



Tri-County Regional School Board
Nova Scotia, Canada

Students First

MINUTES
June 19, 2007

APPROVED
July 3, 2007

Present: *Board Members*

Faye Haley, Chair	Alvin Comeau
Ron Hines, Vice-Chair	Janice Francis
Robie Atkinson	Donna Tidd
Joan Brewer	Winnie Surette

Alden Fells joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Staff

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

Other

Stephen Amirault, Regional Education Officer

Regrets: Anne Moses
Nick Pippy

A meeting of the Tri-County Regional School Board was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the meeting move in committee of the whole at 5:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the meeting move in-camera at 5:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that the meeting move out of in-camera at 6:40 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the meeting move out of committee of the whole at 6:40 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

CALL TO ORDER & NATIONAL ANTHEM

Board Chair Haley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked Board Member Atkinson 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 Members Moses and Pippy sent regrets.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the agenda be approved with the following additions:

New Business

- Report from Gerry Pitman re After School Program
- NSSBA Resolutions
- Special Board Meeting

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that the minutes of the Board meeting held on June 5, 2007 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Laurie Swim

Further to a request from Laurie Swim for space for the use of an art studio at Lockeport Annex, a written agreement was distributed. Ms. Swim will provide instructional time to the students of Lockeport Elementary and Lockeport High School on a schedule approved by the principal. Any materials brought into the studio, i.e. paint, paint thinners, etc. will require approval from the Occupational Health & Safety Officer. Although some work will be required at the elementary school to accommodate this request, Ms. Swim will be responsible for the cost. This agreement will be effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008. The agreement has gone to Laurie Swim for her approval after which time it will come back to the Board.

Report on Variance of Male/Female Suspensions

At the request of Board Member Fells, Bill Curry provided a report on what appears to be a variance in the number of male students suspended versus female students. The report noted that from September 2006 to May 2007, there were 830 out-of-school suspensions with male students accounting for 77% of the suspensions and female students being 23%. Twenty-five percent of the total suspensions were for skipping. It was noted that the majority of the female suspensions were for fighting. Mr. Curry stated that the information will be useful in discussing with schools ways to improve school attendance and thus address the skipping issue, as well as implementing a response to the fact that males are suspended three times as often than females.

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

Vice-Chair Hines gave the following report from the committee of the whole, in-camera session:

Board Member Brewer withdrew from voting on this motion due to a conflict of interest.

BD121-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Revised Report No. 119-07, Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

Administration:

- HR119-07:01 Melanie Nickerson, Programs and Student Services Consultant, Permanent, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period
- HR119-07:02 Jordan Pierce, Vice Principal, Digby Regional High, Permanent, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period

Teachers:

- HR119-07:03 Terri Smith, Permanent, Barrington Municipal High, French Immersion Junior High, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period
- HR119-07:04 Gregory Veinot, Permanent, Barrington Municipal High, Science, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probationary period
- HR119-07:05 Lisa Holmes, Permanent, Carleton Consolidated, Resource/Grade 5, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probation
- HR119-07:06 Christine Kelly, Permanent, Digby Regional High, Physical Education, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probation
- HR119-07:08 Heather Colquhoun, Permanent, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, Guidance Counselor, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period
- HR119-07:09 Emily Davis, Permanent, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, Technology Education, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:10 Amanda Brewer, Permanent, Maple Grove Education Centre, Physical Education, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period
- HR119-07:11 Jody Levac, Permanent, Maple Grove Education Centre, Program Support, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:12 Catherine Anderson, Permanent, Meadowfields Community School, Grade 3, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:13 Shari Jones, Permanent, Meadowfields Community School, Grade Primary, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probationary period
- HR119-07:14 Bruce McDowell, Permanent, Meadowfields Community School, Program Support, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:15 Suzanne Thurston, Permanent, Meadowfields Community School, Resource/Grade 6, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:16 Claudette Comeau, transfer from French Immersion, ERMES to Shelburne Regional High, French Immersion, effective August 1, 2007
- HR119-07:17 Michelle Crowell, Permanent, Shelburne Regional High, French Immersion, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period

RISE AND REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, IN-CAMERA
...continued

- HR119-07:18 Alana Anthony, Permanent, South Centennial Elementary, Grade 6, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probation
- HR119-07:19 Melissa Thompson, Permanent, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Program Support, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probationary period
- HR119-07:20 Jeannette d'Entremont, Permanent, Yarmouth Junior High, French Immersion, effective August 1, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a two-year probationary period
- HR119-07:21 Shannon Cook, 100% Term, Clark's Harbour Elementary, Grade Primary, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008
- HR119-07:22 Nelly Isac, 100% Term, Digby Elementary, Grade 4,5,6 Core French, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008
- HR119-07:24 Elizabeth Bishara, 100% Term, Maple Grove Education Centre, Grade 7 Science/ Social Studies, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008
- HR119-07:25 Stephanie Marshall, 100% Term, Maple Grove Education Centre, Grade 7 English Language Arts, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008
- HR119-07:26 Deborah Foley, 100% Term, St. Mary's Bay Academy, Junior High Core French, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008
- HR119-07:27 Joseph Bishara, 100% Term, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Senior High, effective from August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008

Others:

- HR119-07:28 Jason Curtis, Manager, Technology Services, Permanent, effective June 20, 2007, subject to the successful completion of a one-year probationary period
- HR119-07:29 Kathleen Harris, Spare Custodian, Digby County, effective June 20, 2007

MOTION CARRIED

BD122-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that Report No. 121-07, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

Teacher:

- HR121-07:01 Krista Orman, Lockeport Regional High, resignation, effective July 31, 2007

MOTION CARRIED

BD123-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Surette, that Report No. 123-07, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

Teacher:

- HR123-07:01 Kristen Forbes, Islands Consolidated, resignation, effective July 31, 2007

MOTION CARRIED

BD124-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the Board approve the 2007-2008 Budget Proposals for the Shared Service Unit to the Tri-County and South Shore Regional School Boards.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

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

➤ Kathy Colaiacovo

MOTION CARRIED

Kathy Colaiacovo

Mrs. Colaiacovo submitted a letter to the Board concerning student transfers, boundary review, proof of address and the transfer procedure, transportation and the Plymouth Bus, etc. and asked specific questions related to these issues.

