



## Yellowknife Education District No. 1 Board of Trustees Minutes

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, December 8, 2015  
Location: YK1 District Office Board Room  
5402 50 Avenue

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

Regrets: Vice Chairperson Duff Spence

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  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Tracy Turk

Media and Others Present: Lauren Seabrook, Jeff Seabrook, Brody Seabrook, Meredith Seabrook, 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**

12-5868-15

Moved by Trustee Jay Butler

Seconded by Trustee Terry Brookes

Trustee Brookes noted 9.1 and 9.2 appear to be redundant for 10.1 and 10.2.

REMOVE: Items 9.1 and 9.2

I move to accept the agenda as amended.

**Carried**

**4. Delegations and Presentations**

4.1 Presentation: Governor General's Award (Lauren Seabrook)

Chairperson Stephenson presented École Sir John Franklin High School student Lauren Seabrook with a congratulatory certificate and cheque for being awarded the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award. Chairperson Stephenson asked her what her favourite part of the Me To We conference was. Ms. Seabrook said there is no such thing as a bad Me To We conference.

Director of Corporate Services Tram Do said she felt it is wonderful she is such an inspiring young leader.

Trustee Rawat asked if there are any more kids involved in the Me To We program. She said there is a Me To We program at École William McDonald Middle School and there are several involved there. That was where she first got involved. There are currently two students who have moved to the high school and are continuing the work there.

**5. Review and Approval of Minutes**

**5.1. Organizational Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2015**

12-5869-15

Moved by Trustee Terry Brookes

Seconded by Trustee Al Shortt

I move the Board of Trustees of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting of November 10, 2015 as presented.

**Carried**

**5.2. Regular Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2015**

12-5870-15

Moved by Trustee Al Shortt

Seconded by Trustee Jay Butler

I move the Board of Trustees of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2015 as presented.

**Carried**

**6. Business Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**7. Trustee Statements**

Trustee Rajiv Rawat submitted a Trustee Statement. He read the statement. See attached.

**8. Reports**

**8.1. Chairperson's Report**

Chairperson Stephenson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He said he has made an effort to get around to many community events in the last little while. He said the Syrian refugee dinner was very successful with a lovely dinner and a silent auction as well. They raised around \$20,000. He said Superintendent Metro Huculak was busy helping with cooking and was networking with young families. He noted that he and Supervisor of Instruction (French Programs), Jean-Marie Mariez were also networking as well.

He noted he also attended the vigil to remember the women of the École Polytechnique. It was well-attended by new MLAs. Chairperson

Stephenson said he has written to all of the newly elected MLAs and congratulated them. He noted he also wrote to those who did not make it back into office.

## **8.2. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Metro Huculak presented a written report dated December 8, 2015. Superintendent Huculak said he attended the Syrian refugee dinner and networked with young families. He said it was a good event and he met some great people in the kitchen. The program with the SJF at-risk students is going over well and we are making a difference with these kids. He would like to thank the Board for the vision and support to this program.

Trustee Drew said in terms of the school's monthly reports she likes the format of Range Lake North as she finds it easy to read.

### **8.2.1. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Assistant Superintendent Ed Lippert presented a written report dated December 8, 2015. Mr. Lippert said there was a lot of activity in Ed Services this past month. He highlighted the work on the primary PD activity for this year, CR4YR and CR4MR. Many teachers have signed up for this course. This shows us how data can show the direction to take with students to form their instruction. He said that Leyton Schnellert is handling the Literacy side of the PD and Carole Fullerton is doing the same thing in Math. All schools have participated in these activities.

Mr. Lippert said sport and Physical activity are important factors in school and for children and many kids are not able to participate in the after school programs. He said the JumpStart program from Canadian Tire helps kids be able to participate in activities and programs. There is now a community partnership program with Canadian Tire and YK1 has now been signed up as a community partner. This means we can do things like run programs over holidays and so on. Superintendent Huculak noted we can access up to \$40,000 and this can run programs like the Lights On program.

Mr. Lippert noted a report on anti-bullying was distributed that summarized activity in the schools over the last month and what they are doing to deal with it. PBIS is a program in place at schools to mitigate bullying. He said there has been training for staff and it will hopefully reduce incidents of bullying. He also noted there are a lot of external resource people to help with anti-bullying campaigns (RCMP etc.).

Trustee Brookes asked what kind of strategies were learned at the emergency preparedness conference that relate to YK1. Mr. Lippert said it really helped understand how to efficiently get kids back in touch with their parents. The one person he spoke with has emergency plans for pretty much all emergencies and she would like to come up and help YK1 set ours up. Superintendent Huculak said he will be speaking with the Deputy Minister and Joanne McGrath, ECE, to see if we can bring the consultant up and develop a Crisis Response Plan for all districts in the NWT.

Trustee Brookes asked about the Fountas and Pinnell assessments and how it is different from previous methods. Mr. Lippert said the old assessment is outdated and the new one has more interesting reading material. He noted it is designed to replace DRA. This new assessment and subsequent findings will follow the students from Kindergarten through Grade 9 helping to guide their learning.

