



Finance and Property Committee

Tuesday, May 5, 2026
Schumacher Board Office and Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Brush, Chair
Jonathan Byer
Dennis Draves
Larry Wiwchar

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENCES

Doug Walsh

OBSERVERS

Brian Peever	Trustee (arrived 4:48 pm)
Rosemary Pochopsky	Trustee
Cindy Pye-Reasbeck	Trustee

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Lesleigh Dye	CEO
Lisa Edwards	Superintendent of Business/Finance
Kirsten Elvestad	Acting Superintendent of Education
Al McLean	Superintendent of Human Resources
Chad Mowbray	Acting Superintendent of Education

STAFF PRESENT

Andréanne Denis	Communications Manager
Melanie Demers	Executive Assistant to the Director of Education

RECORDING SECRETARY

Jessica Hardy	Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Business/Finance
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CALL TO ORDER

The Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, Bob Brush called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE
DRAVES

THAT the Finance and Property Committee approve the absence of Trustee Walsh from the May 5, 2026, Finance and Property Committee meeting.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
DRAVES

THAT the agenda for the Finance and Property Committee Meeting dated May 5, 2026, be approved with the following addition under new business:
5.1) Non-Cash Donations

CARRIED

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Trustees declaring a conflict of interest were asked to do so in writing, with a log kept on file by the Board Chair. Trustees declaring a conflict are to disconnect from Microsoft Teams at the time of the discussion and will receive a text from the Director of Education / Secretary of the Board when they are welcome to join.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
BYER

THAT the minutes of the Finance and Property meeting dated April 7, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS
NIL

STAFF REPORTS

SCHUMACHER HISTORICAL SOCIETY-HERITAGE PROPERTY

Superintendent of Business reported that the Schumacher Historical Society has withdrawn their request to designate Schumacher Public School as a heritage property.

WIWCHAR

RECOMMENDATION: That the committee will follow the intent of the letter received by Mr. Solomon on April 24, 2026.

CARRIED



NEW BUSINESS
NON-CASH DONATIONS

Trustee Wiwchar initiated a discussion on the need for improved inventory on non-cash donations to the Board, such as real estate, vehicles, and art and technology.

Superintendent of Business clarified that all donations are recorded in the Board's books and taxable receipts issued but acknowledged that records for items donated over 30 years ago may not be available; recent donations are accounted for and reflected in the financial statements.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT background information be prepared for this topic and sent to the Chair of the Finance and Property Committee for the next agenda setting meeting, to be added to the next regular Finance and Property Committee meeting agenda for discussion.

TRUSTEE MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (PREVIOUS MEETING)
SMOOTH ROCK FALLS SECONDARY SCHOOL

MOTION: THAT all DSB1 Students from Smooth Rock Falls have the choice to receive education in Smooth Rock Falls.

Trustee Draves brought forth a motion regarding the option for all DSB1 students from Smooth Rock Falls to receive education locally, reviewing historical context, current enrolment, facility leasing and the feasibility of re-establishing grade 7-12 programming.

Superintendent of Business provided a summary of the 2011 decision to bus secondary students from Smooth Rock Falls to Kapuskasing, the subsequent closure and leasing of the local school facility and current enrolment figures for grades 7-12 students attending school in Kapuskasing.

There was discussion around the current ease to NEOFACS for childcare, the availability for space of educational programming and the process for reclaiming repurposing the facility for secondary education.

The committee also discussed the challenges of providing a full secondary program for a small number of students including the need for qualified teachers, the likelihood of online learning and the associated costs with staff asked to research and report on the aspects.

The Director of Education noted the existence of a moratorium on school closures and new school openings unless there is significant space pressure and committed to confirming with the Ministry Board's ability to reopen or repurpose the facility.

The committee confirmed receipt of correspondence from the Town of Smooth Rock Falls and Trustee Hewey's report after attending the town council meeting on April 20, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION: The matter has been referred to staff for further research and the Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee for discussion about programming and pathways to graduation.



TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTION (DISCUSSION FOR NEXT MEETING)

NIL

ADJOURNMENT

BYER

THAT this Finance and Property Committee now adjourn.

CARRIED

The committee adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Leanne M. Dye'.

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Robert Brunel'.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE