



Tri-County Regional School Board
Nova Scotia, Canada

Students First

APPROVED
July 4, 2006

MINUTES
June 20, 2006

Present:

Board Members

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

Staff

Phil Landry, Superintendent of Schools
Richard Smith, Director of Human Resources
Steve Stoddart, Director of Operations
Bill Curry, Director of Programs & Student Services
Jude Fulton, Coordinator of RCH
Joe Hazelton, Communications Officer

Others

Leroy Legere, Regional Education Officer, Department of Education

A meeting of the Tri-County Regional School Board was held on Tuesday, June 20, 2006. The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the meeting move in committee of the whole at 4:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the meeting move in-camera at 4:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the meeting move out of in-camera at 6:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that the meeting move out of committee of the whole at 6:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

CALL TO ORDER & NATIONAL ANTHEM

Board Chair Haley called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and asked Board Member Fells to lead those present in the singing of the National Anthem.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Attendance was taken noting that all Board Members were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Fells, that the agenda be approved with the following additions:

New Business

- Special Board Meeting
- Recognition Awards for Shelburne Regional High Girls Softball – Division 3
- Operating Capital
- June 28 invitation for Bus Drivers

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the minutes of the Board meeting held on June 6, 2006 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Board Member Success Stories

At a previous Board Meeting, information was distributed from the NSSBA regarding publishing Board Member Success Stories. The Board agreed to submit their success story on Alternate Programs and asked Bill Curry to prepare the submission and bring forward at this meeting.

The Board perused the submission and agreed to forward it to the NSSBA for publication in the Halifax Herald.

BD156-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the submission on Alternate Programs be forwarded to the NSSBA for inclusion in the Halifax Herald.

MOTION CARRIED

African Nova Scotia Ad Hoc Committee

MOTION by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the report be tabled until the next meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolutions

Board Members gave their prioritized list of resolutions from the NSSBA AGM to Board Member Tidd who will forward them to the NSSBA for the Director's Meeting on June 22, 2006.

NSSBA/CSBA

Board Members expressed their option on whether the NSSBA should rejoin the CSBA. Based on correspondence received from the CSBA, the Board is not convinced that the reasons for the NSSBA's withdrawal from CSBA have been dealt with. Board Member Tidd will bring the Board's responses to the Director's Meeting on June 22, 2006.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the following correspondence be received for information purposes:

- Municipality of Digby

MOTION CARRIED

Municipality of Digby

A letter was received in April 2006 from the Municipality of Digby inquiring as to what changes have been made to designated school bus stops in the Municipality of Digby and why those changes were made. It was noted that the Utility and Review Board (URB) regulates school bus stops. A representative from the URB attended a Finance and Operations Committee meeting to explain their policy. The Municipality of Digby submitted another letter asking what the response was from the URB and/or the Board. A letter will be sent to the Municipality of Digby advising of the response from the URB.

DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were none.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

MOTION by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Fells, that Report No. 131-06, Report from the Board Chair, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Board Chair Haley made note of the recent Science Olympics and suggested that thank you letters be sent to all organizers. It was noted that the Susan Hazelton and Trevor Cunningham have sent out thank you letters.

REPORTS FROM SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent of Schools

MOTION by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Moses that Report No. 145-06, Report from the Superintendent, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Director of Programs and Student Services

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Brewer that Report No. 134-06, Report from the Director of Programs and Student Services, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Curry stated that the Board is trying to design a Reading Recovery™ program which would provide service to as many schools as possible in English and which would expand Reading Recovery™ to grade one French Immersion students wherever possible. However, it is extremely difficult to find enough qualified French Immersion teachers for this effort, despite the fact that the Department gave the Board extra money to fund this program.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

School Advisory Council Committee

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette that Report No. 132-06, Report from the School Advisory Council Committee, be received.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM AD HOC/OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none.

REPORTS FROM THE NSSBA

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Board Meetings

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2006. Board Meetings will not be held over the summer unless a special meeting is required to approve the budget.

Special Board Meeting

A special Board meeting has been scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2006 immediately following the Finance and Operations Committee Meeting to approve the audited financial statements.

NEW BUSINESS ...continued

Shelburne Regional High Senior Girls Softball League

It was noted that the Shelburne Regional High School Girls softball league – Division 4, won provincials.

BD157-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Pippy, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that a certificate of recognition be presented to the Shelburne Regional High School Girls Softball Team – Division 3 for winning provincials.

MOTION CARRIED

Operating Capital

Steve Stoddart advised that Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School (ERMES) received funds from the operating capital for roof repairs. As there is money remaining, it was requested that it go towards upgrading the sewer system.

BD158-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the Board provide ERMES with funds remaining from the roof repair to go towards upgrading the sewer system.