Trustee Brookes asked about technology implementation and what is new in that respect. Mr. Lippert said there has been some difficulty in finding time to meet. He did note that this year we are trying to reduce the amount of time the teachers are away from class so the meeting times are going to have to be coordinated outside school hours.

Trustee Brookes commented that we have a Dene Kede curriculum, but do we integrate other cultures such as Inuit. Mr. Lippert said Dene Kede is mandated by ECE, but ideally we integrate all cultures into our programs. He said in the past we have had Inuit and Inuvialuit programs over the lunch hour, however, there is nothing formal at this point.

Trustee Brookes commented on the French Immersion presentation made at the Whistler, BC conference by our staff. He asked how

we measure if this was a success. Mr. Jean-Marie Mariez said there were 120 people in the session and everyone was engaged the entire time. The presentation was about literacy and finding available resources. He also noted we are fortunate to have the experienced staff and the coaches we have. He said they also discussed books, activities and best practices. He wanted to congratulate the people who participated as it was good PR for YK1 on a national level.

Superintendent Huculak said when he attended the First Nations, Metis, Inuit symposium the other attendees were also looking at what we were doing in our District for guidance.

Trustee Drew asked about the TAMI presentations and if they are going to be presented to the schools. Mr. Lippert said they are planning to be presented but doesn't have a date as of yet.

Chairperson Stephenson said the Lunch With a Bunch took place November 20, 2015. He also wanted to note there was an Election Forum for all MLA candidates that was hosted in partnership with YCS and Commission Scolaire. He said there were good questions asked and he feels we raised the bar for the candidates.

### **8.2.2. Director of Corporate Services Report**

Director of Corporate Services Tram Do presented unaudited financial statements to November 30, 2015. She also submitted a written report dated December 8, 2015. Ms. Do said we are implementing Bellamy version 8. The financial situation is in line with revenue.

### **8.2.3. Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Report**

Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Elvis Beaudoin was not in attendance. Superintendent Metro Huculak said there is nothing major happening at the moment. We have until June 12, 2016 to correct an oil pipe that is partially underground.

### **8.3. Trustee Reports**

Trustee Rajiv Rawat said three people went down to ASBA Fall General Meeting in November 2015. He said the business meeting was interesting as they were unaware of the storm brewing between Edmonton Public School Board and ASBA. EPSB is thinking of leaving ASBA. ASBA has been questioned for some of their spending. An emergent agenda item to include discussion on policy related to a Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Policy was defeated. He said there was also a keynote address by Joseph Boyden. He attended a session on How to Chair a Board Meeting. He also went to a presentation by the Quebec School Board where they discuss getting rid of elections altogether for Trustee. He noted he attended a Quebec English School Boards Association session. He reported the province of Quebec is planning to abolish elected school boards and replace them with appointed boards. He said the QESBA is leading the challenge against it and have a stronger basis to oppose with the legal foundation of minority language rights.

Trustee Butler said there were good sessions.

Chairperson Stephenson said he used it as a chance to connect with Terry Gunderson from ASBA in advance of his trip to Yellowknife for the Board Orientation weekend.

Chairperson Stephenson also said he is sitting on the Canada Winter Games committee. The committee has been working in sub-groups and he was on the Volunteer sub-group. The final report will be prepared and then it will be reviewed and submitted to the City Council.

### **8.4. Standing Committee Reports**

#### **8.4.1. Finance**

No report.

#### **8.4.2. Public Relations**

No report.

### **8.4.3. Policy**

Trustee Brookes said they met December 1, 2015. He said they gave Trustee Drew a history on the Policy Committee. They are planning to make sure they review all policies in a three year rotation. There are a couple policies that are high priority now. Next meeting – Jan. 5, 2016.

### **8.4.4. Aboriginal Education**

Trustee Butler said there was a brief meeting. He said ALC Coordinator Scott Willoughby gave a background to Trustee Rawat and himself as this is their first time on this committee.

### **8.4.5. Special Needs**

No report.

## **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 committees, membership on PAC, international field trips, at-risk students, school reports on bullying, 2016-2017 school calendar, the possibility of a health curriculum presentation, the orange and poinsettia deliveries Trustees make to schools and the regular meeting motions.

Chairperson Stephenson noted there has been a plan made for the Strategic Plan and the steps needed to get there. He said there will be school presentations and a presentation by the district to review the outcomes from last year on the Strategic Plan. He said they have booked a facilitated discussion for January 22-23, 2016 for Strategic Planning with ASBA. Then they will seek feedback from parents/stakeholders. The goal is to approve the Strategic Plan at the March 8, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.



**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 a meeting. Items discussed included a PBIS information session with parent, pizza lunches to fund an artist coming to the school. Staples school supply lists have to be submitted sooner this year for a smoother program. Supply packages will be held at Staples and there is a cap to the amount that each package can cost. There is a new therapy dog for the school, Molly. There is a clothing program to help kids who may forget warm clothes to go outside. They can borrow the clothes and then return them. She said they discussed the website and an issue getting some of the information to update properly. There was a discussion regarding PST evenings. JHS parents don't like them.

