

Public Schools Branch
Seventh Public Board of Directors Meeting
April 3, 2017

Minutes

The Board of Directors for the Public Schools Branch met on Monday, April 3, 2017 at Bluefield High School for a Special Board Meeting to consider recommendations from the Category II Change Study Reports.

Present: Susan Willis, Board Chair
Harvey MacEwen
Pat Mella

Also in Attendance:
Parker Grimmer, Director of Public Schools Branch
Cindy MacLean, 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 acknowledged Principal Jerry Coady and his staff for their work to host the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

04/17/01 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Pat Mella that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CATEGORY II CHANGE STUDY REPORTS

CHARLOTTETOWN

Recommendation No. 1 – Consolidate the Charlottetown Rural and Colonel Gray families of schools into one family with ten elementary schools, three intermediate schools, and two high schools.

04/17/02 It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 1 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report and consolidate the Charlottetown Rural and Colonel Gray Families of Schools into one family of schools, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 2 – Close St. Jean Elementary.

04/17/03

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 2 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report to close St. Jean Elementary School and that the Public Schools Branch request the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to close St. Jean Elementary School permanently, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 3 – Eliminate Glen Stewart/Donagh Dual Zone catchment and merge it with the Donagh catchment.

04/17/04

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 3 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report and eliminate the Glen Stewart-Stratford/Donagh Dual School Attendance Zone and add this area to the Donagh School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 4 – Eliminate the West Kent/St. Jean Dual Zone catchment, eliminate the St. Jean catchment and merge them and a portion of the Spring Park catchment with the West Kent catchment.

04/17/05

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 4 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report, in part, and eliminate the West Kent/St. Jean Dual School Attendance Zone and add it to the West Kent School Attendance Zone effective June 30, 2017 and, subject to and conditional upon obtaining approval from the Lieutenant Governor in Council to close St. Jean Elementary School, eliminate the St. Jean School Attendance Zone effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 5 – Eliminate the West Kent/West Royalty Dual Zone catchment and merge it with the remainder of the Spring Park catchment.

04/17/06

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 5 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report, in part, and eliminate the West Kent/West Royalty Dual School Attendance Zone and add this area to the Spring Park School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 6 – Merge a portion of the Parkdale catchment and Sherwood catchment with the Prince Street catchment.

Recommendation No. 7 – Merge a portion of the Sherwood catchment, Prince Street catchment and St. Jean catchment with the Parkdale catchment.

Recommendation No. 8 – Merge a portion of L.M. Montgomery catchment and Parkdale catchment with the Sherwood catchment.

Recommendation No. 9 – Merge a portion of Parkdale catchment with the West Royalty catchment.

Recommendation No. 10 – Reduce the L.M. Montgomery catchment.

04/17/07

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation Nos. 6-10, inclusive, of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 11 – West Kent Elementary and West Royalty Elementary will both become dual track schools offering English and Early French Immersion Programs.

04/17/08

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 11 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report, in part, and that West Kent Elementary School become a dual track school offering English and Early French Immersion Programs, commencing on the first day of school in September, 2017, and that West Royalty Elementary School remain a single track school, offering English Programs only.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 12 – Re-zone Stratford and Donagh Intermediate students to Birchwood Intermediate.

04/17/09

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacLeod that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 12 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report, in part, and add the area comprising the Glen Stewart/Stratford School Attendance Zone to the Birchwood Intermediate School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 13 – Reduce the Stonepark Intermediate catchment.

04/17/10 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacLeod that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 13 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report to reduce the Stonepark Intermediate School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017, by:**
(i) removing the area comprising the Glen Stewart/Stratford School Attendance Zone from the Stonepark Intermediate School Attendance Zone;
(ii) removing the areas comprising the St. Jean (Hillsborough Development) School Attendance Zone and the Prince Street (Hillsborough Village) School Attendance Zone from the Birchwood Intermediate School Attendance Zone and adding them to the Stonepark Intermediate Attendance Zone; and
(iii) removing the area comprising all sections of the Parkdale School Attendance Zone from the Birchwood Intermediate School Attendance Zone and adding them to the Stonepark Intermediate School Attendance Zone.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 14 – Re-define the Queen Charlotte Intermediate catchment.

04/17/11 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 14 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report by adding the area comprising the St. Jean (Main) School Attendance Zone, also known as the St. Jean Downtown Zone, to the Queen Charlotte School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017.**

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 15 – At a future date, the catchments of Charlottetown Rural and Colonel Gray should be investigated to improve transportation by zoning students to a closer school.

04/17/12 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacLeod that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 15 of the Charlottetown Category II Change Study Report, in part, and direct the Public Schools Branch Director to conduct a review of the Charlottetown Rural and Colonel Gray School Attendance Zones, in accordance with section 4.1 of the Public Schools Branch School Change Policy.**

Motion carried.

Additional Motions For Which There Were No Recommendations

04/17/13 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch recommend to the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture that immediate action be taken to add additional school infrastructure in the Stratford area.**

Motion carried.

04/17/14

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch recommend to the Minister of Education, Early Learning and Culture that the Department consider the need to add additional space and improve the infrastructure for students in the West Royalty School Attendance Zone, the Sherwood School Attendance Zone, and the L.M. Montgomery School Attendance Zone based on the recent and projected growth in the area, the current capacity in the schools, and the physical condition of some of the schools in those areas.

