

Public Schools Branch
Twenty Third Public Board of Directors Meeting
February 20, 2019

Minutes

The Board of Directors for the Public Schools Branch met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at Mount Stewart Consolidated.

Present: Susan Willis, Board Chair
Harvey MacEwen
Dale Sabean (via GoTo Meeting)

Also in Attendance:

Parker Grimmer, Director of Public Schools Branch
Erin Johnston, Assistant Director
Karen Redmond, Manager of Policy and Planning
Wendy Bernier, Director of Human Resources
Sheri Gauthier, Confidential Board Secretary

1. Mount Stewart Consolidated Presentation

The Board Chair welcomed Principal, Mary Kendrick to share a few words about her school.

Principal Kendrick introduced Grade 8 students, Abbi Melvin and Hope Affleck who shared many good things happening at Mount Stewart Consolidated.

The Board Chair expressed her appreciation to Principal Kendrick and Vice Principal, Melissa MacKinnon for hosting the Board of Directors' meeting and noted the positive tone throughout the school.

2. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. The Board Chair welcomed those in attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

02/20/01 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the agenda be approved with the deferral of item 6.2 – Proposed Policy – Students Requiring Assistance Policy. This item will be added to the April 11, 2019 meeting agenda for consideration.**

Motion carried.

4. Minutes of the December 12, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting

02/20/02 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the December 12, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented.**

Motion carried.

5. Director's Report

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

1. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

February 11 to 16 was Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. It is the time of the year where students as well as parents thank teachers and other school staff for their hard work and support. The Public Schools Branch also wants to thank our teachers and staff for their incredible efforts.

We thank our teachers and staff for everything they do each and every day to improve the lives of those entrusted in their care. We truly appreciate all the time and energy they devote to young people and their profession. Their efforts make the school experience more enjoyable and pleasant for students.

The work our teachers and staff do creating wonderful learning environments inspires students to be the best they can be.

2. Andrew Stewart is One of Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2019

The Learning Partnership announced the names of 30 exceptional educators from across the country as Canada's Outstanding Principals for 2019, and Bloomfield Elementary School Principal, Andrew Stewart, was included in this elite group. Andrew has been recognized for the special and significant contributions he makes to his school community, and the Public Schools Branch. He exemplifies all the qualities required to be one of Canada's Outstanding Principals. Principal Stewart is very dedicated and well respected by students, staff, parents and his peers. He is committed to trying to find innovative ways to meet the needs of his students and is a strong advocate on their behalf. Andrew is committed to working collaboratively with his staff and community so students can be successful.

Andrew, along with the 29 other Canadian principals, were nominated by parents, colleagues, and community members, and chosen by a national selection committee. This exceptional group are being celebrated for demonstrating innovation, leadership and for employing creativity in finding solutions and opportunities within their school communities. They will be awarded for their accomplishments at the annual Canada's Outstanding Principals gala on February 26 in Toronto. The winners also benefit from an exclusive five-day executive leadership training program at one of Canada's top business schools, the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management.

Andrew is most deserving of this honour as he is recognized in his school community as a great leader. His passion for the success of his school and his students is remarkable. The admiration he has earned from his students, staff, parents, other members of his school community, and his colleagues across our branch are to be celebrated. The Public Schools Branch is very pleased and proud that Andrew has been recognized, along with other dynamic leaders across Canada.

The Public School Branch thanks Andrew for his excellent work and for his commitment to others. We are fortunate to have Principal Stewart as a COP recipient, as he represents all our efforts so well.

3. New AEDs Will Provide Schools with Quicker Access to Emergency Response

All of our PSB schools will soon have access to modern automated external defibrillators (AEDs). AEDs are used during a cardiac failure to shock the heart and restore its rhythm. They are known to dramatically increase the survival rate from a cardiac arrest. The new units will be placed in schools that do not have an AED, and in schools where existing units will be replaced and upgraded.

Currently 37 PSB schools have AEDs, which have been purchased by Home and School, community groups, and by the PSB and FLSB for schools where there is an identified risk among the student or staff population. Modern AEDs are safe and easy to use. Teachers and staff will be trained by the Red Cross to use the new units. The school-based AEDs will be added to the provincial AED Registry which is a database used by first responders to locate the nearest defibrillator when an emergency occurs in an Island community.

4. School Food Service Demonstrations

School food service demonstrations providing healthy, local "pay-what-you-can" school lunches took place at St Jean Elementary from January 28 to February 1, and at Prince Street Elementary from February 4 to 8. Healthy, local "pay-what-you-can" lunches were offered, created by the school chef at École François-Buote, a champion in PEI school food. These lunches replaced the normal hot lunch program for one week only at each school. There was also an opportunity for parents, students, and school staff to give feedback.

This demonstration allowed the branch to collect information on the "pay-what-you-can" cost-shared meal program and the use of a centralized kitchen that are important components of the school food strategy. This learning opportunity will ensure a smoother transition to a new food service model at our 9 pilot schools in the fall of 2019.

5. Stratford High School Development Committee

A Stratford High School Development Committee has been formed to look at the educational and learning needs of students from this school prior to it being designed and built. The committee is comprised of educators including two principals and two teachers who will make recommendations to the Stratford High School Construction Committee regarding the space plan for the new school, including any recommendations related to the general layout of the school to ensure safety, security, optimum learning and environmentally friendly and energy efficient design that would match curricular and student learning outcomes. Two meetings have taken place to determine the scope of their work.