**8.6.2. Mildred Hall School**

Trustee Butler said there was a meeting but he was not able to attend. He will get minutes from the school and get them out to Trustees.

**8.6.3. N.J. Macpherson School**

Trustee Brookes said there was a meeting. A written report was submitted and is attached.

**8.6.4. Range Lake North School**

Trustee Shortt said there was a meeting. Items discussed were PST interviews, Leyton Schnellert's visit, the Christmas concert

taking place December 10, 2016 and the school PAC lunch this Friday.

#### **8.6.5. École Sir John Franklin High School**

No report.

#### **8.6.6. École William McDonald Middle School**

Trustee Rawat said there was a meeting, however, he was not able to attend. Items discussed were understanding what the PAC does. He said they sent out a survey and they are thinking about holding a multicultural dinner. The Fine Arts night was great and the kids are very talented.

### **9. Unfinished Business**

None.

### **10. New Business**

#### **10.1. International Field Trip Approval in Principal – Nairobi, Kenya**

12-5871-15

Moved by Trustee Terry Brookes

Seconded by Trustee Jay Butler

I move the Board of Trustees of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 approve in principle École Sir John Franklin High School's international field trip request to Nairobi, Kenya March 10 – 26, 2016.

Trustee Brookes emphasized this is for approval in principle. Now the school does the planning and gets all of the necessary paperwork in order and then it comes back to the Board for Final approval. It is not final at this point.

Trustee Shortt said there are concerns regarding the trips and ASBIE is making everyone aware of risks.

Trustee Rawat asked how this has been handled in the past. Superintendent Huculak said insurance companies always err on the side of due diligence. They are providing warnings as they see fit.

Trustee Brookes asked if the Board will get an updated report on the status of the situation in the countries. Mr. Huculak said he would keep them updated.

**Carried**

**10.2. International Field Trip Approval in Principal – Berlin, Germany; Warsaw & Krakow, Poland; Prague, Czech Republic**

12-5872-15

Moved by Trustee Jay Butler

Seconded by Trustee Terry Brookes

I move the Board of Trustees of Yellowknife Education District No. 1 approve in principle École Sir John Franklin High School's international field trip request to Berlin, Germany, Warsaw & Krakow, Poland and Prague, Czech Republic during March Break 2017.

Trustee Drew asked who decides on where the kids go on these trips. Mr. Huculak said it is decided at the school level. Trustee Drew said there was a trip taken by a school group in Whitehorse, YT and they did the same route but also went to a museum in Tel Aviv and they felt it was the best part of the trip.

Trustee Brookes said it will be a very interesting, bewildering, humbling, deep-thinking situation and location.

Trustee Rawat asked if the subject matter experienced on the trip was integrated in the curriculum. Mr. Huculak said it was.

**Carried**

## 11. Announcements

- Dec. 9, 2016: Music Extravaganza – JHS – 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 10, 2015: Winter Concert – NJM – 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 10, 2015: Christmas Concert – RLN – 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 15, 2015: Breakfast with Santa – KTW – 10:00 a.m.
- Dec. 15, 2015: Christmas Concert – SJF – 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 16, 2015: Christmas Feast – MHS – 12:00 p.m.
- Dec. 16, 2015: Montessori Concert – NACC – 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17, 2015: School Musical – MHS – 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18, 2015: Christmas Brunch – JHS – 11:00 a.m.
- Dec. 18, 2015: Christmas Concert & Feast – KDS – 12:00 p.m.
- Dec. 19, 2015 – Jan. 3, 2016 (inclusive): Christmas Break

## 12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

- Strategic Plan Presentation - December 9, 2015
- COW Meeting – January 12, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting – January 12, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Ndilo Presentation – Action Plan - January 14, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.
- 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Family Event – French Immersion - January 14, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. - WMS
- School presentation – NJM - January 14, 2016 @ 7:30 p.m.
- School presentation – MHS - January 14, 2016 @ 8:15 p.m.
- School presentation – JHS - January 15, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.
- School presentation – WMS - January 15, 2016 @ 7:45 p.m.
- Strategic Planning Workshop – January 22, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Strategic Planning Workshop – January 23, 2016 @ 8:30 a.m.

## 13. Chairperson's Closing Remarks

Chairperson Stephenson thanked everyone for coming. He said Christmas in Canadian culture is typically based on Christian beliefs. It's a time to recognize families and friends and enjoy good food and celebrations of the many diverse cultures and faiths of our country. Please try to influence our children with positive behavior. Also remember this time of year can be difficult for some who are not in a good situation.

He wished everyone a very a positive holiday season. Safety message for the month: Learn how to change a tire and practice it so you can do it in an emergency.

**14. Adjournment**

12-5873-15

Moved by Trustee Al Shortt

Seconded by Trustee Tina Drew

I move the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

Meeting adjourned: 8:35 p.m.

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Chairperson of the Board

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Director of Corporate Services