



**Tri-County Regional School Board**  
Nova Scotia, Canada

**Students First**

**MINUTES**  
**May 1, 2007**

**APPROVED**  
**May 15, 2007**

**Present:**

***Board Members***

Faye Haley, Chair	Anne Moses
Ron Hines, Vice-Chair	Nick Pippy
Robie Atkinson	Winnie Surette
Joan Brewer	Donna Tidd
Alvin Comeau	

***Staff***

Phil Landry, Superintendent of Schools  
Bill Curry, Director of Programs & Student Services  
Steven Stoddart, Director of Operations  
Joe Hazelton, Communications Officer  
Tanya Forrest, Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary

***Other***

Stephen Amirault, Regional Education Officer

***Regrets***

Janice Francis  
Richard Smith

***Absent***

Alden Fells

A meeting of the Tri-County Regional School Board was held on Tuesday, May 1, 2007. The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**MOTION** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that the meeting move in committee of the whole at 5:32 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that the meeting move in-camera at 5:32 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the meeting move out of in-camera at 6:55 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the meeting move out of committee of the whole at 6:55 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **CALL TO ORDER & NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Board Chair Haley called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and asked Board Member Brewer to lead those present in the singing of the National Anthem.

## **RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Attendance was taken noting that nine Board Members were present which constituted a quorum. Board Member Francis sent regrets.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the agenda be approved with the following additions:

### **Unfinished Business**

- Plymouth Bus

### **Correspondence**

- Letter from Minister Casey

### **New Business**

- Out-of-Province Trip Request from Yarmouth Junior High School
- URB Application

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **ORDER OF THE DAY**

Barry Heffernan, Coordinator of Technology, presented a report on the Technology Department's plan for the integration and rotation of technology within Tri-County Schools. He advised that there are approximately 2850 computers in the Tri-County, 100+ laptops in classrooms and 230+ LCD Projectors, etc. He further noted that in the 2007-2008 school year, there will be 50 computers for the grade 10 students and 200-300 computers expected from the technology recycling program which will be dispersed as per school requests, through the work order system. He noted that some critical issues are equality between old and new schools, aging computers, LCD projectors and servers in new school construction, aging network infrastructure in IEI wired schools, lack of technology support, and reduced provincial funding for IEIE.

Board Chair Haley asked if schools were aware of when they will receive updated computers. Mr. Heffernan stated that all schools know the process, i.e. if they want technology they know how to access it and they are aware of the recycling program and the work order system.

Bill Curry stated that if schools can come up with an educational issue for wanting new computers, they put the request in and staff members review the request.

Board Chair Haley thanked Mr. Heffernan for providing this information to the Board.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the minutes of the meeting held on April 17, 2007 be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

### Behaviour Interventions

Superintendent Landry will investigate with other Boards how Behaviour Support Staff positions work and bring a report back to the Board as soon as possible.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

### Laurie Swim

Steve Stoddard advised that staff members are meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2007 to review the request and a report will be available at the next Board Meeting.

### Confirmation of Addresses of Students

Superintendent Landry distributed a report, at the request of the Board, on options to deal with parents/guardians who are not complying with providing two copies of identification that indicate their civic address. It was noted that parents who have already provided the requested information do not need to provide it yearly, only if they move outside their catchment area.

Superintendent Landry noted that students can attend outside their neighborhood school for accessing programming, transfer request approved by senior staff or Board and grandfathering

The following three options were recommended to deal with those parents/guardians who are not providing proof of civic addresses:

1. Bus drivers will be advised that if they feel that a student is being transported to a school outside their catchment area, they will inform the principal who in turn will verify if the student falls within one of the three reasons noted above. If not, the parents/guardians will be advised that their child(ren) must return to the neighborhood school.
2. Each teacher will be asked to check the cumulative card to see if the students in their class are in the proper catchment area. If not, the parents/guardians will be advised that their child(ren) must return to the neighborhood school.
3. There will be a phone line at the board office where parents can call in to advise if they are aware that some students are attending a school outside the catchment area.

**BD80-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board approve the recommendations in the Report from the Superintendent, Report No. 97-07.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING ...continued**

### Report on Change in Date for Students Entering Grade Primary

A report is not available at this time.

### Plymouth Bus

A report will be available at the next Board Meeting.

## **RISE AND REPORT FROM MEETING IN COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE, IN-CAMERA**

Vice-Chair Hines gave the following report from the Committee of the Whole, In-Camera session.

