. Mr. Lippert is continuing to seek funding through JumpStart for hockey equipment for MHS students. Some funding has been applied for to help out the preschools. He said a playground application was just submitted as well.

Trustee Brookes asked about the renovations at MHS and if this money from the funding would be used for that. Mr. Huculak said it would not be used for renovations.

Trustee Brookes asked about the acceleration of students and if we have many parents requesting this. Mr. Huculak said we do not usually, but this year we have had two and they were tested and they have to be able to maintain the grade-level. Mr. Lippert said we would rather enrich the current grade rather than accelerate a student.

Trustee Brookes asked about the Self-Regulation Book Club. Mr. Lippert said self-regulation is part of Education Renewal and helping children understand their own bodies and regulate themselves. If they feel themselves at a point where they may have an outburst, they are able to recognize it and remove themselves or redirect their energy. He said the Book Club was initiated by ECE to read some books on the subject and get together on a regular basis and discuss what they have read.

Trustee Brookes mentioned Aboriginal Education and there is more to it than cleaning fish and birds. It is spiritual. He requested the reporting be changed to reflect more than just those activities so we know if we are doing a good job in this area. Mr. Lippert said the birds and fish are part of the Dene Kede curriculum but he will discuss the reporting with Mr. Willoughby.

Trustee Shortt asked if the teacher technology PLC could be rescheduled. Mr. Lippert said it was not put in the SSI funding this year, however we are looking at putting it back for next year. Mr. Huculak noted he has allowed some time for the schools but this is largely a scheduling issue.

Trustee Brookes asked what all of the numbers in the Technology Report represent. Mr. Lippert said the numbers show there are issues with Technology but the Technology Department is dealing with them.

Mr. Lippert noted that Mike Quinn is leaving the Technology Department and we are currently looking for a replacement.

Chairperson Stephenson asked when the MHS morning Wake-up is run. Mr. Lippert said it is run before classes in the morning.

8.2.2. Director of Corporate Services Report

Director of Corporate Services Tram Do presented unaudited financial statements to December 31, 2015. She also submitted a written report dated January 12, 2016. Ms. Do said we will be within budget and likely come in under budget. She noted there was more money spent on long term medical leaves but we have seen a savings on heating oil. She said there have been other operational requirements like new fountains and Mr. Beaudoin is working with schools to order these. Some are being purchased through Drop the Pop funding. She also noted we are working with Stantec to rent out our parking stalls. Ms. Do said Finance has been working with Bellamy Version 8, the new report writer and other training.

Trustee Shortt cautioned not to spend the extra money we are saving on heating, just in case we find ourselves needing it in the near future.

Trustee Drew asked about what school had received funding for playground equipment. Ms. Do said it was for MHS and JHS.

8.2.3. Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Report

Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Elvis Beaudoin submitted a written report for the months of November and December 2015. He said we currently have nine water fountains and two in each school would balance it for now. He said over holidays RLN and JHS had the gym floors refinished. He said he will try and refinish all gym floors at least once per year. He said there was a line break under RLN but it was caught before any damage could be done. There was an issue with the AHU pulling foul air into the school, but this was rectified.

Trustee Shortt said that in WMS we should replace a fountain that can be used by EASC. He also noted we should ask the user groups to try and take better care of our gym floors. Chairperson Stephenson noted we have the Joint Use Agreement the City.

Trustee short noted that if we damage a City facility it will be brought to the Board's attention.

Trustee Drew asked about the water quality at WMS and if the new fountain will address the poor water. Mr. Beaudoin said it will keep the water circulating and this will improve the quality.

Trustee Drew asked about the showers and why they do not work. Mr. Beaudoin said they stick if they are turned on so they have been shut down as past practice.

8.3. Trustee Reports

Chairperson Stephenson said on December 17, 2015 the Canada Winter Games Committee met to give comments on the final report. The Municipal Service Committee will receive it later this month or in early February for review and consideration.