Superintendent Landry will draft a response to Mrs. Colaiacovo for the Board's consideration.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance and Operations Committee

There was no report. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 6:15 p.m., Yarmouth Board Office

School Advisory Council Committee

A meeting of the SAC Committee was held on June 12, 2007.

BD125-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Hines, that St. Mary's Bay Academy's By-Laws be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

BD126-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that Barrington Municipal High School's Letter of Agreement be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2007, 2:00 p.m., Yarmouth Board Office.

Policy Committee

A meeting of the Policy Committee was held on Tuesday, May 22, 2007.

BD127-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that policy 804.30 *Race Relations, Cross Cultural Understanding, and Human Rights* be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES ...continued

Policy Committee ...continued

BD128-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that policy *702.01 Student Fees* be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD129-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that policy *200.02 Video Monitoring Systems* be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD130-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Comeau, that policy *300.00 Purchasing* be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD131-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the Board go on public record in opposition to the current configuration of the new *Integrated Child Seats* that are scheduled to be included in the new busses for the 2007-2008 school year. The Policy Committee recommends that the Board write a letter to the Department of Education expressing its opposition and concerns.

MOTION CARRIED

BD132-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board develop a standard absentee/regret report form for Board Members when they cannot attend a meeting. Along with this form, a memo will be issued to all Board Members explaining the purpose and proper use of the form.

MOTION CARRIED

It was noted that once staff in consultation with the Board has drafted a policy statement for policy *DRAFT Food Service Delivery in Schools*, it will be sent out for public consultation and brought back to a Policy Committee meeting in the fall.

The next Policy Committee meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2007, 3:00 p.m. at the Yarmouth Board Office.

REPORTS FROM AD HOC/OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no reports. However, Superintendent Landry noted that the Board recently hosted a retirement banquet for all employees who retired in the 2006/07 school year and presented those employees with a gift. Superintendent Landry thanked Joe Hazelton and the Staff Recognition Committee and for all the work involved in planning the banquet.

REPORTS FROM THE NSSBA

There were no reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Out-of-Province Trip Request from BMHS

Barrington Municipal High School submitted a request for 5 students to attend the Gulf of Maine Institute in New Hampshire from July 7 to 15, 2007. Bill Curry noted that Yarmouth Junior High School would like to send approximately 5 students and Islands Consolidated School would like to send some students as well but were not able to submit the application in time for the Board Meeting. Board Member Surette suggested that the Board approve the request for all three schools.

BD133-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the requests for some students from Barrington Municipal High School, Yarmouth Junior High School, and Islands Consolidated School to attend the Gulf of Maine Conference in New Hampshire from July 7 to 15, 2007 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

After School Program

Gerry Pitman, Coordinator of Community Learning, submitted a request to have the After School Program expanded to Forest Ridge Academy for a trial period of September 6, 2007 to June 28, 2008. It was noted that the ratio of children leaders will be fifteen to one as is the standard in the Board's other After School Programs.

BD134-07 **MOVED** by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the After School Program be expanded to Forest Ridge Academy for a trial period of September 6, 2007 to June 28, 2008.

MOTION CARRIED

NSSBA Resolutions

Resolutions that were adopted at the NSSBA AGM were distributed. It was noted that 24 resolutions in total were adopted and will be forwarded to the Minister of Education. Board Members were asked to peruse the resolutions and rate them from 1 to 5 and bring them back to the Board Meeting scheduled for July 3, 2007. The Board will then review the submissions and forward the top five to the NSSBA.

Special Board Meeting

The Board has called a Special Board Meeting to look at the Budget and Audited Financial Statements on Tuesday, June 26, 2007 immediately following the Finance & Operations Committee Meeting.

INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Surette, on behalf of the Board, extended condolences to Alden Fells for the recent passing away of his cousin.

INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ...continued

Board Member Atkinson advised that he received three invitations to attend graduation ceremonies this year. He asked if another Board Member would attend the Barrington Municipal High as he will be attending the Drumlin Heights graduation.

Superintendent Landry advised that a staff member will be available to attend the Barrington High graduation if a Board Member is not available.

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC

Tina Comeau

Ms. Comeau asked what the Board hoped to accomplish by making the motion to go on record with its opposition regarding the Integrated Child Seats and what the actual concerns were.

Board Chair Haley advised that the Board's concerns are as follows: if there are only 6 seats in each bus, who decides which students will get the seats, who will buckle the students in as smaller students will not be able to deal with the mechanism, a loop above the child's left shoulder must be pulled after the restraint is fastened, the booster seat extends approximately 3" beyond the edge of the regular seat and as small children will be sitting with their legs fully extended, what will be the effect of impact should there be an accident, the belts "lock" on impact and will need to be cut, etc. Board Chair Haley stated that although the Department is not responsible for the Integrated Child Seats, Boards are trying to get them to take a provincial stance and standardize some of these issues so all Boards are doing the same. It was noted that Tri-County has 8 new buses, with 6 seats on each of those buses.

NOTION OF MOTION

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tanya Forrest
Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary

N. Faye Haley
Chair of the Board

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