

Strawberry Marsh Rd  
Saturday, April 12, 2014  
9:30 a.m  
**April 12, 2014**

## **1. OPENING**

A meeting of the Newfoundland & Labrador School Board was held on Saturday, April 12, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by the Chair, Milton Peach.

Members present: Milton Peach, Chair  
Goronwy Price  
Guy Elliott  
Nada Borden  
John George  
George Sheppard  
Rick Martin  
Eric Snow  
Fred Douglas  
Wayne Lee  
Newman Harris  
John McCarthy  
Kim Cheeks  
Gary Baikie  
Don Brown

Also in attendance: Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education  
Jackie Crane, Executive Assistant  
Heather Hillier, SAO  
Jeff Thompson, Associate Director of Education  
Gerald Buffett, Assistant Director of Education  
Mr. Larry Blanchard, Assistant Director of Education  
Ken Morrissey, Director of Communications

The Chair welcomed the trustees and staff to the meeting. He also welcomed the public and the media. He asked to amend the agenda to include one additional piece of correspondence regarding approval to fund copy/print services for the District. Due to the public attendance for the outcome of the Mount Pearl /Goulds motions, we are moving that item to the beginning of the meeting.

## 2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** The Board agreed unanimously to adopt the amended agenda. (Goronwy Price/Fred Douglas ) *Carried*

## 3. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

3.1 The minutes of March 8, 2014, Board meeting were adopted as presented. ( Eric Snow/Newman Harris ) *Carried*

## 4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

No business arising.

## 5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### 5.1 **FINANCE & OPERATIONS – March 8, 2014**

Trustee, Ms. Nada Borden, Chair of the Finance & Operations Committee provided an overview of the Committee meeting held on March 8, 2014 and brought forward the following recommendation for the Board's consideration and approval:

#### **School Lockdown Policy**

The draft policy outlines the procedures to be followed by schools in the event of a perceived or actual threat to a school population. In addition, the companion handbook has been issued to Administrators for their review and feedback.

The policy and handbook have been prepared based upon consolidation of the applicable policies and procedures of the four predecessor school boards as well as consultation with both the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who reviewed and agreed with wording of the overall policy and noted the importance of setting procedures between police and schools including drills within schools throughout the school year in conjunction with RCMP and RNC. Consultations were also held with all principals and SEO's on this policy.

**MOTION:** That the Board, approve the Lockdown and Secure Schools Policy as tabled at the March 8, 2014 meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee. (Nada Borden/George Sheppard) *Carried*

#### **Newfoundland Power Inc. and Bell Aliant Regional Communications Easement – Millcrest Academy**

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District received a request from Newfoundland Power Inc. and Bell Aliant Regional Communications to have an easement signed for the area behind Millcrest Academy in Grand Falls-Windsor. This easement was previously approved however, the easement was not signed. An email from the previous Manager of Procurement for Nova Central School District was forwarded advising that approval was granted and that documents should be forwarded for signature (dated July 28, 2011).



**MOTION:** That the Board, approve the utility easement for Millcrest Academy as requested by Newfoundland Power Inc. and Bell Aliant Regional Communications as tabled at the March 8, 2014 meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee of the Board. (Nada Borden/John George) *Carried*

### **Splash Centre – Harbour Grace Primary Lease**

The Splash Centre is a part of the Harbour Grace Community Youth Network. Its mandate is to provide support to area youth through support with employment, education, health counseling and recreational activities.

The Splash Centre has operated in the former St. Paul's Elementary in Harbour Grace under a lease with the former Eastern School District. In fall 2013 the St. Paul's facility was transferred from the school district to the Department of Health for use as a health care facility, and accordingly the Splash Centre must relocate.

Harbour Grace Primary closed in June 2013 and has been identified as a potential site to which the Splash Centre could relocate. In accordance with the motion approved at the September 23, 2013 meeting of the Transition Board, steps are being taken to complete the transfer of the facility to the Department of Health for use by the Eastern Health Authority. Eastern Health has requested that the Splash Centre be permitted to relocate to the Harbour Grace Primary facility while they undertake their own due diligence process on the facility.

**MOTION:** That the Board, grant approval to lease space at the Harbour Grace Primary facility to the Splash Centre for the 16 month period March 2014 to June 2015, subject to Ministerial approval. (Nada Borden/George Sheppard) *Carried*

### **Revised Deed of Conveyance – Memorial Academy, Wesleyville**

The former Memorial Academy in Wesleyville closed in June 2010. Disposition of the property to E. and K. Holdings Inc. for \$5,100 had been approved by the former Nova Central School District and the Minister of Education, with the Deed of Conveyance executed. Upon further review it was determined that the following changes were required:

- Change the name of the purchaser from E and K Holdings LTD to E. and K. Holdings Inc. to reflect the proper legal name of the purchaser.
- Change the name of the vendor from Nova Central School District to Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board to reflect the September 1, 2013 transition to a single school board.
- Modification of language to ensure clarity regarding transfer of ownership.