Motion carried.

KINKORA FAMILY

Recommendation No. 1 – Complete a Category II Study of the schools of Kinkora, Three Oaks, Bluefield and Kensington Families to investigate improving transportation of students and school utilization. This study should investigate the merits of re-zoning grade 10-12 students to Three Oaks Senior High, Kensington Intermediate Senior High and/or Bluefield High.

04/17/15

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 1 of Kinkora Family Category II Change Study Report.

Motion carried.

MONTAGUE FAMILY

Recommendation No. 1 – Close Georgetown Elementary and re-zone students to Cardigan Consolidated and Montague Intermediate.

04/17/16

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 1 of the Montague Family Category II Change Study Report to close Georgetown Elementary School and that the Public Schools Branch request the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to close Georgetown Elementary School permanently, effective June 30, 2017.

Motion carried.

04/17/17

It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch accept Recommendation No. 1 of the Montague Family Category II Change Study Report to eliminate the Georgetown School Attendance Zone and, for grades K-6, add it to the Cardigan Consolidated School Attendance Zone and, for grades 7-8, add it to the Montague Intermediate School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017, subject to and conditional upon obtaining approval from the Lieutenant Governor in Council to close Georgetown Elementary School.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 2 – Merge the south portion of Mount Stewart Consolidated catchment with the Cardigan Consolidated catchment, Montague Intermediate catchment, and the Montague Regional High catchment.

04/17/18 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 2 of the Montague Family Category II Change Study Report.**

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 3 – Close Belfast Consolidated and merge the eastern portion of the Belfast catchment with the Southern Kings catchment and the western portion of the Belfast catchment with the Vernon River catchment.

04/17/19 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacLeod that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 3 of the Montague Family Category II Change Study Report.**

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 4 – Reconfigure Southern Kings Consolidated to grades K-9.

04/17/20 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 4 of the Montague Family Category II Change Study Report.**

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 5 – Pending sufficient enrolment add Late French Immersion to Montague Intermediate.

04/17/21 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Late French Immersion Program be offered at Montague Intermediate School commencing on the first day of school in September, 2018, provided there is sufficient enrolment to meet Program requirements.**

Motion carried.

Additional Motion For Which There Was No Recommendation:

04/17/22 **It was moved by Pat Mella and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the Public Schools Branch remove the communities of Annandale and Little Pond and the area located east of the intersection of Annandale Road and the Annandale Wharf Road, including civic addresses on the Annandale Wharf Road, from the Cardigan Consolidated School Attendance Zone and add those communities and that area to the Souris Regional School Attendance Zone, effective June 30, 2017.**

Motion carried.

MORELL FAMILY

Recommendation No. 1 – Re-zone Savage Harbour students to Mount Stewart Consolidated.

Recommendation No. 2 – Merge the south portion of Mount Stewart Consolidated catchment, Montague Intermediate catchment, and the Montague Regional High catchment.

Recommendation No. 3 – Reconfigure Mount Stewart Consolidated and Morell Consolidated to grades K-6.

Recommendation No. 4 – Reconfigure Morell Regional to grades 7-12.

Recommendation No. 5 – At a future date, the feasibility of closing Mount Stewart and Morell Consolidated and renovating Morell Regional to accommodate grades K-12 should be investigated.

04/17/23

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation Nos. 1-5, inclusive, of the Morell Family Category II Change Study Report.

Motion carried.

Additional Motion For Which There Was No Recommendation

04/17/24

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch direct the Public Schools Branch Director to conduct a review of the Morell Regional High School, in accordance with section 4.1 of the Public Schools Branch School Change Policy, and explore the feasibility of reconfiguring the school to accommodate grades 7-12.

Motion carried.

WESTISLE FAMILY

Recommendation No. 1 – Close St. Louis Elementary and merge St. Louis catchment with Tignish catchment.

04/17/25

It was moved by Harvey MacLeod and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 1 of the Westisle Family Category II Change Study Report.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 2 – Close Bloomfield and merge the north portion of Bloomfield catchment with Alberton catchment and merge the south portion of Bloomfield catchment with the O’Leary catchment.

04/17/26

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation No. 2 of the Westisle Family Category II Change Study Report.

Motion carried.

Recommendation No. 3 – Adjust the Hernewood and M.E. Callaghan catchments.

Recommendation No. 4 – Alberton Elementary and O’Leary Elementary will both become dual track schools offering English and French Immersion Programs.

Recommendation No. 5 – Community groups should still be provided access to school facilities, e.g. St. Louis Gymnastics Club currently operating out of St. Louis Elementary.

04/17/27

It was moved by Harvey MacLeod and seconded by Pat Mella that the Public Schools Branch reject Recommendation Nos. 3 and 4 of the Westisle Family Category II Change Study Report and that Recommendation No. 5 not be considered given the rejection of Recommendation 1.

Motion carried.

The Board Chair expressed appreciation to members of the public for their attendance at the meeting, and advised that any questions should be directed to Director Grimmer or Bob Andrews, School Reorganization Project Manager.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.