

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
K. Jackson	Recording Secretary

Regrets:

J. Irvine	Associate Superintendent
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CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Packard called the meeting to order at 10:06 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

151. The agenda was adopted for this meeting by unanimous consent with the following additions:

- 10.7 Board Supported Initiatives
- 8.9 Public Survey to Inform the Selection and Availability of School Library Books

CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

152. The minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on April 30, 2025 were approved by unanimous consent.

CARRIED.

TRUSTEE/ADMIN INFORMATION ITEMS

Trustee Philips enjoyed J.A. Williams High School's drama presentation of "Maybe Baby, It's You" at Portage College. Trustee Young commented on the milestone award deliveries and the smoothness of the new process. Trustee Ripkens attended the Edwin Parr Awards noting that it was heartwarming to see the commitment through the difficulty of first year teachers. Trustee Edwards attended the Grand Opening of the Strathcona Performing Arts Centre saying it is a beautiful venue. She also attended Bonnyville Centralized High School's (BCHS) performance of Annie which was one of the first school performances at the new theatre. Trustee Edwards attended an Inclusion Alberta workshop at BCHS with great info for both students and parents and mentioned that she would have liked to see more parental involvement. Trustee Edwards attended several School Council meetings and was glad to see they were going through the Alberta Education Assurance Survey results to find a positive path forward. Trustee Edwards was also involved in staff milestone award deliveries. Superintendent Cusson thanked Trustee Norton for being involved in the interviews for the Ecole Plamondon School principalship and congratulated Adrienne Sprecker as the successful candidate. Superintendent Cusson also added "Go Oilers!". Trustee Packard attended BCHS' presentation of Annie as well as Cold Lake High School's performance of Everybody Wants to be the Villain. Trustee Packard thanked Nicole Garner for her work on another successful staff recognition evening. Communications and Public Relations Manager Nicole Garner shared a Good News presentation. Received as information only.

APPOINTMENT: KAREN DRAYCOTT, DIRECTOR OF LEARNING GRADES 7-12 AND LORRIE MAKEPEACE, DIRECTOR OF LEARNING GRADES K-6

Karen Draycott, Director of Learning Grades 7-12 Presented the Enhanced Programming Accountability Report and discussed the new Collegiate Application Approval. Received as information only.

COLLEGIATE APPLICATION

Karen Draycott, Director of Learning Grades 7-12 reviewed and answered questions regarding the new Collegiate Application Approval. Received as information only.

LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES APPROVAL

153. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to approve the Locally Developed Courses presented by Karen Draycott, Director of Learning Grades 7-12 as attached as **Appendix "A"** to these minutes.

CARRIED.

EDUCATION PLAN APPROVAL

154. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve the Northern Lights Public Schools' Education Plan as presented by Karen Draycott and Lorrie Makepeace, Directors of Learning.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 11:13 A.M. and convened at 11:24 A.M.

APPOINTMENT: STUDENT PRESENTATION BY MAKENNA MAKARUK, GLENDON SCHOOL

Makenna Makaruk, a grade seven student from Glendon School, made a presentation to the Board as the winner of the Invictus Games 2025 - ATCO Student Competition winner. Received as information only.

NOTE: The Board recessed for lunch at 11:47 A.M. and reconvened at 12:40 P.M.

CLOSED MEETING

155. Moved by Trustee Edwards to convert to a closed meeting at 12:41 P.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: Trustee Skogen left the meeting at 1:50 P.M.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

156. Moved by Trustee Phillips to revert to a regular public meeting at 2:00 P.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 2:01 P.M. and reconvened at 2:15 P.M.

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 Summary (April) - Secretary-Treasurer

Committees

1. ASBA/Zone 2/3
2. PSBAA
3. Student Achievement Committee

BOARD BUSINESS

NORTHERN LIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS CAPITAL UPDATE

Received as information only.

TRANSPORTATION FEES APPROVAL

157. Moved by Trustee Edwards to implement a \$140 annual ridership fee for all students accessing student transportation services beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, to a maximum of three riders per household, in response to ongoing increases in transportation costs and the fact that provincial funding has not kept pace with the actual expenses of providing student transportation in rural Alberta. This new fee is necessary to help offset the shortfall between funding and actual costs. It will apply in addition to any existing transportation-related fees, including in-town transportation fees for unfunded riders.

CARRIED.

BUS CONTRACTOR RATE APPROVAL

158. Moved by Trustee Kissel to approve the 2025/2026 base bus contractor rates as recommended by administration.

CARRIED.