The revised Deed of Conveyance has been reviewed and accepted by legal counsel for the purchaser and the District's legal counsel.

**MOTION:** That the Board, grant approval to execute the revised Deed of Conveyance, subject to Ministerial approval. (Nada Borden/Don Brown) *Carried*



## 5.2 FINANCE & OPERATIONS – March 31, 2014

Trustee, Ms. Nada Borden, Chair of the Finance & Operations Committee provided an overview of the Committee meeting held on March 31, 2014 and brought forward the following recommendation for the Board's consideration and approval:

### **Name Proposal – Waterford Valley High School**

A joint submission was received from Bishops College School Council and Booth Memorial School Council recommending the name “Waterford Valley High School” to the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District for the new school under construction in the west end of St. John's.

Members from both School Councils embarked on a month-long process to solicit suggestions and rationales from their school communities. Information was also taken into consideration from focus groups with students, and consultation with members of the public in-person. There was some discussion on the selection process and feedback from communities. It was pointed out that the District did receive some complaints regarding the choice of name.

**MOTION:** That the Board approve of the name “Waterford Valley High School” for the new school under construction in the west end of St. John's as tabled at the March 31, 2014 meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee of the Board. (Nada Borden/Goronwy Price) *Carried*

## 5.3 PROGRAMS & HUMAN RESOURCES- March 8, 2014

Trustee Fred Douglas, Chair of Programs & Human Resources Committee provided an overview of the committee meeting held on March 8, 2014.

### **Consideration of Draft Policy ‘Child Protection’**

It was noted that only two of the previous 4 boards had a written policy in place. The policy in the former Western School District spoke more to police engagement while the former Eastern School District policy was geared more towards administration practices. The new policy has been vetted through the Senior Education Officers who are key players for matters relating to child protection, and the SEOs also vetted through some school administrators.

Following some discussion by the Trustees it is decided to add an explicit statement that notification to the school district is required. The obligation to report the incident to the district must be clear.

**MOTION:** That the Board approve the Child Protection Policy as tabled at the March 8, 2014 meeting of the Programs and Human Resources Committee of the Board with the noted changes. (Fred Douglas/John McCarthy) *Carried*

### **Consideration of Draft Policy ‘Teacher and School Administrator Growth and Appraisal’**

A brief synopsis of this policy was provided. It was noted that there were 4 policies already in place in the former boards. The new policy has been pulled together from all the old policies and has been vetted through all the appropriate personnel throughout the province. Part of this policy focuses more on



professional growth. Performance appraisal and support will be a key element. Much of these details and making this process more efficient will come through in the regulations. Mr. Buffett noted that they want to build a collaborative process that is supportive of teachers. Mr. Buffett pointed to the fact that most teachers are employed with the district for 30 years, and it is therefore important to be supportive at the outset. As an example of simplifying some matters for efficiency, a previously used booklet that was about 30 pages long has now been condensed down to 13 pages. Also, as many documents/forms as possible are being moved into electronic format, for efficiency and tracking purposes. A principal can now use a simpler more effective tool to assist in the appraisal process and provide the required professional support for teachers.

**MOTION:** That the Board approve the Teacher and School Administrator Growth and Appraisal Policy as tabled at the March 8, 2014 meeting of the Programs and Human Resources Committee of the Board. (Fred Douglas/Gary Baikie) *Carried*

### **Consideration of Draft Policy ‘Teacher Leave’**

This policy is a combination of 4 teacher leave policies from the previous boards. All were very consistent. Some minor changes will come in the regulations but the overarching scope is consistent throughout the province.

**MOTION:** That the Board approve the Teacher Leave Policy as tabled at the March 8, 2014 meeting of the Programs and Human Resources Committee of the Board. (Fred Douglas/John McCarthy) *Carried*

### **5.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT- March 7, 2014**

Trustee Goronwy Price, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee provided an overview of the committee meeting held on March 7, 2014. **No motions to bring forward.**

### **5.5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT- March 14, 2014**

Trustee Goronwy Price, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee provided an overview of the committee meeting held on March 14, 2014. **No motions to bring forward.**

### **5.6 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT- March 23, 2014**

Trustee Goronwy Price, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee provided an overview of the committee meeting held on March 23, 2014 and brought the following recommendations forward for the Boards consideration and approval

### **TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC HEARINGS**

At the March 14, 2014 Executive Committee teleconference there was a discussion around the requirement for attendance at the public hearings. Some trustees had expressed their concern over attending public hearing through teleconference.

