

APPROVED
2003 May 27



BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
2003 April 22

Present:

Board Members

Nancy Whittaker, Chair
Robie Atkinson
Alvin Comeau
Ada Fells
Anne Moses

Faye Haley, Vice Chair
Andy Baxter
Ron Hines
Janice Francis
Donna Tidd

Staff

Phil Landry, Director of Education
F. Heather Burlingham, Board Secretary/Communications Officer
Leroy Legere, CEO, Southwest Regional School Board
Sandra LeBlanc, Admin. Asst.

Regrets: Board Member Karen Mattatall

The regular monthly meeting of the Tri-County District School Board was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2003, at Digby Regional High School. The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

MOTION CARRIED

The in-camera session recessed at 6:30 p.m. in order to commence the public session of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Whittaker called the public session of the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and asked Board Member Atkinson to lead the Board in singing the National Anthem.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

The Board Secretary/Communications Officer took attendance noting that ten members were present. Board Member Karen Mattatall had attended the in-camera session from 4:40 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and was then excused.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Baxter, that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Lorna Murphy, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Murphy spoke on the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Diana Murphy, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Murphy spoke on the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Audrey Vaughan, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Vaughan spoke about the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Sonya Breton, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Breton spoke about the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Lynette Mullen, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Mullen spoke about the possibility of having early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Marilyn Webster, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Webster spoke about the possibility of having and early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

ORDERS OF THE DAY (cont'd)

Greg Newell, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Mr. Newell spoke about the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Michelle Trask, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Trask spoke about the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

Marilyn Webster, French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School

Ms. Webster spoke about the possibility of having an early French Immersion program at Meadowfields Community School.

At the end of each presentation, the Board Chair asked if any members had any questions for clarification.

After all the presentations were heard, the Board Chair thanked the presenters for the information they brought to the Board's attention.

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Baxter, that the presentations be referred to the special board meeting on April 29, 2003.

MOTION CARRIED

At the end of the presentations a member of the audience challenged the Board on the fact that there were two presentations that were not on the agenda. The Board Chair explained that one presentation had been heard in the in-camera session of the meeting and the other one had not been received.

MOTION by Board Member Baxter, seconded by Board Member Fells, that the by-laws be rescinded in order to hear the presentation of Dwayne Provo, Black Educators Association.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Provo presentation consisted of asking the Board to hear the concerns of the African Nova Scotian community at a special meeting. The Board agreed to this request.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2003 March 25

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Baxter, that the minutes of the regular monthly meeting held on March 25, 2003 be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (cont'd)

2003 March 31

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Baxter that the minutes of the special board meeting held on March 31, 2003, be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

2003 April 14

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the minutes of the special board meeting held on April 14, 2003, be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

There was none.

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

This session was delayed until later in the meeting as it was not finished at this time.

RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the following correspondence be received:

- Cynthia Fiander-Cormier, re French Immersion at Meadowfields Community School;
- Chris Rose, Principal, Plymouth School, re French Immersion;
- Werner Comeau, re French Immersion.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORTS

There were none.

DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were none.

REPORT FROM BOARD CHAIR, REPORT NO.64 -03

MOTION by Board Member Whittaker, seconded by Board Member Tidd that Report No. 64-03, be received for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

MOTION by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the monthly report from the Director of Education, No.63-03 be accepted for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT FROM CEO, SOUTHWEST REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

CEO Leroy Legere gave a verbal report. He noted that he had attended many of the meetings that the Director of Education. Work is progressing on the budget.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Education Committee

Education Committee Chair Ron Hines reported that the regular monthly meeting of the Education Committee was held on Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at Digby Elementary School in Digby.

BD73-03 Moved by Board Member Hines , seconded by Board Member Baxter that a letter be written to the Minister of Education pointing out that the condition of the playing/sports fields at St. Mary's Bay Academy and Drumlin Heights Consolidated School is in very poor shape and corrective action must be taken to fix this problem.

MOTION CARRIED

BD74-03 Moved by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Chair of the Board write the education opposition critics (Samson, Estabrooks) explaining to them the situation at Tri-County with the influx of CSAP students into our schools and the numerous requests we have made of the province to be reimbursed for these additional students.

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting of the Education Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2003, at Forest Ridge Academy.

