



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

*Chair: Goronwy Price
C.E.O./Director of Education: Anthony Stack*

**Newfoundland and Labrador English
School Board Minutes**
June 12, 2020

1. OPENING

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board (NLESB) meeting took place on Friday, June 12, 2020 via teleconference. The meeting was called to order by the Chair of the Board, Goronwy Price, at 12:00 PM.

Members present: Mr. Goronwy Price, Chair
Mr. Hayward Blake, Vice-Chair
Mr. Wayne Lee
Ms. Pamela Gill
Mr. Thomas Kendell
Mr. Scott Burden
Mr. Kevin Ryan
Mr. John George
Mr. Steve Tessier
Mr. Peter Whittle
Mr. Raymond Bennett

Regrets: Ms. Jennifer Aspell
Mr. Keith Culleton
Mr. Eric Ayers
Mr. Winston Carter

Also in attendance: Mr. Anthony Stack, CEO/Director of Education
Mr. Ed Walsh, Associate Director of Education (Programs and Human Resources)
Mr. Terry Hall, CFO/Assistant Director of Education (Corporate Services)
Ms. Heather May, Director of Strategic Planning, Policy and Communications
Ms. Susan Tobin, Manager of Policy
Ms. Bernadette Cole-Gendron, Parliamentarian
Ms. Elaine Cross, Executive Assistant

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved by Ray Bennett and seconded by Pamela Gill that the agenda be adopted as presented. (Carried)

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 March 28, 2020 Minutes adopted (Thomas Kendell/John George) Carried

4. Business Arising

4.1 No business arising.

5. Director's Report

Mr. Stack presented the Director's Report to the Board, which highlighted plans for September, infrastructure priorities, and the Strategic Plan 2020-23.

The Chair thanked the Director for his report.

6. Committee Reports

6.1 Executive Committee Report – No Report

6.2 Finance and Operations Committee Report – June 3, 2020

Chair of the Finance and Operations Committee, Trustee Tessier, provided an update to the Board from the June 3, 2020 meeting of the committee. (Details are contained in the committee minutes.)

Central Health Easement Request – Lewisporte Academy

Central Health is constructing a long term care facility in Lewisporte, and require a waterline easement from the District. District staff have determined that there is no adverse effect for the school or District in granting this request.

Motion: That the Board approve the easement required for Central Health in Lewisporte as per the submitted drawing, as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee. (Steve Tessier /John George) Carried.

Other information items are contained in the committee minutes.

MOTION: That the Board approve the Finance and Operations Committee Report of June 3, 2020 as presented. (Steve Tessier / John George) Carried.

6.3 Programs and Human Resources Committee Report – May 28, 2020

In the absence of Committee Chair Trustee Culleton, Mr. Ed Walsh provided an update to the Board from the May 28, 2020 meeting of the committee. (Details are contained in the committee minutes.)



French Immersion – CDLI

Discussion was held at the February 13, 2020 meeting on the potential to offer French Immersion to rural areas through distance learning including the nature of the French Immersion curriculum, the nature of French Immersion learner and the CDLI platform for delivery.

A review on the feasibility of providing French Immersion Programming through CDLI was conducted. This review showed no other jurisdiction across the country offered the Language Arts component of French Immersion programs through Distance Learning platforms. The Program Specialists responsible for French Programming reported on opportunities to make French experiences available to students in all settings and to help students in rural Newfoundland have more exposure to immersive experiences.

District Professional Learning Plan

There are 120 schools embarking on the Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy in preparation for the 2020-21. This is a vast difference from our Phase 1 and 2 Schools that had 40 schools each. In response to this, our Programs staff, who have not yet engaged in working directly with Phase 1 or 2 Schools, have been learning alongside our Phase 3 administrators. This will ensure that come September all 120 schools will have access to support from District Programs staff.

At the start of the new year, NLESD and Early Education and Childhood Development created a joint PL team to work collaboratively on the phase school professional learning. As a result of Covid-19, the team has had to review what purposeful and meaningful learning needed to look like for our teachers in a virtual space. As a result of this work, professional learning is effective and on schedule.

Reimagining Learning - A professional learning plan on how to teach in a virtual environment for all NLESD teachers.

Prior to the end of the school year, every teacher will receive a 1-day PL session on best practices for relationship building, assessment, and teaching in a virtual environment. Included in this will be instruction in how to use Google Meet and Google Classroom, the approved virtual learning tools for our teachers and students. The learning for teachers will continue next year as Programs staff will maintain contact with schools through dedicated google classrooms and will offer additional PL as appropriate.

