



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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

**Newfoundland and Labrador English
School Board Minutes**
January 23, 2021

1. OPENING

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School Board (NLESB) meeting took place on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at the District Conference Centre on Strawberry Marsh Road in St. John's, NL. The meeting was called to order by the Chair of the Board, Goronwy Price, at 2:30 PM.

Members present: Mr. Goronwy Price, Chair
Mr. Wayne Lee, Vice-Chair
Mr. Guy Elliott
Mr. Raymond Bennett (zoom)
Ms. Pamela Gill
Mr. Scott Burden (zoom)
Mr. John George
Mr. Winston Carter
Mr. Kevin Ryan
Ms. Jean Butt
Mr. Eric Ayers
Mr. Steve Tessier

Regrets: Mr. Thomas Kendell

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. Georgina Lake, Assistant Director of Education (Student Services)
Ms. Heather May, Director of Strategic Planning, Policy and Communications
Mr. Justin Hewitt, Parliamentarian
Ms. Elaine Cross, Executive Assistant

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 November 21, 2020 Minutes adopted (John George/Eric Ayers) Carried
- 3.2 November 21, 2020 AGM Minutes adopted (Guy Elliott/Jean Butt) Carried

4. Business Arising

- 4.1 No business arising.

5. Director’s Report

Mr. Stack presented the Director’s Report to the Board, which included highlights from the Fall Report 2020, including the PASS Program, Attendance comparisons, and a Deep Learning, Good at Learning-Good at Life update.

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 – January 12, 2021

Chair of the Finance and Operations Committee, Trustee Tessier, provided an update to the Board from the January 12, 2021 meeting of the committee. (Details are contained in the committee minutes.)

Three motions were brought to the board for approval.

Quarterly Budget Status Update – Period Ended September 30, 2020

Budget Highlights

Total Budget

Original Budget (total)	\$829.28 Million
Revised Budget (total)	836.92 Million
Budget Increase	7.64 Million

Expenses are expected to remain within budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year, although certain expenditures may exceed the approved budget allocation and budget transfers within these categories may be required.

One-time Funding

NLESD has received several allocations of one-time funding to assist with additional expenses resulting from various Covid-19 precautions. Where possible, expenses relating to this funding have been disclosed on the schedules by division. Many of these allocations are intended to cover the 10 month period between September and June, therefore activity on the first quarterly budget report are expected to be lower than subsequent quarters.

The District continues to monitor increasing expenses relating to the Covid-19 pandemic. There are several potential areas of budget pressure, including contracted transportation, salaries and cleaning supplies and PPE.

Motion: That the Board approve the Quarterly Budget Status Update for the period ended September 30, 2020, as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee. (Steve Tessier/John George) Carried.



Name Change Request – District School

Historically, the Avalon East School District's Alexander Street School came to be known as District School when it moved from Alexander Street circa 2000. The name remained for 20 years, however, it is a misnomer, given that it serves a specific geographic region rather than the District as a whole. The nature of the school is they do not have a large or consistent population, thus the traditional naming approaches (e.g. broad community naming competition) do not apply. However, they considered options, students voted and the name Horizon Academy was the winner.

Motion: That the Board approve the renaming of District School to Horizon Academy, as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee. (Steve Tessier/Guy Elliott) Carried.

Sale of Bayview Collegiate – St. Lunaire-Griquet

Bayview Collegiate in St. Lunaire-Griquet was closed by the Western School District several years ago as part of the St. Anthony reorganization/new school (White Hills Academy) project. The District has received a Quit Claim from the Pentecostal Assemblies of NL. There was a previous higher offer for the property to be used in the tourism industry, but the sale was delayed pending the Crown Grant restriction on the property (for a school) being removed. Unfortunately, by the time that happened, the purchaser backed out based on Covid-19 pandemic limiting travel. In the meantime, the unheated property has deteriorated and is simply a liability for NLESD at this point. The present offer, although near immaterial cash value, removes the liability and additionally has the support of the municipality.

Motion: That the Board approve the sale of Bayview Collegiate – St. Lunaire-Griquet for the sum of \$7,000 as recommended by the Finance and Operations Committee, subject to Ministerial approval. (Steve Tessier/Winston Carter) Carried.

MOTION: That the Board approve the Finance and Operations Committee Report of January 12, 2021 as presented. (Steve Tessier/John George) Carried.

