

Strawberry Marsh Rd
Tuesday, September 20, 2016
7:00 PM

***Board Meeting Minutes
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD***

1. OPENING

A meeting of the Newfoundland & Labrador School Board was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by the Chair, Milton Peach.

Members present:

Milton Peach, Chair
Goronwy Price
Guy Elliott
John George
Eric Snow
Fred Douglas
Wayne Lee
Newman Harris
Nada Borden
Kim Cheeks
George Sheppard

Regrets:

Gary Baikie
Don Brown
Rick Martin

Also in attendance:

Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education
Anthony Stack, Assistant Director of Education
Terry Hall, Assistant Director of Education
Lloyd Collins, Assistant Director of Education
Ken Morrissey, Director of Communications
Cheryl Gullage, Manager of Communications
Jackie Crane, Executive Assistant
Byron Smith, Auditor
Liam Kavanagh, Staff Accountant
Ian Wallace, Legal Council

The Chair welcomed the trustees and staff to this special meeting of the Board. He introduced both scrutineers in place for ballot counting. He acknowledged and welcomed all those in attendance from the community of Whitbourne as well as the media.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: The Board agreed to unanimously adopt the agenda, (Newman Harris/Wayne Lee) *Carried*

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Deferred to next meeting.

4. Business Arising

4.1 Motion to Close Whitbourne Elementary

The Chair reported that the purpose of the meeting was to table a Motion regarding Whitbourne Elementary. The Chair called upon Mr. Stack to advise the Board prior to the vote.

Mr. Tony Stack, Associate Director of Education (Programs and Operations), reviewed the study session which took place today with the board of trustees. The senior staff reviewed the four rationale for closure with the trustees and responded to questions.

In summary the rational discussed were as follows:

- 1) Excess Capacity- we have two schools in close proximity which can be accommodated in Woodland Elementary out to the extent of projections in 2025. The District suggest that it would be more efficient to move a smaller population to a school with a larger population.
- 2) Reduction in annual operating costs. \$203k for support staff salaries, utilities, supplies and fees. \$350 for 3.5 teaching units, total of \$553k.
- 3) Maintenance of programs and program efficiencies- more efficient use of guidance resources, creating a two stream school. Increased opportunity for teachers to collaborate an increases opportunity to employ specialist teachers.
- 4) Facilities- greater expenditure of funds required at Whitbourne Elementary than Woodland Elementary.

Also today the staff again reviewed all the information provided to truwestees the last few weeks over the course of the process.

There were 26 emails with multiple questions answered to the best of our ability within the context of school review.

We received 87 online submissions- 85 opposed and 2 in favour.

We received 3 emails to established feedback email account- all opposed.

We were present for 27 public presentations, all of which were opposed to the motion.

Chair Peach then asked Trustee Price to read the motion.

Mr. Goronwy Price, Vice Chair of the Board read the following motions.

MOTION: it was moved and seconded that a paper ballot be used to conduct the vote regarding the school review of Whitbourne Elementary. (Goronwy Price/Guy Elliott) *Carried*

MOTION: Whitbourne Elementary, K-6 (Whitbourne)

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

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in the Eastern Region is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

Whitbourne Elementary, K-6 (Whitbourne), will close effective June 2017

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that:

Whitbourne Elementary School's Grade K-6 student attendance will be rezoned to attend Woodland Elementary, K-6 (Dildo), effective September 2017. (Goronwy Price/Guy Elliott) Carried

the scrutineers distributed, collected and counted the ballots

MOTION: it was moved and seconded to have paper ballot's destroyed. (Goronwy Price/John George)
Carried

the scrutineers destroyed the ballots

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:15 by motion from Fred Douglas.

Chair

Jackie Crane
Recording Secretary