THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SECOND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026 - 6:30 P.M.

Present: Trustees Eleanor Ashe, Lawrence Badanai, Leanne Fonso, Dina McFarlane, Sarah Pelletier, Tony Romeo, Francis Veneruz; Student Trustees Via Kembel, Christina Tassone, Madeline Wood

Administration: JP Tennier, Brent Mandryk, Allison Sargent, Frank Lacaria

Guests: Jill Thompson, Manager of Employee Services; Tesa Fiddler, Coordinator of Indigenous Education; Ryan McWhirter, System Principal; Grace Pocion, Coordinator of Elementary Programs; John Power, Coordinator of Secondary Programs; Melanie Biesenthal, Coordinator of Math

Regrets: Trustee Lawrence Badanai

Recorder: Kim Strickland, Executive Assistant

1.	CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER Chair Veneruz called the meeting to order. Trustee Pelletier read the Land Acknowledgement. Fr. Ciarán Donnelly led the opening prayer.
2.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA Moved by Trustee Romeo Seconded by Trustee McFarlane **THAT** THE AGENDA FOR THE SECOND REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026, BE APPROVED. RES #B3789 CARRIED
3.	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST "Pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, 1983, the following Trustees disclosed their interest and stated the general nature of their interest:" NIL
4.	IN-CAMERA (CLOSED) SESSION Moved by Trustee Pelletier Seconded by Trustee Ashe **THAT** THE BOARD NOW RESOLVE INTO IN-CAMERA (CLOSED) SESSION WITH TRUSTEE FONSO IN THE CHAIR TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING: 4.1 - Personnel Matter 4.2 - Personnel Matter 4.3 - Personnel Matter AND **THAT** THIS MEETING SHALL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO SECTION 207(2) OF THE EDUCATION ACT. RES #B3790 CARRIED

5.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
	5.1 First Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Monday, December 8, 2025 Moved by Trustee McFarlane Seconded by Trustee Fonso **THAT** THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FIRST REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025. RES #B3791 CARRIED
6.	DELEGATIONS AND STAFF PRESENTATIONS
	6.1 – INDIGENOUS EDUCATION UPDATE Tesa Fiddler, Coordinator of Indigenous Education, presented an update on some of the FNMI Board Action Plan initiatives for the 2025-2026 school year.
	6.2 – WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN NIGHTS & SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES Ryan McWhirter, System Principal, shared details of the annual Welcome to Kindergarten Nights and provided dates for upcoming school open houses.
	6.3 – KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM UPDATE Ryan McWhirter, System Principal, and Grace Pocion, Coordinator of Elementary Programs, presented Trustees with an update on the new kindergarten curriculum announced by the Ministry of Education on December 17, 2025.
	6.4 – EQAO RESULTS AND COMPARISONS 2024-25 Grace Pocion, Coordinator of Elementary Programs, John Power, Coordinator of Secondary Programs, and Melanie Biesenthal, Coordinator of Math, presented Trustees with a brief overview of the 2024-25 EQAO results.. This included results by school and Board as well as provincial results, comparison of results with other Boards in the region, and considerations and recommendations.
7.	COMMITTEE REPORTS
	7.1 – STUDENT TRUSTEE UPDATE Student Trustees provided verbal updates on activities at the high schools.
8.	REPORT OF THE IN-CAMERA SESSION
	Moved by Trustee Romeo Seconded by Trustee Pelletier **THAT** WE RISE AND REPORT PROGRESS AND ASK SIT IN PUBLIC SESSION. RES #BIC2704 CARRIED Moved by Trustee Romeo Seconded by Trustee Pelletier **THAT** THE REPORT OF THE IN-CAMERA SESSION BE APPROVED. RES #B3792 CARRIED
9.	ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION
10.	ITEMS OF INFORMATION

	10.1 – BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SCHOOL ACTIVITIES Superintendent Lacaria gave a brief overview of the events held during the annual week for Bullying Prevention and Awareness. Trustees were provided with a link to an electronic list of all school activities.
	10.2 – SEAC MINUTES Superintendent Allison Sargent presented the minutes of the SEAC meeting from November 19, 2025.
	ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER (Trustee Pelletier) Moved by Trustee Seconded by Trustee **THAT** THE SECOND REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026, ADJOURN AT 8:05 P.M. RES #B3793 CARRIED

CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD	SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

February 9, 2026
DATE