TRUSTEE BUDGET

159. Moved by Trustee Ripkens to rescind Board Motion #188, passed on April 2, 2020.

CARRIED.

160. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve scheduling five virtual meetings during the 2025/2026 school year to reduce Board expenditures.

CARRIED.

161. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve the addition of a quarter-day increment to the Trustee Compensation Form.

CARRIED.

162. Moved by Trustee Edwards to approve a pause in attending international conferences and conferences requiring airfare for Trustees for the 2025/2026 school year.

CARRIED.

163. Moved by Trustee Edwards to remove committee member minimums and set a committee member maximum of three for all Committees of the Board for the 2025/2026 school year and to update the corresponding Board Policy accordingly.

CARRIED.

164. Moved by Trustee Edwards to request administration provide options for ways the Board can review the Trustee Budget on a more regular basis.

CARRIED.

NOTE: The Board recessed at 4:02 P.M. and reconvened at 4:13 P.M.

BUDGET APPROVAL

165. Moved by Trustee Kissel to approve in principle the Budget for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented by the Secretary-Treasurer, to bring back for final approval prior to the extended submission date of June 20, 2025.

CARRIED.

NAME CHANGE FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN INSTITUTIONS

166. Moved by Trustee Lozinski to approve the name change from the Youth Assessment Centre to Elk Lodge School to align the school name with the facility's name as requested by the Alberta Provincial Campus-Based Care Centre.

CARRIED.

PUBLIC SURVEY TO INFORM THE SELECTION AND AVAILABILITY OF SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS

Received as information only.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received the following correspondence as information only:

- Letter to Royce Cote, student at Kikino School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated May 1, 2025
- Letter to Alice Normand, teacher at Cold Lake Junior High School, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Shining Star Award, dated May 1, 2025
- Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Robert Jorgensen, Administrator, Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement, re: Attendance at June 11, 2025 Board Meeting, dated May 5, 2025
- Letter to Honourable Brian Jean, Minister of Energy and Minerals, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Appreciation for Vera M. Welsh Elementary School Announcement, dated May 9, 2025

- Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Carla Babiuk, Principal, Cold Lake High School, re: Graduation Ceremony, dated May 13, 2025
- Letter to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from the Honourable Demetrios Nicholaides, Minister of Education, re: Collegiate Application, dated May 22, 2025
- Letter to the Honourable Mandy Gull-Masty, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Indigenous Services Canada and Jordan's Principle, dated May 27, 2025
- Letter to Laila Goodridge, MP Fort McMurray-Cold Lake, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Congratulations of Re-Election, dated May 27, 2025
- Letter to Shannon Stubbs, MP Lakeland, from Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, re: Congratulations of Re-Election, dated May 27, 2025
- Email to Karen Packard, Board Chair, Northern Lights Public Schools, from Shannon Stubbs, MP Lakeland, re: Thank you for Congratulatory Letter, dated May 27, 2025
- Program for Cold Lake High School's presentation of "Everybody Wants to be the Villain"
- Playbill from Bonnyville Centralized High School's presentation of "Annie"
- Program from Northern Lights Public Schools' Staff Recognition Night "Ready, Set, Glow" theme
- Program from the Strathcona Performing Arts Centre Grand Opening
- Program from J.A. Williams High School's presentation of "Maybe, Baby, It's You"
- Invitation from Lac La Biche Outreach School for their Open House
- Invitation from Crossroads Outreach School for their Open House
- Invitation from Cold Lake Outreach School for their Open House
- Invitation from Bonnyville Outreach School for their Open House
- Invitation from Journeys Outreach School for their Open House

167. Moved by Trustee Edwards to accept the correspondence file as information only.

CARRIED.

CLOSED MEETING

168. Moved by Trustee Kissel to convert to a closed meeting at 4:31 P.M.

CARRIED.

NOTE: Trustee Kissel left the meeting at 5:19 P.M.

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

169. Moved by Trustee Edwards to revert to a regular public meeting at 5:27 P.M.



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Northern Lights School Division
May 28, 2025
10:00 AM
Bonnyville Division Office Boardroom**

CARRIED.

MOTIONS COMING OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

170. Moved by Trustee Young to approve Trustee Edwards or Trustee Ripkens to attend the Bonnyville Administrative Interviews depending on the date and availability.

CARRIED.

171. Moved by Trustee Norton to approve Glendon School's Board Supported Initiative up to \$3000.00.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Packard adjourned the meeting at 5:29 P.M.

K. Packard, Board Chair

K. Jackson, Recording Secretary