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Overview

The Board of Trustees of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District held a regular public meeting at Waterford Valley High School in St. John's, November 25, 2017. The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the start of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Below are highlights of the meeting.

Catchment & School Reviews

Following extensive consultation with the school community and a thorough review by trustees, new student attendance zones for East Point Elementary and Mary Queen of Peace Elementary were approved. Zones will be realigned so that students within East Point Elementary's Exclusive Family Responsibility Zone (with the exception of Gregory Street, Lucyrose Lane and Gerard Place) attend East Point Elementary effective September 2018.

The six School System Review Processes which have been underway this year were approved to move forward for further consideration by the school communities.

- James Cook Memorial School System - proposed closure of James Cook Memorial with students to attend White Hills Academy;
- Appalachia High School System - proposed consolidation of Our Lady of Mercy Elementary and Appalachia High School;
- St. James Regional High School System - proposed closure of LeGallais Memorial with students attending either St. James Elementary/ High or Grandy's River Collegiate;
- H.L. Strong Academy School System - proposed closure of H.L. Strong Academy;
- Point Leamington Academy School System - proposed closure of Leading Tickles Primary with students to attend Point Leamington Academy; and,
- Swift Current Academy School System - proposed closure of Swift Current Academy with students to attend Tricentia Academy.

Further information is available online through the District website. If approved at the February meeting of the Board, proposed changes would take effect September, 2018.

Naming of the New Intermediate School

Trustees approved Brookside Intermediate as the name of the new grades 5-9 school in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's. The school council undertook a consultation process where the name was voted on by the school community and provided to the Board for approval.

Approved Motions

Following a review of the coordinating organization and school community concerns brought forward to the District, trustees discussed Operation Christmas Child. Trustees passed a motion to direct all District schools to cease participation in this activity. Additionally, trustees directed staff to develop guidelines for schools regarding their interactions with outside or third party organizations who wish to participate or organize activities within District schools.

Director's Report

CEO/Director of Education (Interim) Tony Stack presented the Director's Report which included progress on the 2017-2020 strategic plan. The report also provided information on opening celebrations for new schools, the Aspiring Leaders and Beginning Teachers conferences, and highlighted interesting student news and initiatives.