



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

**Students First**

**MINUTES**  
**July 4, 2006**

**APPROVED**  
**September 5, 2006**

**Present:**

***Board Members***

Faye Haley, Chair

Ron Hines, Vice-Chair

Robie Atkinson

Joan Brewer

Alvin Comeau

Donna Tidd

Anne Moses

Nick Pippy

Winnie Surette

***Regrets***

Alden Fells

Janice Francis

***Staff***

Phil Landry, Superintendent of Schools

Steve Stoddart, Director of Operations

Gerry Purdy, Coordinator of Labour Relations

Joe Hazelton, Communications Officer

Tanya Forrest, Assistant to the Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary

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

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the meeting move out of in-camera at 6:32 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 6:32 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 Brewer to lead those present in the singing of the National Anthem.

## RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

The Assistant to the Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary took attendance noting that nine Board Members were present which constituted a quorum. Board Members Fells and Francis sent regrets.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION** by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the agenda be approved as amended:

*Delete:*

**New Business**

- Protocol/Procedures

*Add:*

**Correspondence**

- Clyde Baltzer, Executive Director, Digby Area Learning Association

**New Business**

- Transportation
- Request from Kamp Kujichagulia 2006

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2006 be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that the minutes of the Special Board meeting held on June 26, 2006 be approved as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

### African Nova Scotia Ad Hoc Committee

**BD163-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the RCH Committee, as laid out in the report from Bill Curry, be developed.

**BD164-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Surette, that the motion be tabled until the first Board meeting in September 2006.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

There was none.

## 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

**BD165-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that report no. 148-06 and 152-06 Appointments to Staff, be approved as follows:

### Teachers:

- **HR148-06:01 Deborah Tobin**, Digby Neck Consolidated, Permanent, Senior Elementary/Core French, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR148-06:02 Jennifer Gaudet**, Maple Grove Education Centre, Permanent, Grades 7-9 French Immersion, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR148-06:03 Suzanne Thurston**, Port Maitland Consolidated Elementary, 100% Term, Grade 6, for the 2006/2007 school year

### Others:

- **HR148-06:04 Steve Adams**, Dispatcher, Permanent, effective August 1, 2006, subject to the successful completion of a 120-day probationary period

FOR INFORMATION ONLY (transfers)

- **Heidi DeMille**, Administrative Assistant, Meadowfields Community School, Permanent, effective September 1, 2006
- **Shelley LeBlanc**, Administrative Assistant to Coordinator of Transportation, Permanent, effective July 5, 2006

### Teachers:

- **HR152-06:01 Deborah Tufts**, Guidance Counselor, Yarmouth area elementary schools, Permanent, effective August 1, 2006
- **HR152-06:02 JoAnne Addington**, Barton Consolidated, Long Term Substitute/Term, Grade 2/3 and Grade 4-6 Core French, from September 6 to December 1, 2006 (LTS)/December 2, 2006 to July 31, 2007(Term)
- **HR152-06:03 Melanie Pothier**, Drumlin Heights Consolidated, Permanent, Grade 4-9 Core French/Grade 5/6 English Language Arts, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period
- **HR152-06:04 Adam Aldred**, Shelburne Regional High, 100% Term, Grade 8 Math/Science, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR152-06-05 Joseph Bishara**, Yarmouth Central Elementary, 100% Term, Grade 3 and 5, for the 2006/2007 school year
- **HR152-06-06 Mark Nelson**, Yarmouth Junior High, Permanent, Grade 7-9 Science/Social Studies/Family Studies, subject to the successful completion of a two year probationary period

### Others:

- ✓ **Timothy Hynes**, Custodian, Maple Grove Education Centre, Permanent, Lateral transfer by seniority

**MOTION CARRIED**

**REPORT FROM MEETING IN COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE, IN-CAMERA  
...continued**

**BD166-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that report no. 149-06, Requests from Staff, be approved as follows:

**Teachers:**

- **HR149-06:01 Joanne Churchill**, Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High, retirement effective July 31, 2006

