

June 14, 2014

Programs & Human Resources Committee

1. OPENING

The Programs & Human Resources Committee meeting of the Newfoundland & Labrador English School Board was held by on Saturday, June 14, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by the Chair, Fred Douglas.

Members present: Fred Douglas, Chair
Goronwy Price
John McCarthy
Eric Snow
Kim Cheeks
Rick Martin

Regrets: Gary Baikie

Also in attendance: Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education
Jeff Thompson, Associate Director of Education
Peggy Walsh, Administrative Assistant - Programs

The Chair, Fred Douglas, welcomed the trustees and staff to the meeting and thanked all for making the time to attend the Programs and Human Resources Committee meeting of the NLESD.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by John McCarthy, seconded by Eric Snow, and carried unanimously that the agenda be adopted as presented.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Goronwy Price, seconded by Eric Snow, and carried unanimously that the minutes of the June 2nd, 2014 meeting be adopted as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

No Business Arising

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Consideration of Draft Policy 'Student Search and Seizure'

Jeff Thompson, Associate Director, began the discussion of the 'Student Search and Seizure' policy and noted that this policy was brought forward at the previous committee meeting on June 2nd, 2014. At the June 2nd meeting the committee agreed that they wanted to make sure the policy was well situated within case law. There was also an oversight under the policy scope which included the word "staff" in the policy. That has since been removed.

Jeff noted that since the June 2nd meeting, Heather Hillier, Senior Administrative Officer has reviewed the policy and the case law related to student searches. A summary of this review was earlier sent to committee members. It was recommended that the governance policy be approved based on this review. Furthermore, it was noted that once the administrative regulations are developed, they will be vetted through legal counsel to ensure everything is in line from a legal perspective.

MOTION: **Moved by Rick Martin, seconded by Kim Cheeks, and carried unanimously that the Programs and Human Resources Committee recommend to the Board, approval of the Student Search and Seizure Policy as tabled at the June 14, 2014 meeting of the Programs and Human Resources Committee of the Board.**

5.2 Social Media Working Group Update

The Chair introduced the Social Media topic and asked Mr. Thompson to give an update and a presentation on recent studies about the topic of sexting. Jeff noted that the update and presentation is in response to what the committee decided at its April 12, 2014 meeting. Jeff also noted that the presentation being shared was developed by Dave Dyer, our Itinerant Teacher for Safe and Caring Schools.

After a 15 minute presentation on data relating to two studies on sexting (one American study and one Canadian study), a brief discussion ensued. It was noted that the data suggested students use the internet to gather information about sexual health, relationships, mental health and other important, productive and positive matters. However, the bottom line is that both studies confirm the prevalence of sexting as an issue that needs to be addressed on many levels, including at home and at school. On this note, Jeff informed the committee that the district is getting ready to launch a series of age-appropriate lesson plans (i.e., K-3, Gr. 4-6, Gr. 7-9, and Gr. 10-12) for the coming school year that teachers across grade levels can use to help inform students about the importance of being media smart.

Darrin Pike, Director of Education, noted that the technology-based and rapidly changing issues relating to being media smart cannot be addressed with one static lesson plan to be used annually. As such, the resources and lesson plans available for use will be updated annually.

5.3 Discussion on Amendment to Policy 'Student Supervision'

The Chair addressed the committee on this matter to ensure the Programs and Human Resources Committee minutes accurately reflect the business of the committee. He noted that the 'Student Supervision' policy that was previously approved at the June 2nd, 2014 Programs and Human Resources Committee had undergone a friendly amendment on Tuesday, June 10th, 2014 because of work being done on the Athletics policy that necessitated the amendment in order to ensure practical Athletics policies



and regulations. The June 2 version of the policy and the June 10th amended version were presented to the board on June 14th 2014, and the Board approved the June 10th version as recommended by the committee.

Next meeting: To be determined

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