SAC Committee

Committee Chair Donna Tidd gave the following report from the SAC Committee, which met on April 7, 2003, at Barrington Municipal High School.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES (cont'd)SAC Committee (cont'd)

BD75-03 Moved by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the new letter of agreement for St. Mary's Bay Academy be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD76-03 Moved by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the revised letter of agreement for Forest Ridge Academy be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD77-03 Moved by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Hines, that the revised letter of agreement for Weymouth Consolidated School be approved by the Board and sent to the Department of Education.

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting of the SAC Committee will be at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at St. Mary's Bay Academy in Digby County.

Governance Committee

Governance Committee Chair Anne Moses gave the following report from her committee, which met on Tuesday, April 8, 2003, at Barrington Municipal High School.

BD78-03 Moved by Board Moses, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that Policy 703.8, Medical Treatment of Students, be amended by adding the following sentence "The school is accepting this responsibility not because it is legally bound to do so, but as a last resort, to enable a student to attend school." and that this sentence be added on page 1 of the policy at the end of the Implementation statement and on Appendix A, last sentence of the Preamble.

MOTION CARRIED

BD79-03 Moved by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd that the draft hiring of staff criteria developed by staff be recommended to the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

BD80-03 Moved by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that Report No. 60-03, Requests from Staff, be approved by the Board as follows:

- **Gordon Balsler**, Teacher, requesting an unpaid leave of absence for the 2003-2004 academic year in order to sit as MLA.
- **Rena Balcom**, Teacher, Cape Sable Island Elementary, requesting a job share on an 80-20 split for the 2003-2004 academic year;
- **Gregory Jamieson**, teacher, Digby Regional High School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence for 2003-2004 (this would be 3rd request);
- **Nicole Deveau**, teacher, Digby Elementary School, requesting to change her period of leave under her deferred salary plan from 2003-2004 to **2004-2005**;

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES (cont'd)

Governance Committee (cont'd)

BD80-03 (cont'd)

- **Wayne Schofield**, teacher, Digby Regional High School, requesting to retire effective June 30, 2003;
- **Leonard Hornung**, teacher, Havelock School, requesting to enter into a deferred salary leave plan August 1, 2003, with the period of leave being August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007;
- **Cheryl Moore-Blinkhorn**, teacher, Hillcrest Academy, requesting to enter into a deferred salary leave plan August 1, 2003, with the period of leave being August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007;
- **Stacy Smith**, PSA, Barrington Municipal High School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence for the 2003-2004 year in order to return to university for her B.Ed.

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting of the Governance Committee will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at 2 p.m. at the Yarmouth office.

REPORTS FROM AD HOC/OTHER COMMITTEES

MOTION by Board Member Tidd, seconded by Board Member Baxter, that the reports from the following Ad hoc/Other Committees be accepted for information:

Finance & Operations sub-committee;
Permanent Liaison Committee of Digby Regional High School.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM NOVA SCOTIA SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors

MOTION by Board Member Moses, seconded by Board Member Haley that the report from Board Member Moses on the NSSBA Board of Directors be accepted for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications Committee

MOTION by Board Member Whittaker, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that Report No. 65-03, NSSBA Communications Committee, be received for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM NOVA SCOTIA SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION (cont'd)

Education Committee

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Haley that Report No. 66-03, NSSBA Education Committee, be received for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

Finance Committee

There was no report from the NSSBA Finance Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Overnight Trip Request – Hillcrest Academy

BD81-03 Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Baxter that the overnight trip request from Hillcrest Academy scheduled for June 17 – 18, 2003, be approved by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

Ragged Island Consolidated School

BD82-03 Moved by Board Member Baxter, seconded by Board Member Moses, that Ragged Island Consolidated School be declared surplus and returned to the appropriate municipal unit.

MOTION CARRIED

Request for Scoliosis Research

BD83-03 Moved by Board Member Baxter, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the request from Sarah Hayes to distribute information on scoliosis research through the schools notices to parents be approved.

MOTION DEFEATED

Survey Request from the Municipality of Shelburne

BD84-03 Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the request to conduct a survey of high school students in Shelburne be approved but that it be left up to the individual schools as to whether or not they participate.

MOTION CARRIED

INQUIRIES/COMMENTS FROM SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Moses asked if the board was going to arrange a special meeting with the African Nova Scotian community in Digby. The Board Chair suggested May 5th at Digby Regional High School at 7:30 p.m. and confirmed this date with Dwayne Provo, Black Educators Association, who was in the audience.

Board Member Tidd reminded the board and staff that there was a motion from the previous Southwest Regional School Board that meetings not be held in cafeterias or gymnasiums. It was suggested that Board Member Tidd and Principal Ben Elms would look after a venue for the special board meeting with the African Nova Scotian community.