Two remaining agenda items (Mental Health Initiatives and the District Task Force Report) were deferred to a future meeting.

Trustee Burden suggested that the Programs and Human Resources Committee meet relatively soon to discuss French Immersion.

MOTION: That the Board approve the Programs and Human Resources Committee Report of February 13, 2020 as presented. (Kevin Ryan/Peter Whittle) Carried.

7. New Business

7.1 Education Foundation Report – No Report



7.2 NLISE – April 23, 2020

Mr. Terry Hall provided an update to the Board from the meeting held April 23, 2020. (Details are contained in the NLISE committee minutes.)

Approval of Operating Budget for period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

The budget includes two new initiatives, Deep Learning and ThoughtExchange.

ThoughtExchange

ThoughtExchange is a tool that effectively crowd sources groups of any size to gather real time suggestions and opinions. It is felt all levels of the District from individual teachers, schools, school councils, families of schools, offices, etc. could avail of this valuable resource. Some Principals have already utilized the functionality to generate thoughts from staff on school operations, etc. Given the wide ranging use it was approved to pay for the first three years of the ThoughtExchange contract using NLISE funds of approximately \$160,000 total.

Student Leadership Conference

Donation to the Provincial Student Leadership conference was requested. Given it is NLESD students, it was decided that sponsoring this important Professional Development event for \$5,000 was appropriate.

Coherence – Good at Learning, Good at Life Conference

The District is working to support the system to foster consistent thinking and directions around our student success and engagement. Dr. Michael Fullan has agreed to work with the District for the next three years to help bring this overall thinking to reality. Majority of funding has been requested through a proposal to the McConnell Foundation, a private Canadian Foundation that develops and applies innovative approaches to social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges. The District is required to provide funding for costs it will incur for its staff to engage in this three year process. Given it will reach every office, school and individual in the District it was felt that the NLISE could fund up to \$500,000 (year 1 - \$200,000 and years 2 & 3 \$150,000 each year).

Equity of Access Lease

Terry Hall indicated that an additional meeting may be requested in order to approve NLISE funds to assist with the initiative to provide support for students who do not have easy access to equipment or internet for at home educational purposes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Government funding is anticipated, however, it is expected that the District may require additional funds in order to be able to accommodate the requests from students of NLESD requiring special assistance for at home technology. There could be a potential request for between \$100,000 and \$200,000 from NLISE funds. A future meeting will be required if this is necessary.

In response to Trustee Kendell, Mr. Hall confirmed that the District had approximately 400 international students enrolled (mainly high school) in 2019-20. The District currently has approximately 375 conditionally accepted for September 2020, depending on the pandemic situation at the time.

7.3 School Milk Foundation Report – No Report

7.4 2020-21 School Board Meeting Schedule

Trustees reviewed the proposed board meeting schedule for 2020-21.



BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020-21:

Month	Dates	Location
SEPTEMBER 2020	26 TH / 27 TH	ST. JOHN'S
NOVEMBER 2020 (AGM)	21 ST / 22 ND	ST. JOHN'S
JANUARY 2021	23 RD / 24 TH	ST. JOHN'S
MARCH 2021	6 TH / 7 TH	ST. JOHN'S
APRIL 2021	24 TH / 25 TH	ST. JOHN'S
JUNE 2021	12 TH / 13 TH	TBD

PROPOSED MEETING STRUCTURE SEPTEMBER - JUNE

SATURDAY	8:30 – 5:00 PM BOARD MEETING/WORKING SESSION
SUNDAY	8:30 – 12:00 PM COMMITTEE MEETINGS/WORKING SESSION (AS REQUIRED)

MOTION: That the Board approve the proposed Board Meeting Schedule for the 2020-21 school year as outlined, with the location of one meeting to be determined. (Hayward Blake /Steve Tessier) Carried

8. Correspondence sent to the District

- 8.1 Ministerial Approval – Sale of Land Port-aux-Basques
- 8.2 NLESD Staffing Allocations – 2020-21
- 8.3 Ministerial Approval – 12 and 9 Model Year Buses

9. Correspondence sent from the District

- 9.1 Ministerial Request – Former Bay d’Espoir Academy
- 9.2 Ministerial Request – Quit Claim to RCEC Black Tickle
- 9.3 Ministerial Request – 12 and 9 Model Year Buses
- 9.4 Ministerial Request – Digital Learning for All Funding

10. Adjournment at 12:35 pm by a motion from Trustee John George.

Chair

Recording Secretary