Trustee Burden questioned trustee travel to graduations. It has been referred back to the Finance and Operations Committee for discussion at their next meeting and will be brought forward to the next Board meeting.

6.3 Programs and Human Resources Committee Report – January 7, 2021

Chair of the Programs and Human Resources Committee, Trustee Ryan, provided an update to the Board from the January 7, 2021 meeting of the committee. (Details are contained in the committee minutes.)

There were no motions brought forward from this meeting.

Update of Harassment Prevention and Training

Mr. Walsh provided the committee with an update on the harassment prevention and training professional learning sessions provided by the District. As of January 7, 2021 7,567 employees had completed the training and district staff were following up with those that had not.

Programs/HR Work Plan 2020-2021

Committee members discussed progress on the Programs and Human Resources Committee work-plan.



Educational Psychologist Dashboard (Information)

Ms. Georgina Lake, Assistant Director of Education - Student Services presented committee members with an overview of the NLESD Psychologists website. The website, currently under development, will highlight services offered by Educational Psychologists for families, promote positive mental health, and provide resources for students and teachers.

School Semesterization (Discussion)

Currently there are ten schools participating in a pilot project led by the Department of Education. Discussion also focused on the challenge of semesterization in rural schools. The committee requested that an administrator(s) from semesterized schools attend the next meeting to discuss their experiences. The Committee also requested information on the findings from other provinces on semesterization.

Partnerships

There was a brief discussion on the Tech-NL partnership recently announced by the provincial government. It was felt that this partnership would provide added educational opportunities and benefits for students in the District. The Committee asked that this item be added to the working session agenda for the next Board meeting.

MOTION: That the Board approve the Programs and Human Resources Committee Report of January 7, 2021 as presented. (Kevin Ryan/Pamela Gill) Carried.

7. New Business

7.1 Education Foundation Report – No Report

7.2 NLISE – January 14, 2021

Terry Hall provided an update to the Board from the January 14, 2021 meeting of the committee. (Details are contained in the committee minutes.)

Information purposes only, there are no motions for the Board.

Financial Statements for the period ended June 30, 2020

Brief review of statements was provided to inform members of financial stance of NLISE for that period. Revenue for the year ended June 30, 2020 was down by approximately \$200k over the previous year. This decrease is attributed to International Student Program declining enrollment during the second half of the school year as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Motion: It was moved by Goronwy Price, seconded by Kevin Ryan and carried unanimously that the NLISE Financial Statements for the period ended June 30, 2020 be approved as presented. *Carried.*

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

The budget includes new funding for Technology initiatives of up to \$500,000, with \$350,000 noted for the July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 period.

Motion: It was moved by Goronwy Price, seconded by Steve Tessier and carried unanimously that the NLISE Operating Budget for the 12 month period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 be approved as presented. *Carried.*



Approval of funding for ICT

In 2017 there was an initial request for funding for up to \$900,000 over a period of 3 years for ICT initiatives. This funding was exhausted during the 2019-2020 school year. There is a further requirement for funding for ICT initiatives for up to \$500,000.

Motion: It was moved by Kevin Ryan, seconded by Goronwy Price and carried unanimously that the request for funding up to \$500,000 for ICT initiatives be approved as presented. Carried.

7.3 School Milk Foundation Report – September 30, 2020

Trustee Ayers, member of the School Milk Foundation, provided a brief overview of the report from the September 30, 2020 meeting. All details are contained in the minutes, which are included in the board documentation today.

MOTION: That the Board approve the School Milk Foundation Report of September 30 as presented. (Eric Ayers/Jean Butt) Carried.

8. Correspondence sent to the District

- 8.1 Ministerial Approval for Two-Day Closure of Gander Academy
- 8.2 Ministerial Approval for Increase in Substitute Days
- 8.3 Ministerial Approval for Sale of Former Bay d’Espoir Academy
- 8.4 Declared Vacancy – Trustee Zone 15
- 8.5 Ministerial Approval for NLESD Budget Submission 2020-21

9. Correspondence sent from the District

- 9.1 Ministerial Request for Clarendville Primary Disposal
- 9.2 2020-21 NLESD Operating Budget Submission
- 9.3 Trustee Zone 15 Vacancy Request

10. Adjournment to Closed at 3:22 pm by a motion from Trustee Winston Carter.

Chair

Recording Secretary