This group is looking at existing, new, and emerging educational pedagogy and 21st Century learning and technology options that may impact infrastructure for a new school, investigate the curricular, educational, social, emotional, and extracurricular program considerations, determine the optimum student population, the possible area of zoned students, the most effective grades configuration, meet and listen to the perspectives of students, architects, and community planners, and determine ways to engage and involve students, local government and community representation further through the process at future meetings.

6. Construction Updates

Three Oaks High School construction on the interior of the school was 100% completed on February 15. The final section of the school that will be worked on is the 2A1 section which is comprised of seven classrooms in the general science area, plus the washrooms in that area. The final inspection of the boiler and mechanical issues will be completed after March break. Work will then commence on the items on the deficiency list.

The LM Montgomery Elementary and Stratford Elementary additions are progressing well and are still on track to finish by their targeted end date of mid-August 2019. Many thanks to the administration and staff of these schools for ensuring great and safe learning environments amid all the construction.

The West Royalty Elementary Planning Committee has been struck and the planning for the West Royalty addition has begun. Considering the best location for the addition was a key item discussed at the first meeting.

The New Sherwood School Planning Committee has met three times and are currently looking at a space plan for the new school. Several members of this committee toured Souris Regional, Spring Park Elementary, and Stratford Elementary earlier in February.

7. Transition Teams at Work

Transition Teams have held meetings to plan for the successful transition of students between schools for the 2019/20 school year. One transition team is planning the move of grade 3 students from Glen Stewart to the new addition that will be completed at Stratford Elementary. Another team is supporting the transition of Orchard Hill/Lewis Point grade k-2 students from Spring Park Elementary to West Royalty Elementary. Work includes communicating plans with parents, organizing tour for students and families, developing transportation routes, where needed, and ensuring staffing and supplies are ready for the first day of school next year.

8. Strategic Action Plan

PSB staff are working hard on many aspects of the strategic plan. Specially, work is presently being done on section 1.2 Determine student attendance rates and reasons for absenteeism, section 1.3 Encourage and engage students and staff in the pursuit of learning, and section 4.5 Develop a process and report structure for regular Branch reviews. We thank principals, teachers, students, parents, and other education stakeholders who were invited to engage in this work with us.

9. Good Things Happening In Island Schools

KISH Loren Scholarship Award Winner

Congratulations to Kensington Intermediate High School's Marilyn Sheen on winning the prestigious \$100,000 Loren Scholarship Award! This scholarship is awarded on the basis of leadership, service, and character. More than 5,000 young aspiring scholars apply across Canada, but only a small number of students win each year. This year 35 scholars were named.

Sheen was described as having the 'whole package'. She has represented P.E.I. at the Canada Games for mountain biking, she has worked as a figure skating coach and the essay she submitted centered on the importance of giving back to her community. These accomplishments among other things that put her ahead of the pack.

With her winnings, Sheen is looking to pursue her passion for science and hopes to eventually write for National Geographic. The entire KISH and PSB educational community are so proud of Marilyn and her success.

Colonel Gray Student Carries the P.E.I. Flag During the 2019 Canada Winter Games Opening Ceremony

CGHS student Cameron Davis carried the P.E.I. flag for his team during the 2019 Canada Winter Games opening ceremony. Davis also participated in men's artistic gymnastics during Week 1 of games in Red Deer, Alberta. Cameron recognized what a tremendous honour it was to be named the flag bearer for Team P.E.I., saying: "I'm representing much more than myself, my team and my city – I get to represent the entire province."

Davis is a Grade 12 student at Colonel Gray High School and son of Paula Clark, EAL Assessment Specialist, and Pat Davis of Charlottetown. He was a three-time medalist at 2018 Eastern Canadian Gymnastic Championships (two silver, one bronze). Cameron has also lived his entire life with cystic fibrosis (CF).

Team P.E.I.'s delegation totaled 222 individuals, including 153 athletes, 54 team officials and 15 mission staff, many of them members of the PSB community. We are proud of Cameron and all the members of Team PEI.

Kensington Intermediate High School student Marilyn Sheen was recently named one of the recipients of the 2019 Loran Scholarship, valued at about \$100, 000.

Murray and McAllister Selected to Represent Hockey P.E.I. in IIHF Global Girls Game

Two Prince Edward Island female hockey players were selected to represent PEI at an international event featuring female players from across the country.

Charlotte Murray and Alexa McAllister, who both play in the P.E.I. Bantam A Female Hockey League, participated in the 2019 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Global Girls Game in Calgary, Alberta on Feb. 16th. The pair were selected by

Hockey P.E.I. to participate in the game, which was hosted by Hockey Canada and Hockey Alberta as part of the IIHF Global Girls Game.

Charlotte is in Grade 9 at Summerside Intermediate School. She plays defence with the Tyne Valley Tornados. Alexa is from Albany, and is in Grade 9 at East Wiltshire Junior High School in Cornwall. McAllister is a member of the East Prince Wildcats. We congratulate them on their success participating in this opportunity.

6. Policy Report

6.1 Proposed Policy – Student Transportation Policy

02/20/03 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the policy be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

6.2 Proposed Policy – Students Requiring Assistance Policy

02/20/04 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the policy be deferred until the April 11, 2019 meeting.

Motion carried.

6.3 Proposed Policy – Employee Conflict of Interest Policy

02/20/05 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the policy be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

6.4 Proposed Rescission – ADF Poverty Intervention Policy

02/20/06 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the policy be rescinded.

Motion carried.

7. School Name Change – Somerset Elementary

02/20/07 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that Somerset Elementary be renamed to Somerset Consolidated to reflect the K-8 configuration.

Motion carried.

8. Prince Street – PEI Energy Systems Contract

02/20/08 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the contract be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

9. Other Business

Nothing to report at this time.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.