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- ✓ April Mullen, Teacher, Barton Consolidated, maternity/parental leave from August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007
- ✓ Jill Young, Plymouth, adoption/parental leave from July 24, 2006 to July 31, 2007

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BD167-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Tri-County Regional School Board approve the 2006-2007 Budget Proposals for the Shared Services Unit to the South Shore and Tri-County Regional School Boards.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BD168-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that a committee be formed to discuss protocol and procedures.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Board Members who volunteered to serve on the Protocol and Procedures Committee are: Board Members Tidd, Surette, Moses, and Brewer.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**MOTION** by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the following correspondence be received for information:

- Bill Paulick
- Emily Carmen
- Beth White

**MOTION CARRIED**

Bill Paulick

Bill Paulick, SAC Chair of Yarmouth Central School, submitted a letter to the Board on concerns relating to the Draft Head Lice Policy. He stated that if the Board wants to maintain status quo, it may be worthwhile to obtain a legal opinion on the defensibility of a policy that is in arrears with Public Health Services recommendations. Mr. Paulick strongly urged the Board to consult with the Public Health Services once again prior to making the draft policy a reality.

## **CORRESPONDENCE ...continued**

### Emily Carmen

Emily Carmen, parent from Barton Consolidated School, submitted a letter to the Board regarding the Draft Permanent Closure of Schools Policy. She advised of her disappointment when reviewing the draft policy stating it was her understanding that the Board was supposed to create a two-step procedure for the investigation into the closure of schools with populations less than 100 that may not be performing to their potential.

### Beth White

Beth White, parent from Barton Consolidated School, submitted a letter to the Board in regards to the Draft Permanent Closure of Schools Policy. She asked the Board to hold off on finalizing the policy until the review from the Department of Education is finalized and can be taken into consideration by the Board.

### Clyde Baltzer

Clyde Baltzer, Executive Director, Digby Area Learning Association, advised the Board that they would like to fundraise to add an extension to the Digby Community Education Centre at 53 Mount Street in Digby which is owned by the Board. This extension would house a laboratory, a multi-purpose room, staff room and two offices. They would raise the funds necessary to construct the addition and facilitate its construction.

Mr. Baltzer will be advised that his request will be forwarded to Steve Stoddart, Director of Operations, for his investigation into areas such as Regulations and what affect it would have on insurance, etc. before a definite answer can be given. Mr. Stoddart will bring a report and recommendation to the Board meeting in September.

## **DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS**

There were none.

## **REPORTS FROM COORDINATORS AND CONSULTANTS**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **REPORT FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**BD169-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Superintendent of Schools return a signed cheque register within 10 business days of the date of sending the email (from the Accounts Payable Supervisor).

**MOTION CARRIED**

## REPORT FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE ...continued

**BD170-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Surette, Board Member Pippy, that the *Whistle Blower/Anonymous Submission Policy* be included on the agenda of the Policy Committee and include an implementation time table.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BD171-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Policy Committee adopt a policy addressing trust funds greater than \$5,000 being administered at the school board level.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## NSSBA Director's Report

Board Member Tidd advised that at the NSSBA Director's meeting, there was a discussion on whether the NSSBA should rejoin the CSBA. The NSSBA President will do more research and try to get answers to questions that were raised.

The NSSBA asked that all Boards send a copy of their Policy on Alcohol Abuse.

The NSSBA is looking for Membership on various NSSBA Committees and asked each Board to appoint a representative to serve on the Education, Lead and Achieve, and Communications Committees. Nick Pippy will serve on the Education Committee, Anne Moses will serve on the Lead and Achieve Committee, and Joe Hazelton will serve on the Communications Committee.

Board Member Tidd advised that she serves on the Finance and Audit Committee.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Suspension Report

**MOTION** by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Suspension Report for June 2006 be received.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Student Services Policy Revisions

Lisa Doucet, Coordinator of Student Services, reviewed the revisions to the Student Services Policy.

Board Chair Haley thanked Ms. Doucet for all the hard work put in to the policy and for attending the meeting to review the changes for the Board.

