

May 28, 2020

Programs & Human Resources Committee

1) OPENING

The Programs & Human Resources Committee meeting of the Newfoundland & Labrador English School Board was held on Thursday, May 28, 2020 via Skype. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by the Chair, Keith Cullen.

Members present: Keith Cullen, Committee Chair
Kevin Ryan
Scott Burden
Hayward Blake
Eric Ayers
Pamela Gill

Regrets: Ray Bennett

Also, in attendance: Ed Walsh, Associate Director of Education (Programs & Human Resources)
Georgina Lake, Assistant Director of Education - Student Service - Provincial
Doug Pippy, Director of Educational Programs - Provincial
Niki O'Brien-MacDonald, Director of Learning and Innovation – Provincial
Dan O'Brien, Assistant Director of Education – Programs – Western
Robyn Breen, Director of Student Support Services - Western
Cathy Martin, Administrative Assistant, Programs and Human Resources

2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Scott Burden, seconded by Eric Ayers, and carried unanimously that the agenda be adopted as presented.

3) CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Eric Ayers, seconded by Hayward Blake, and carried unanimously that the

minutes of the February 13,2020 Programs and Human Resources Committee meeting be adopted as presented.

4) Business Arising

4.1 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 the 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.

4.2 Review of Programs & Human Resources Committee Workplan

Reoccurring item for information purposes, Committee members can ask questions on items completed or in progress. Workplan chart provided for updated progress report.

4.3 School Communication Protocol (Severe Behavioral Needs)

Ed Walsh gave a brief update to the Committee. The Programs team is working on programs and services to address severe behavioral needs amongst our broader population and how we support our teachers, students and families.

5) New Business

5.1 District Professional Learning Plan

Virtual Learning – Mr. Doug Pippy (Information)

Education Action Plan – Niki O’Brien-MacDonald (Information)

Doug Pippy, Director of Educational Programs – Provincial and Niki O’Brien-MacDonald, Director of Learning and Innovation – Provincial, conducted a presentation on the District Professional Learning Plan.

There are 120 NLESD schools embarking on the Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy in preparation for the 20-21. This is a vast difference from our Phase 1 and 2 Schools that had 40 schools each. In response to this, our NLESD 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 EECD created a Joint PL team to work collaboratively on the phase school professionally 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, each teacher in the NLESD will receive a 1-day PL 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.

5.2 Mental Health Initiatives – Deferred

Presenters - Dan O'Brien, Assistant Director of Education – Programs (Western Region) and Robyn Breen, Director of Student Support Services (Western Region)

5.3 District Task Force Report -Re-imagining Learning - Deferred

6) Next Meeting

Mr. Walsh will advise the committee of the next meeting date.

7) Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m. Moved by Hayward Blake