

Public Schools Branch
Thirteenth Public Board of Directors Meeting
December 13, 2017

Minutes

The Board of Directors for the Public Schools Branch met on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at Ellerslie Elementary School.

Present: Susan Willis, Board Chair
Harvey MacEwen
Dale Sabean

Also in Attendance:

Parker Grimmer, Director of Public Schools Branch
John Cummings, Director of Corporate Services
Karen Redmond, Manager of Policy and Planning
Becky Chaisson, Financial Services Coordinator
Sheri Gauthier, Confidential Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Board Chair welcomed those in attendance and Sheri Gauthier to the committee. The Board Chair expressed appreciation to Principal Cormier for hosting the meeting and to his presentation to the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

12/17/01 An action item, Colonel Gray/Charlottetown Rural Catchment Area was added to the agenda under Other Business. **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.**

ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Jason Cormier, Principal, presented information about the school focusing on the importance of each and every role within operating a school and what a typical school day looks like for staff and students. Jason thanked those who implemented the wellness program. He is happy to see it come to fruition and looks forward to assisting with growing the program. There are currently 27 registrations for Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

The Board Chair thanked Jason for his remarks and for organizing the student performance this evening.

4.1 MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

12/17/02 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the November 15, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nothing to report at this time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

(The complete Director's Report will be filed with the official minutes.)

1. Public Schools Branch Enrolment Numbers

Director Grimmer reported that the official September 30, 2017 student enrolment for the Public Schools Branch is 19,250, up 106 students over last year. Kindergarten enrolment numbers for 2018-2019 are down.

2. Update on School Construction

Director Grimmer noted that on November 17, the government announced that investments in the education system have been increased by \$30.9 million over the next five years for Public Schools Branch school infrastructure projects which include a new Sherwood Elementary School; new additions to the Stratford and Lucy Maud Elementary Schools and in new classroom technology and funding for infrastructure upgrades to provide open wireless internet in schools.

Construction Planning Committees have been formed for both LM Montgomery and Stratford Elementary/Glen Stewart Primary communities. Committees are comprised of parent, school, branch, DEELC, and TIE representatives.

The LM Montgomery Construction Planning Committee held their first meeting on November 23. The Stratford Construction Planning Committee will hold their first meeting on December 14.

3. School Visits

Director Grimmer began regularly scheduled school visits in December. Nine schools have been visited to date. The purpose of these visits include visiting classrooms and meeting with students, teachers and administrators. When possible, the Human Resources Director will join these visits. Visits are scheduled to continue through to April.

4. Good Things Happening in Island Schools

a. Summerside Intermediate Students Recreate Halifax in 1917 for the Halifax Explosion's 100th Anniversary

Director Grimmer recognized staff and students for transforming the school into a scene from 1917. Assisted by Kelly Boyd, teacher-librarian, and the rest of the SIS staff, students created a market store, models and maps of the waterfront displays for around the school and were dressing in period clothing for the week. Newspapers and street signs from the era also lined the hallways. The events were incorporating into teacher lesson plans, with some math classes learning what a square kilometre was, mapping it onto Summerside and figuring out what the damage might be from a similar explosion.

b. Queen Charlotte Intermediate Grade 8 Band Makes top 10

Director Grimmer recognized The Queen Charlotte Grade 8 band as they were selected as finalists in the CBC classroom music challenge. They were recognized as one of the top 10 for their division, the only island group represented, and one of a very few finalists from the Maritimes. More information and their music video is attached to the link:

<http://www.cbcmusic.ca/posts/19401/canadian-music-class-challenge-2017-top-ten-finali>

Ms. Sylvia Andrew was commended for writing the arrangement for the full concert band.

c. Alberton Elementary and Mount Stewart Consolidated Receive Indigo Love of Reading Foundation Grants

Director Grimmer congratulated Shanna Perry, principal of Alberton Elementary and Mary Kendrick, principal of Mount Stewart Consolidated along with staff and students for receiving these donations from Indigo to assist with literacy initiatives in their schools.

d. Human Rights Day 2017

Director Grimmer attended Human Rights Day 2017 which took place on December 11 at the Confederation Center. For the last few months, Island students have been learning about Mi'kmaq culture and the historical relationship between Mi'kmaq and non-Mi'kmaq people of Prince Edward Island. Having worked with Mi'kmaq artists and survivors of the Shubenacadie Residential School and the '60's scoop', students created artistic expressions of reconciliation which they showcased at the Human Rights Day event.