8.4. Standing Committee Reports

8.4.1. Finance

Trustee Brookes said there is a meeting taking place January 13, 2016. Some information has been gathered to work on.

8.4.2. Public Relations

Vice Chairperson Spence said there was a meeting in December. Items discussed were roles and responsibilities, where we want to go. At the next meeting we will be discussing what we want the community to do and sort out a strategic direction for the committee. Vice Chairperson Spence is the Chair of the committee. Trustee Drew will bring some parent engagement ideas to the PR Committee.

8.4.3. Policy

Trustee Brookes said they met January 5, 2016. He said they are planning to distribute the existing Terms of Reference for Standing Committees to Trustees for review and input. The committee is

looking for perhaps some longer meetings and possibly evening meetings. The Chair is Trustee Brookes.

8.4.4. Aboriginal Education

Trustee Butler said there was no meeting. He said no chair has been chosen. The TRC recommendations should be discussed and how we are faring in terms of these.

8.4.5. Special Needs

Trustee Drew said Supervisor of Instruction (Student Support) Anita Griffore gave them a background on the committee.

8.5. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

8.5.1. Committee of the Whole

Chairperson Stephenson reported on the agenda items which were discussed. Items included a discussion on PACs and the Board relations with them, a Policy Committee update, the upcoming Board Strategic Planning days, the new Minister of ECE Alfred Moses, the 2016-2017 school calendar, the SJF school utilidor, Metro's upcoming Conversations With Parents, Kindergarten registration, the DEC/DEA Handbook, an in-camera session and the regular meeting motions.

8.5.2. Audit Committee

Trustee Brookes said the committee won't be meeting formally until spring.

8.5.3. NWTTA Teacher-Board Advisory Committee

No meeting.

8.6. Trustee PAC Reports

8.6.1. École J.H. Sissons

Trustee Drew said there was no meeting. The next meeting is Jan. 20, 2016.

8.6.2. Mildred Hall School

Trustee Butler said there was a meeting. The meeting minutes and notes were distributed. Trustee Butler added he is really impressed with the Lights On program.

8.6.3. N.J. Macpherson School

Trustee Brookes said there was no meeting.

8.6.4. Range Lake North School

Trustee Shortt said there was no meeting.

8.6.5. École Sir John Franklin High School

Vice Chairperson Spence said there was a meeting. Items discussed were meetings with parents, communicating grad requirements to parents, the student council helping with the Santa Claus parade and there was a Winter Prom. Some questions about course availability and online accessibility were raised. There was also some discussion surrounding the newsletter and the anti-spam legislation. He said there were also questions about the Parent Portal in PowerSchool. Thursday is the next meeting.

8.6.6. École William McDonald Middle School

Trustee Rawat said there was no meeting. There is a meeting tomorrow.

9. Unfinished Business

None.

10. New Business

Trustee Drew suggested sending out thank you cards to all schools for their hard work on the winter concerts.

11. Announcements

- Jan. 14, 2016: 35th Anniversary of French Immersion Celebration – WMS – 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 3 – 4, 2016 (tentative) - NWT Superintendent's Association Meetings
- Feb. 21 – 22, 2016 - CASSA Planning Meetings

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Jan. 14, 2016: School Presentations to the Board: KDS – Noon
- Jan. 14, 2016: School Presentations to the Board: NJM & MHS – 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 15, 2016: School Presentations to the Board: JHS & WMS – 7:00 p.m.
- COW Meeting – Feb. 9, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting – Feb. 9, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

13. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Chairperson Stephenson thanked everyone for coming. He said we are off to a good start for the new year.

The Chairperson's Safety Message for the month: If you keep getting flat tires, buy some new ones.

14. Adjournment

01-5876-16

Moved by Trustee Shortt

Seconded by Vice Chairperson Spence

I move the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 p.m.

Chairperson of the Board

Director of Corporate Services