The Board Chair made a presentation to the Board Secretary/Communications Officer on behalf of Office Professionals Week.

INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES FROM THE PUBLIC

Lorna Murphy asked “Does the school board acknowledge that we currently have 3 French Immersion in place in Yarmouth County (Plymouth, Central and Drumlin Heights) when determining whether a new program needs to be implemented?”

The Board Chair replied that the Board does acknowledge there are 3 programs in place and that will be part of the discussion next week.

Audrey Vaughn asked “Will concerned parents have access to the study concerning Immersion at Meadowfields before next Tuesday’s meeting and vote?”

No, as the Board must officially receive the report; once received anyone may have a copy.

Shiella Legere asked “Is it not possible that the French Immersion program will be moving farther from the Meadowfields people if Centre Town is on the list for a new school?”

The Chair replied that the Board has no indication that there will be a new school for Yarmouth Central.

Lynette Mullen asked “Could the Board clarify how long the study into a possible FI program at Meadowfields has been taking place? It has been eluded that it only began a short time ago, when the SAC at Meadowfields requested a study of the board last fall.”

The Board confirmed that the process began last fall when the request was made.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Board Chair gave notice that the Board’s by-laws will be revised at the Governance Committee and the revisions brought to the May Board meeting for the consideration of the Board.

The Board Chair gave a 10-minute recess at 8:35 pm.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (cont'd)

The in-camera session recommenced at 8:50 p.m.

MOTION by Board Member Hines, seconded by Board Member Moses that the meeting move out of in-camera at 9:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Board Member Atkinson, seconded by Board Member Baxter, that the meeting move out of committee of the whole at 9:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

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

BD85-03 Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board approve Report No. 62-03, Appointments to Staff, as amended:

- **Carol Arthurs**, school psychologist, on a 100% term basis, effective April 1, 2003 to July 31, 2003 and commencing August 1, 2003, on a probationary contract, year 1;
- **Dawn Greene**, teacher, Drumlin Heights, on a long term substitute basis commencing February 24, 2003;
- **Angela Pepperdene**, teacher, Drumlin Heights, on a 100% term basis, effective March 17, 2003 and commencing August 1, 2003, on a probationary contract, year 1;
- **Mary Turnbull**, teacher, on a term contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Theresa M. Nickerson**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Jennifer Miner**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **David T. MacNeill**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Ryan D. MacDonald**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Diane E. Halliday**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Amanda Deane**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Tanya Connors**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Jason Burns**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Dave Matson**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
- **Leslie Goulden**, teacher, on a probationary contract effective August 1, 2003;
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MOTION CARRIED

RISE AND REPORT FROM MEETING IN COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE, IN-CAMERA
(cont'd)

- BD86-03** Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Hines, that the Board approve Report No. 61-03, Requests from Staff, as amended:
- **Diane Pippy**, teacher, Shelburne Regional High School, resigning effective July 31, 2003;
 - **Shirley Nicholl**, teacher, Hillcrest Academy, entering into a deferred salary leave plan with the period of leave being August 1, 2006, to July 31, 2007;
 - **Peter Westin**, Principal, Evelyn Richardson Memorial Elementary School, resigning effective July 31, 2003;
 - **Janet Locke**, teacher, Hillcrest Academy, retiring effective June 28, 2003;
 - **Heather Bishop-Amero**, Weymouth Consolidated School, resigning effective July 31, 2003;
 - **Paula Doucette**, teacher, Drumlin Heights Consolidated School, retiring effective July 31, 2003.

MOTION CARRIED

- BD87-03** Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Moses, that the request from **Katina Pollock**, teacher, Digby Regional High School, for a fourth consecutive unpaid leave of absence be granted.

MOTION DEFEATED

- BD88-03** Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Hines that the Board Secretary/Communications Officer prepare a press release regarding the special funding request to the Department of Education for those students who have transferred over the past number of years from CSAP to Tri-County District School Board.

MOTION CARRIED

- BD89-03** Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Atkinson, that the Southwest Regional School Board be asked to consider adding 1 full time equivalent (FTE) to the office support staff.

MOTION CARRIED

- BD90-03** Moved by Board Member Haley, seconded by Board Member Tidd, that the Board approve the protocol for outside agencies for school visits.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Hines at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

F. Heather Burlingham
Board Secretary/Communications Officer

Nancy Whittaker
Chair

fhb 03May02