**BD81-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Moses, that Report no. 86-07, Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

#### Administration:

- HR86-07:01 Brent Jamieson, Principal, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Term, for the 2007/2008 school year

#### Teachers:

- HR86-07:02 Stacey Purdy, Guidance Counselor, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Term, from April 23 to July 31, 2007

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BD82-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that Report no. 90-07, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

#### Teachers:

- HR90-07:01 Natalie LeBlanc, Digby Elementary, resignation effective July 31, 2007

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BD83-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that report no 95-07, Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

#### Administration:

- HR95-07:01 Mark Thornton, Principal, Plymouth School, Permanent, effective August 1, 2007 with a probationary period of one year

#### Teachers:

- HR95-07:02 Ryan Peterson, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, 100% Term, from April 27 to July 31, 2007
- HR95-07:03 Yolanda Reashore, Maple Grove Education Centre, Long Term Substitute, from April 30 to June 29, 2007

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that the following correspondence be received:

- Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School SAC
- Letter from Minister Casey

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School SAC

The YCMHS SAC submitted a letter expressing concerns regarding the possible movement of the Adult High School to the P.A. Best Centre. The SAC stated that although they are not aware of specifics, they have reason to believe that there were problems in the past when the Adult High School was located in the P.A. Best Centre. It was further noted that those students are adults and the proximity to the younger students of the high school and junior high school is of concern. The SAC stated that YCMHS has a need for a 10 classroom expansion, as was outlined in prior redevelopment plans and therefore felt the space would be better used for YCMHS and with the implementation of the IB program, the school will have to move 3 classrooms out of the labs in which they are currently located.

Board Member Moses stated that to her knowledge when the Adult High was moved from P.A. Best, it was not due to any problems but because the Child Care Centre needed to be located on a ground level. Superintendent Landry stated that another reason the Adult High was moved from P.A. Best in the past is because Yarmouth High School was overcrowded and space was needed at P.A. Best. A letter will be sent to the SAC noting the above.

#### Letter from Minister Casey

Minister Casey responded to the Board's request that a Child and Youth Strategy pilot be located within the Tri-County. She advised that an interdepartmental steering committee of senior officials has been established to support the development and implementation of a Child and Youth Strategy pilot as recommended in the Nunn Report. She noted that a senior position reporting to the Minister of Community Services has been created to co-ordinate this initiative and it is expected that this position will be filled by the summer. Minister Casey advised that she will forward the Board's letter to the Department of Community Services for the incoming Executive Director of Youth Strategy and Services. Board Members noted that this position has been filled.

## **DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS**

There were none.

## **REPORTS FROM COORDINATORS AND CONSULTANTS**

**MOTION** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the reports from the Coordinators and Consultants be received.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Crosswalk at Shelburne Regional High School

Board Member Pippy advised that he received several calls from parents regarding the safety of students at the crosswalk by the new Shelburne Regional High School as a caution light is not installed. Board Member Pippy suggested that the Board write a letter to the Department of Transportation and Public Works requesting that a light be installed above the crosswalk on King Street leading to the new Shelburne Regional High School.

**BD84-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Pippy, seconded by Board Member Moses, the a letter be written to Greg Newell, Area Manager of Department of Transportation and Public Works requesting that a light be installed above the crosswalk on King Street leading to the new Shelburne Regional High School.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Suspension Report for April 2007

**MOTION** by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Hines, that the suspension report for April 2007 be received.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### NSSBA School Board Member of the Year Award

The purpose of the NSSBA Board Member of the Year Award is to recognize school board members for their commitment to children and youth as well as to raise public awareness of the role of school board members. Each board has an opportunity to nominate one of their board members for the award. All the nominations are reviewed by an independent selection panel which chooses the recipient. There were no nominations from Board Members for this Award.

### Lease Agreement with Municipality of the District of Digby

The Municipality of the District of Digby and the Town of Digby Industrial Commission requested to enter into a lease agreement with the Board to lease approximately fifty six (56) acres, located on the north side of Highway 217 in Seabrook, to the Board for a period of twenty (20) years commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2007 for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00). The Board will refer the lease agreement to SIP for their review after which time a decision will be made.

### Out-of-Province Trip Request from Yarmouth Junior High School

Yarmouth Junior High submitted a request for 26 students from the grade 9 French Immersion class to go to Quebec City from May 16 to 19, 2007.

**BD85-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that the trip request from Yarmouth Junior High School to Quebec City from May 16 to 19, 2007 be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS ...continued**

### Utility & Review Board (URB) Application

Superintendent Landry advised that every 8 years, Boards have to make application to the URB whether they want to keep the same number of School Board Members or if they want to realign. The URB will review the request and make a decision. Staff will contact all Municipalities to get the election returns from 2004 to prepare a report for the Board's consideration.

## **INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Hines asked Mr. Stoddart that if the land purchased for the Drumlin School walking trail, outdoor classroom for nature studies, etc., now belonged to Transportation and Public Works (TPW). Mr. Stoddart stated that he was made aware of the issue only after Drumlin requested to have the walking trail installed at which time it was discovered that the land had not been transferred to the school.

**BD86-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board write to Transportation and Public Works, with a copy to the Department of Education, regarding the transfer of land from Transportation & Public Works to Drumlin Heights Consolidated School.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Board Member Tidd advised that the Digby Regional High School Envirothon Team came in 1<sup>st</sup> place again this year.

**BD87-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Hines, that the Board write a letter of congratulations to the Digby Regional High School Envirothon Team for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Board Member Tidd advised that Weymouth School received a Library Award in recognition of their outstanding participation in library card month, the registration drive and their interest in the library service. The school also received \$500 worth of books.

**BD88-07** **MOVED** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette, that a letter of congratulations be written to the Weymouth School for receiving the Library Award.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

There was none.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tanya Forrest  
Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary

N. Faye Haley  
Board Chair

/tf