

Public Schools Branch
Ninth Public Board of Directors Meeting
June 20, 2017

Minutes

The Board of Directors for the Public Schools Branch met on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at Birchwood Intermediate 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
Dave Gillis, Leader of Corporate Services
Karen Redmond, Manager of Policy and Planning
Cindy MacLean, Confidential Board Secretary
Becky Chaisson, Financial Services Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. and the Board Chair welcomed those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

06/17/01 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that item 9.1 (Proposed Policy – Student Suspension (ACTION)) be removed from the agenda and brought back at a future meeting. Motion carried.**

06/17/02 **It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.**

The Board Chair introduced Dale Sabean as a recently appointed member of the Board of Directors and noted that his expertise in education would be welcome and valuable.

BIRCHWOOD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Principal Ron Carragher welcomed the Board, staff and members of the public to Birchwood Intermediate School. Mr. Carragher reported that the School Change process had resulted in a significant change in student attendance zones for Birchwood Intermediate which will result in increased student enrolment as well as increased staffing for September. Orientation sessions have been held for parents and students who will be new to Birchwood Intermediate in the fall, and work will continue on the transition.

The Board Chair expressed appreciation to Mr. Carragher and his staff for hosting the meeting, and for providing orientation sessions for new parents and students.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

- 06/17/03 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the January 10, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

- 06/17/04 It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the minutes of the April 3, 2017 Board of Directors Special Meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

- 06/17/05 It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the June 1, 2017 Board of Directors Special Meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

1. School Visits

Director Grimmer reported that he had visited each of the 56 Public Schools Branch schools twice during the 2016-2017 school year, which provided opportunities to witness teaching and learning as well as recognize students who had been nominated by staff members.

2. Transition Update

A Branch-Based Transition Team and two Joint School-Based Transition Teams (Charlottetown Intermediate, Cardigan/Charlottetown/Stratford Elementary) have been meeting since mid-April to prepare for school change and support students for the changes to commence in September. The teams have identified transitional requirements and are working to ensure they are completed.

Open houses and orientation sessions have allowed transitioning students and parents to find out school-related information and meet other students and staff.

3. School Staffing Process – 2017-2018 Teacher Allocation Process

Director Grimmer provided a summary of the teacher allocation process and noted that teacher positions have been allocated fairly and consistently across the province, building equity for students and support for teachers through more consistent student-teacher ratios. Teacher allocations are assigned on an annual basis, based on enrolment and needs as identified through close collaboration with school leadership.

The Public Schools Branch received 25 additional teaching positions from the provincial government for the 2017-2018 school year. The primary goals to allocate those positions were to put teachers where students would be attending, to improve class size and support teachers with class composition challenges, to ensure schools with similar configurations are staffed in a similar manner, and to build equity for

students across the province.

Director Grimmer provided the Board of Directors with documents to indicate the staffing allocations for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years, as well as the student/staffing ratio for those years.

4. High School Graduations

Mr. Grimmer reviewed the schedule for all ten Public Schools Branch high school graduation ceremonies.

BUDGET APPROVAL FOR THE 2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR

The proposed operational budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year was presented to the Board of Directors by John Cummings and Becky Chaisson. The budget of \$18,721,300 projects a surplus of \$400, which would be considered a balanced budget. Mr. Cummings indicated that maintenance of buildings is one of the greatest challenges to the budget, along with electricity and heating costs.

06/17/06

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the proposed Public Schools Branch Operational Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

POLICY REPORT

06/17/07

1. Proposed Policy 503 – Student Teaching

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the proposed Operational Policy 503 – Student Teaching, be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

06/17/08

2. Proposed Revision to Policy GP11 – Student Appeal

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the proposed revisions to Policy GP11 – Student Appeal, be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

06/17/09

3. Proposed Revision to Policy GP12 – Establishment of School Attendance Zones

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the proposed revisions to Board Governance Policy GP12 – Establishment of School Attendance Zones, be adopted as presented. Motion carried.

06/17/10

4. Proposed Rescission of ESD Policy DFAA – School Budgets

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that Eastern School District Policy DFAA – School Budgets, be rescinded. Motion carried.

06/17/11

5. Proposed Rescission of ESD Policy DBC – Budget and Business Planning

It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the Eastern School District Policy DBC – Budget and Business Planning, be rescinded. Motion carried.

6. Proposed Rescission of ESD Board Regulation GBEA-R – Role Description:
Superintendent of Education

06/17/12

It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that Eastern School District Board Regulation GBEA-R – Role Description: Superintendent of Education, be rescinded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Parent Wade Norquay made a presentation on behalf of “Parents of Recommendation 12” and requested that the Board reconsider its decision to change recommendation 12 of the Charlottetown Change Study Report and not rezone Donagh students to join Glen Stewart/Stratford students at Birchwood Intermediate in September. (A copy of the presentation will be filed with the official minutes.) Several members of the public also commented regarding the presentation. The Board Chair indicated that the presentation would be considered, and a response would be provided to Mr. Norquay.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair indicated that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in the month of September. The date will be announced publicly well in advance and will be posted on the Public Schools Branch website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.