The consensus of the March 14 meeting was to write a letter to the Department of Education requesting additional funding to provide financial support for all trustees to attend the public hearings. The Department have confirmed they will provide the additional funding.



**MOTION:** That the Board, approve for all trustees to attend Multi-year planning sessions pending funding availability. (Goronwy Price/Guy Elliott) *Carried*

## 5.7 EDUCATION FOUNDATION REPORT

Chair of the Education Foundation, Trustee McCarthy, provided a verbal update which included a legal name change. He also provided an update on the requests from schools for grants to proceed with some very worthwhile projects. He also provided a short update on scholarships.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### 6.1 NLESD Reconfiguration Paradise, Mount Pearl & Goulds-

The Director gave an overview to the public and media by PowerPoint presentation of the process followed to arrive at this meeting today with the Trustees ready to vote on the following motions:

#### **Goulds School System- Motion**

**WHEREAS** the Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

**WHEREAS** a reorganization of schooling is required to achieve that objective,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that Goulds Elementary be reconfigured from a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school at present to a Kindergarten to Grade 5 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

St. Kevin's Junior High School be reconfigured from a Grade 7 to Grade 9 school at present to a Grade 6 to Grade 8 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

St. Kevin's High School be reconfigured from Grade 10 to Grade 12 school at present to a Grade 9 to Grade 12 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year. (Goronwy Price/John McCarthy) *Carried*

#### **Mount Pearl Senior High School System- Motion**

**WHEREAS** the Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

**WHEREAS** a reorganization of schooling is required to achieve that objective,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that Morris Academy be reconfigured from a Kindergarten to Grade 4 school at present to a Kindergarten to Grade 5 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

that Mount Pearl Intermediate be reconfigured from a Grade 5 to Grade 9 school at present to a Grade 6 to Grade 8 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year and be accommodated in the current Mount Pearl



Senior High building, and

that Mount Pearl Senior High be reconfigured from a Grade 10 to Grade 12 school at present to a Grade 9 to Grade 12 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year and be accommodated in the current Mount Pearl Intermediate building. (Goronwy Price/Nada Borden) *Carried*

### **O'Donel High School System- Motion**

**WHEREAS** the Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

**WHEREAS** a reorganization of schooling is required to achieve that objective,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the current catchment areas for St. Peter's Elementary and Newtown Elementary be combined into one catchment area for both schools beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

St. Peter's Elementary be reconfigured from a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school at present to a Kindergarten to Grade 3 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

that Newtown Elementary be reconfigured from a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school at present to a Grade 4 to Grade 6 school beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

that all Early French Immersion students in St. Peter's Elementary and Newtown Elementary feed to St. Peter's Junior High beginning the 2014-2015 school year, and

that the Board request an extension to St. Peter's Elementary and St. Peter's Junior High School to meet the programming needs of the school communities. (Goronwy Price/John George) *Carried*

Trustee McCarthy spoke to the Board regarding his views and felt that a catchment review should be completed and that K-6 should be maintained. He asked the other Trustees to vote against this motion.

Trustee Sheppard spoke to the Board and also felt that a catchment realignment would be the best for the students and asked that the Trustees vote against the motion.

**The motion was carried by a vote of 11 to 3.**

### **6.2 NLESD Constitution (Draft)**

In recognition that the Board has not had the opportunity since our last meeting to discuss and finalize the proposed electoral zones for the District, to be included in the Constitution:

**MOTION:** I move to **defer debate and vote** on the Constitution as presented, to the next regular meeting of the Board. (Nada Borden/Gary Baikie) *Carried*



**6.3 NLESD By-Laws** provided for information purposes only, will be voted on at June meeting.

**6.4 Newfoundland & Labrador Federation of School Councils AGM**

Trustee John George attended the AGM on behalf of the Board and provided a verbal report to the Board. He acknowledged the support the School Councils provide to our schools. He also acknowledged the input they have provided to the District's Strategic Plan. He felt it was a very positive and productive weekend.

**7. Correspondence**

**7.1** Correspondence from Minister- Strategic Plan Approval

**7.2** Correspondence from Minister- New school for Paradise

**7.3** Correspondence from Minister- Funding for Strategic Planning

**7.4** Correspondence from Minister- Funding approval for Photocopiers

**8. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION (Fred Douglas)**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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Chair

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Recording Secretary