MOTION CARRIED

INQUIRIES AND COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Pippy asked Mr. Stoddart if any movement has been done on the grounds maintenance issue. Mr. Stoddart advised that he is preparing a report that will be available at the next Board meeting.

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC

Tina Comeau

Ms. Comeau asked: “Just how desperate is the French Immersion teacher situation and what implication will that have on programs beginning in September and/or future years? From a student perspective is there still as many or more kids registering in French Immersion or are numbers declining?”

Superintendent Landry advised that all Boards are experiencing the same difficulty in getting qualified bilingual teachers. There is a concern that there could be some French programs cut in other Boards however, we are trying to fill the positions in Tri-County. He further advised that there are still many students registering for the French Immersion program.

Ms. Comeau asked: “How many transfer appeals are there this year (ballpark)?”

Superintendent Landry stated that there are approximately 20 appeals to date.

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC ...continued

Ms. Comeau asked: “On the issue of boundaries, I still don’t think it’s been discussed at board level what will occur with Arcadia students in Havelock (Ellis Road) area when the school board enforces existing boundaries starting in September. Will they go to South Centennial and how many kids are we talking about?”

Superintendent Landry advised that the students will have to attend their neighborhood school or apply for a transfer under the transfer policy.

Kathy Colaiacovo

Ms. Colaiacovo stated: “re: the transfers being requested ... other than Early French Immersion, the education received and resources accessed by students in your local elementary schools (Central, South, Arcadia, Meadowfields) is the same. If this is a correct statement, then as you deal with all the transfers/appeals – will they be dealt with on equal footing? Reasons such as having a “history or relationship” with a present school should not hold water as a reason to accept a transfer.”

Superintendent Landry advised that every application is dealt with individually and the reason for the transfer is the focus for either approving or denying the request.

Ms. Colaiacovo asked: “what will school administrators be instructed to do if a parent refuses to provide proof of residence?”

Superintendent Landry stated we are looking at different options such as transportation and working this out with principals as they have an idea where the students live.

Ms. Colaiacovo stated: “In February this year we removed our son from school and have been home schooling him. Too many behavioural problems of others were keeping him from getting his education. This one class of 26 students has 8 students that belonged (for many years) at other schools. Many had given their correct address to the school. I ask that you think of this when deciding how to deal with your transfer requests. We may never have had to make this family decision had the students all been in their proper schools in the first place.”

Don Berry

Mr. Berry stated: “The Junior Step Program is for 2 months. Work experience is for students age 16. We are losing students at grade 8 under the age of 16.” He asked: “Why are we not doing the year long program in the Yarmouth area?”

Bill Curry stated that this will be looked at in the future.

Mr. Berry stated that a person has cheated the boundary line process for 4 years without permission from the Board. He asked: “What message are we (the Board) giving to other families if this is ok?”

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC ...continued

Don Berry ...continued

Superintendent Landry stated that the Board is enforcing present boundaries and therefore students have to attend the neighborhood school or apply for a transfer.

Mr. Berry stated: "I have a step-daughter going into grade 9 and a daughter going into grade 6. Both are at wrong schools. They have done the paperwork each year." He asked: "What are we going to do for people who follow the rules?"

Superintendent Landry stated that everyone should be following the transfer policy.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the meeting move in committee of the whole at 8:31 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the meeting move in-camera at 8:31 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the meeting move out of in-camera at 9:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the meeting move out of committee of the whole at 9:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

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

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

BD159-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Fells, that Report No. 129-06, Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

Teachers:

- **HR129-06:01 Sheri Rempel**, Speech Language Pathologist, Permanent, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:02 Gregory Deveau**, Literacy Support Teacher, Secondment, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:03 Jennie O'Brien**, Severe Learning Disability Specialist – Digby County, Permanent, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period

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

- **HR129-06:04 Amanda Ross**, Barrington Municipal High, Permanent, Grades 8/9 Core French/ Grade 8 Family Studies/Grade 7 Science, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:05 Wanda Gillis**, Barrington Municipal High, Permanent, Grades 7&8 Art, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:06 April Mullen**, Barton Consolidated, Permanent, Grade 4/5, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:07 Kathleen Shee**, Barton Consolidated, 80% Term, Math, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:08 Amy Crowell**, Cape Sable Island Elementary, 70% Term, Grade 4 Math & Literacy/ Grade 6, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:09 Susan King**, Digby Neck Consolidated, Permanent, Grades P/1, Physical Education, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:10 Cynthia Emin**, Digby Neck Consolidated, 30% Term, Grades P-4 English Language Arts, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:11 Elaina Goodwin**, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, 100% Term, Grade 5/6, from August 1, 2006 to January 31, 2007
- **HR129-06:12 Tara Cottreau**, Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary, Permanent, Grade 5/6 French Immersion, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:13 Becky Brannan**, Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary, 80% Term, Program Support, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:14 Mardee Nickerson**, Forest Ridge Academy, 50% Term, Grade 6 Program Support, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:15 Tara Payne**, Islands Consolidated, Permanent, Guidance Counselor/Grades P-12, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:16 Shane Titus**, Islands Consolidated, 100% Term, Grade 12 Technology/Tourism/ Grade 7 Science, from August 1, to February 2, 2007
- **HR129-06:17 Patricia Wile**, Islands Consolidated, Long-Term Substitute/Term, Grade 2/3, from August 1 to November 24, 2006/November 25, 2006 to July 31, 2007
- **HR129-06:18 Alyssa Newell**, Lockeport Elementary, Permanent, Grade 6/Elementary Physical Education, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:19 Kevin Holland**, Lockeport Regional High, Permanent, Sociology/Math/PDR, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:20 Laura MacDougall**, Lockeport Regional High, 100% Term, Science, from August 1 to December 20, 2006
- **HR129-06:21 Michelle Muyo**, Maple Grove Education Centre, Permanent, Grades 7-9 French Immersion/Grade 9 Core French, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period