The event was a powerful exhibit celebrating the journey of reconciliation and the project was made possible by the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, The Government of Canada, ArtsSmarts, the Confederation Center of the Arts, and in partnership with the DEELC, the UPEI Faculty of Education, and most of all, students, teachers, artists, and survivors.

e. Seasonal Concerts and Holiday Greetings

We know most schools are planning or have already had their seasonal concerts and plays. These events are important moments in the lives of students and their families. The success of these events also require a lot of work on the part of school staff and volunteers. We thank these people for their extra efforts, especially at this busy time of the year. We echo the messages given through music and words at these events: All the best to everyone for a peaceful, safe, and happy holiday season.

5. POLICY REPORT

1. Proposed Policy – Employee Evaluation (504)

12/17/03 The Manager of Policy and Planning reported that this policy identifies that this would replace the ESD GCO Supervision and Evaluation of Staff Policy and WSB #35 Personal (Instructional) Supervision & Evaluation. **It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the proposed Policy, be adopted as presented. Motion carried.**

12/17/04 2. Proposed Rescission - Teacher Layoff (ESD GCPA)

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the proposed policy be rescinded. Motion carried.

- 12/17/05 3. Proposed Rescission - Leave of Absence Board Regulation (ESD GCC-R)
It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the policy be rescinded. Motion carried.
- 11/17/06 4. Proposed Rescission - Record Retention & Destruction (WSB)
It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the policy be rescinded. Motion carried

Harvey MacEwen asked the Manager of Policy and Planning if timelines have been identified. The Manager noted that timelines were not developed at this time but will be identified in the near future. Let the minutes reflect that no records are to be destroyed due to the Tobacco Litigation Hold.

Ms. Willis asked that info around the expectation be circulated to staff for their reminder and information.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Andy Doran presented to the Board of Directors as a member of the community. He shared his concerns about the length of time students spend on busses in the Tyne Valley area. Mr. Doran noted that this excess time impedes on the potential for extra-curricular activities. He is advocating for a change in the bus schedule and would like to see the time spent on busses in this area be decreased.

The Board Chair expressed appreciation for the presentation.

8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Motion re Colonel Gray/Charlottetown Rural Catchment Area

The Board Chair noted that this item is being discussed for clarity purposes and asked Director Grimmer to review this issue with school administrators.

Moved that, as the Public Schools Branch has yet to act upon any changes proposed in the School Study of 2016-17 for the two Charlottetown high schools, the enrolment catchment areas for Charlottetown Rural High School and Colonel Gray High School will continue as is for the next two school years (2018-19 and 2019-20); that is, students from, the elementary schools as noted below will attend Charlottetown Rural and Colonel Gray, respectively, upon entering Grade 10.

Charlottetown Rural: (Donagh Regional, Glen Stewart Primary, Stratford Elementary, Sherwood Elementary, L.M. Montgomery Elementary)

Colonel Gray: (West Kent Elementary, West Royalty Elementary, Spring Park Elementary, Prince Street Elementary, Parkdale Elementary, St. Jean Elementary)

11/17/07

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the catchment areas be approved as presented. Motion carried

The Board Chair expressed her appreciation to Ellerslie Elementary for their hospitality. She also noted that the Board of Directors' receive and reserve the right to discuss and consider information presented today. The Board Chair closed with well wishes for all during this holiday season.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.