

Members Present:

C. Edwards	Ward 1
G. Kissel	Ward 1
R. Ripkens	Ward 1
K. Packard	Ward 2
M. Skogen	Ward 2
R. Young	Ward 2
L. Phillips	Ward 3
B. Norton	Ward 4
D. Lozinski	Ward 5
R. Cusson	Superintendent
P. Elock	Secretary-Treasurer
J. Irvine	Associate Superintendent
K. Jackson	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Packard called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Northern Lights Public Schools acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 First Nations Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We honour the history and culture of all people who first lived and gathered in these lands and commit to enhance our relationship with one another. We acknowledge our roles as educational leaders to learn, teach and engage in the communities we serve. Our recognition of this land is an act of reconciliation and an expression of our gratitude to those whose territory we reside on or are visiting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

134. The agenda was adopted for this meeting by unanimous consent with the following amendments:

Additions

- 8.5 Trustee Attendance at Administrator Interview

Revisions

- 10.3 Quarterly Budget Review (Q2) move to 7.1.2
- 10.13 2025-2026 Budget Recommendations

CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

135. The minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on March 26, 2025 were approved by unanimous consent.

CARRIED.

CLOSED MEETING

136. Moved by Trustee Edwards to convert to a closed meeting at 10:04 A.M

CARRIED.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

137. Moved by Trustee Skogen to revert to a regular public meeting at 10:32 A.M.

CARRIED.

TRUSTEE/ADMIN INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustee Young and Trustee Ripkens attended the funeral for Bill Lasecki who was a Northern Lights employee for many years. Trustee Edwards said it was a highlight to once again engage with the Student Advisory Council. She also participated in the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta's Polling Survey on education online. Trustee Ripkens attended the Alberta School Boards' Association's presentation on the Protection of Privacy Act and the Access to Information Act saying it is a complete rewrite of the Personal Information Protection Act and is now two separate Acts. Trustee Packard attended the Honouring Spirit Awards on April 14, 2025 with the Northern Lights' student recipient, Jaera Anderson from Ecole Plamondon School, and her family. She noted that Bryce Delorme, who was a previous recipient from Northern Lights Public Schools, performed during the ceremony. She also attended the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta's MLA Engagement Night on April 9, 2025. Trustee Phillips attended the Systematic Racism and Becoming an Ally session offered by Portage College on April 15, 2025. Communications and Public Relations Manager Nicole Garner shared a Good News presentation. Received as information only.

REPORTS

The following reports were included as part of the board package in advance of the meeting and have been filed:

Administration

1. Board Monthly Operations Summaries (February and March) - Secretary-Treasurer
2. Quarterly Budget Report (Q2) - Secretary-Treasurer

Committees

1. ASBA/Zone 2/3
2. PSBAA
3. Ad Hoc Policy 12 Committee
4. Finance Committee
5. Student Achievement Committee
6. Truth and Reconciliation Committee
7. Communications and Recognition Committee
8. Advocacy Committee
9. Transportation Committee

NOTE: The Board recessed at 11:35 A.M. and reconvened at 11:47 A.M.

APPOINTMENT: NORTHERN LIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS' FRIENDS OF EDUCATION, THE CLAYTON BELLAMY FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

The Clayton Bellamy Foundation for the Arts representatives received the Northern Lights Public Schools' Friends of Education Award. Received as information only.

APPOINTMENT: EDWIN PARR NOMINEE, STACY SARTAIN

Edwin Parr Nominee, Stacy Sartain, met with the Board and was congratulated for her nomination. Received as information only.

NOTE: The Board recessed for lunch at 11:59 A.M. and reconvened at 12:42 P.M.

MOTIONS COMING OUT OF REPORTS

138. Moved by Trustee Ripkens that draft **Board Policy No. 12: Role of the Superintendent** - Appendix A be approved in principle as per attached **Appendix "A"** to these minutes, to be brought back for final approval with Appendix B of the same policy.

CARRIED.

139. Moved by Trustee Ripkens that draft **Board Policy No. 8: Committees of the Board** - Appendix G be approved as per attached **Appendix "B"** to these minutes.

CARRIED.

140. Moved by Trustee Edwards to approve the Communications and Recognition Committee's recommendation to award the students nominated for the Impact, Resillace, and Seven Teaching Awards.

CARRIED.

141. Moved by Trustee Edwards that the Board Chair write a letter to the Minister of Indigenous Services on behalf of the Board regarding Jordan's Principle funding.