**BD172-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Pippy, that the revisions to the Student Services Policy be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

### Meeting Times

Board Chair Haley stated that as some Board Members find it difficult, if not impossible, to attend the in-camera session for 4:30 p.m., a suggestion was to start the in-camera sessions at 5:30 p.m. and the regular sessions at 7:00 p.m.

**BD173-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Brewer, that commencing September 2006, start times for Board Meetings will be as follows: in-camera sessions will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the regular sessions begin at 7:00 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Barrington Municipal High School Facility Use Agreement

A discussion ensued regarding the Facility Use Agreement for Barrington Municipal High School, which was distributed at the Special Board Meeting on June 26, 2006.

Gerry Pitman, Coordinator of Community Learning, will be asked to attend the next Board meeting scheduled for September 5, 2006 to answer questions from the Board.

### Staff Recognition Committee

Board Chair Haley thanked staff for the efforts they went through when the board decided, very late in the game, to recognize retired staff. She noted that staff did a commendable job under very stressful circumstances. She stated that she would like to resurrect the staff recognition committee or develop a new committee to recognize retirees, long-term employees, etc. It was suggested that some representation from union groups could serve on the committee.

This item will be brought forward at the first Board Meeting in September.

### Transportation

**BD174-06** **MOTION** by Board Member Surette, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that bussing in the Town of Yarmouth for students attending Maple Grove Education Centre cease immediately.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Request from Kamp Kujichagulia 2006

Kaye Johnson, Camp Coordinator for Kamp Kujichagulia 2006, submitted a request to the Board for financial assistance in the amount of \$650.00 as a contribution towards tuition/costs for the camp. The Board has provided financial assistance to this group as well as to other groups/individuals in the past in the amount of \$500.00 and would like to make this contribution consistent with what is given to others.

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

Request from Kamp Kujichagulia 2006 ...continued

**BD175-06** **MOVED** by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board contribute \$500.00 to Kamp Kujichagulia 2006.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

There were none.

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

Tina Comeau

Ms. Comeau asked: “You are forming a protocols and procedures committee – protocols and procedures of what?”

Board Chair Haley stated that the committee will be to look at the ways the Board conducts various affairs.

Ms. Comeau asked: “On whistle blower/anonymous submission policy, Phil said that superintendents were told every school board has to have one; told by whom and does each board make its own policy?”

Superintendent Landry stated that Boards were told by a government department that all Boards have to have this policy in place and each Board makes their own policy in conjunction with guidelines from the Department.

Ms. Comeau asked: “Why would your budget meeting be in camera when municipal units, like the Town of Yarmouth for instance, hold their budget meetings in public?”

Board Chair Haley stated that when Boards receive their profile sheets, they are embargoed and have to be dealt with in-camera until the Department advises it is no longer confidential. However, Superintendent Landry will look into the matter and advise if the budget meeting can be held in a public session.

Ms. Comeau asked: “How many Maple Grove students would be impacted by tonight’s motion and now they’re required to provide their own transportation?”

Superintendent Landry advised that approximately 100 students will be impacted. He further advised that students who attend a school outside their catchment area are required to provide their own transportation.

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

### Don Berry

Mr. Berry asked: “What staff members and board members will work on the mandate of the African Nova Scotia Ad Hoc Committee and when will this take place? September is too late.”

Board Chair Haley advised that the report is going back to staff for refining and the RCH Coordinator, Director of Programs and Student Services and any board member will work on the mandate. A regular monthly Board meeting is not scheduled until September at which time the revised report will be reviewed.

Mr. Berry asked: “The letter from Central School (Head Lice Policy) May 3, 2006 which states if the school board wants to maintain status quo, it may be worthwhile to obtain a legal opinion - have you talked to a lawyer and what is status quo? What policy should be followed?”

Superintendent Landry stated that the current Board policy should be followed and the Board is verifying the issue with the legal council.

Mr. Berry asked when the Community Use Agreement of gyms will happen at all schools.

Board Chair Haley advised that the Board does not know when it will happen and it has been approximately 3 years since the Department sent out the draft.

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

There was none.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tanya Forrest  
Assistant to the Superintendent/A. Board Secretary

N. Faye Haley  
Chair of the Board

/tf