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

- **HR129-06:22 Stephanie Marshall**, Maple Grove Education Centre, 100% Term, Grade 7 English Language Arts/Core French, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:23 Jody Levac**, Maple Grove Education Centre, 100% Term, Program Support, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:24 Heather Mills**, Plymouth School, Permanent, Grades 3/4, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:25 Sean Merrett**, St. Mary's Bay Academy, Permanent, Physical Education, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:26 Elizabeth Barrett**, St. Mary's Bay Academy, Permanent, Grades 8/9 French Immersion, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:27 Johann McBurney**, St. Mary's Bay Academy, 100% Term, Grade 10 Keyboarding/ Grade 11 Tourism/CLM, from August 1, 2006 to February 2, 2007
- **HR129-06:28 Johann McBurney**, St. Mary's Bay Academy, 100% Term, Grade 10 Science/ Grade 11 CLM, from February 5 to July 31, 2007
- **HR129-06:29 Chad Warren**, Shelburne Regional High, Permanent, Physical Education/Grade 10 Science, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:30 Kevin Chisholm**, Shelburne Regional High, 60% Term, Grades 7-12 Program Support for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:31 Alana Anthony**, South Centennial Elementary, 40% Term, Grade 3, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:32 Darren Cummings**, Yarmouth Central Elementary, Permanent, Program Support/Grade 3, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a one year probationary period
- **HR129-06:33 Danerra Casey**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Permanent, Grade 12 Law & Sociology/Grade 10 Himnory/Grade 11 Tourism, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:34 Tammy Cleveland**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Permanent, Grades 11&12 Social Studies, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:35 John Gallant**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, Permanent, Physical Education, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR129-06:36 Gregory Veniot**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, 100% Term, Grade 10 Math, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR129-06:37 Heather Hadley-Van Horn**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, 100% Term, Program Support, from August 1, 2006 to February 2, 2007
- **HR129-06:38 Sean Fitzgerald**, Yarmouth Junior High, Permanent, Grades 7-9 Physical Education, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period

MOTION CARRIED

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

BD160-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Fells, that Report No. 120-06, Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

- **HR120-06:01 Kenneth Mullen**, Substitute Bus Driver, Yarmouth county, effective June 7, 2006

MOTION CARRIED

BD161-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Fells, that Report No. 128-06, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

Teachers:

- **HR128-06:01 Ann Jones**, retirement effective July 31, 2006
- **HR128-06:02 Dave Matson**, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, resignation effective July 31, 2006

PSA's:

- **HR128-06:03 Christine Goreham**, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, resignation effective June 23, 2006
- **HR128-06:04 David Hopkins**, Digby Regional High, resignation effective June 16, 2006

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- ✓ Jody Jensen, Teacher, Lockeport Regional High , parental leave from August 1 to December 31, 2006
- ✓ Patricia Wolfe-Williams, Lockeport Elementary, maternity leave from November 6, 2006 to March 2, 2007

MOTION CARRIED

BD162-06 **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Fells, that Report No. 133-06, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

Teachers:

- **HR133-06:01 Roseann d'Entremont-Nickerson**, Maple Grove Education Centre, resignation effective July 31, 2006
- **HR133-06:02 Philippe Cottreau**, Yarmouth Junior High, resignation effective July 31, 2006
- **HR133-06:03 Nathan Smart**, Islands Consolidated, resignation effective July 31, 2006
- **HR133-06:04 Rebecca Smart**, Islands Consolidated, resignation effective July 31, 2006

PSA's:

- **HR133-06:05 Holly Renaud**, Shelburne Regional High, leave of absence from September 2, 2006 to February 5, 2007

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tanya Forrest
Assistant to the Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary

N. Faye Haley
Chair of the Board

/tf