CARRIED.

142. Moved by Trustee Philips that the Board Chair write a letter to Minister Jean on behalf of the Board requesting support for the acceleration of the replacement school project in Lac La Biche.

CARRIED.

BOARD BUSINESS

REVIEW DIVISION PRIORITIES

Received as information only.

ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION ZONE 2/3 AWARDS BANQUET

143. Moved by Trustee Kissel to approve Trustee Packard, Trustee Ripkens, and Trustee Edwards to attend the Alberta School Boards' Association Zone 2/3 Awards Banquet on behalf of the Board on May 23, 2025.

CARRIED.

2025 SPRING EVENTS AND GRADUATION CEREMONIES

144. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve Trustee attendance at the 2025 Graduation Ceremonies as per attached **Appendix "C"** to these minutes.

CARRIED.

BILL 51 - EDUCATION AMENDMENT ACT INFORMATION SESSION

Received as information only.

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE AT ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEW

145. Moved by Trustee Skogen to approve Trustee Norton, and Trustee Lozinski as alternate, to participate in the Ecole Plamondon School Administrator Interviews at the Lac La Biche Division Office once a date for interviews is decided.

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received the following correspondence as information only:

- Letter to Maddox Gelowitz, student at Learning Together Anywhere School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated March 1, 2025
- Letter to Katelyn Hornseth, teacher at Duclos School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated March 1, 2025
- Letter to Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, from Luci Henry, Board Chair, Wolf Creek Public Schools, re: Ineligible Funding through Jordan's Principle for Supports to School Boards Off-Reserve, dated March 13, 2025
- Invitation to the Board of Trustees, Northern Lights Public Schools, from The Clayton Bellamy Foundation for the Arts, re: Grand Opening of the Strathcona Performing Arts Centre, undated

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- Letter to School Parents/Guardians, Staff and Volunteers, from Alberta Health Services, re: Increase of Measles Cases, dated March 17, 2025
 - Letter to Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, from Theresa Letendre, Board Chair, Foothills School Division, re: Changes to Jordan's Principle Supports for Off-Reserve School Boards, dated March 31, 2025
 - Letter to Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, from Theresa Letendre, Board Chair, Foothills School Division, re: Federal Changes to Jordan's Principle and Implications for Alberta's Education System, dated March 31, 2025
 - Letter to Erin Shulko, teacher at Aurora Middle School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated April 1, 2025
 - Letter to Zoey Cardinal, student at Cold Lake Outreach School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated April 1, 2025
 - Email to Laila Goodridge, Member of Parliament Fort McMurray-Cold Lake, from Baillie Cowden, re: Urgent Request for Action to Support Inclusive Education Services, dated April 4, 2025
 - Letter to Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, from Daryl Scott, Board Chair, Wild Rose School Division, re: Inadequate Funding for Transportation, dated April 7, 2025
 - Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, re: Planning Funding Approval for Cold Lake South Solution, dated April 15, 2025
 - Email to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Schools, re: Easter Blessings, dated April 23, 2025
 - Email to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Lakeland Catholic School Division, re: Easter Blessings, dated April 23, 2025
 - Letter to Rick Cusson, Superintendent, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Administration, Glendon School, re: Commencement Ceremony, Class of 2025, dated May 2025
 - Letter to Garry Kissel, Trustee, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Administration, Glendon School, re: Commencement Ceremony, Class of 2025, dated May 2025
 - Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Administration, Glendon School, re: Commencement Ceremony, Class of 2025, dated May 2025
 - Alberta School Boards' Association, 2025 Awards Program, re: Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award, dated April 14, 2025

146. Moved by Trustee Kissel to accept the correspondence file as information only.

CARRIED.



CLOSED MEETING

147. Moved by Trustee Young to convert to a closed meeting at 2:05 P.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 2:09 P.M. and reconvened at 2:20 P.M.

NOTE: Deputy Superintendent Irvine left the meeting at 3:02 P.M.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

148. Moved by Trustee Edwards to revert to a regular public meeting at 3:50 P.M.

CARRIED.

149. Moved by Trustee Lozinski to approve the selected **Board Policy No. 22 - Board Supported Projects/Initiatives** applications up to \$6,300.00.

CARRIED.

150. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to have Clayton Bellamy present with the Board at the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta's Spring General Assembly on June 5, 2025 for \$1,000.00 plus travel expenses.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Packard adjourned the meeting at 3:52 P.M.

K. Packard, Board Chair

K. Jackson, Recording Secretary