

Public Schools Branch
Eleventh Public Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2017

Minutes

The Board of Directors for the Public Schools Branch met on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at Stratford 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
Dave Gillis, Leader of Corporate Services
Karen Redmond, Manager of Policy and Planning
Carlene Grigg, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

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

Director Grimmer commented on a tremendous start up to a new school year.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

09/17/01 **It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.**

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

09/17/02 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the June 20, 2017 Board of Directors meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.**

MINUTES OF THE JULY 4, 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

09/17/03 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the minutes of the July 4, 2017 Board of Directors meeting be adopted as presented. Motion carried.**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

1. Rezoning and Transitions Update

Director Grimmer reported that there are 19,000 + kindergarten to Grade 12 students started back to school in September. There seemed to be a very positive mood in schools. Students were greeted by well prepared and welcoming school staffs.

Last spring, there were approximately 7,500 letters sent to students regarding changes to school zones. Approximately 1,200 students were impacted by rezoning.

Student populations are changing and increasing as families move throughout and into the province. These numbers can change daily. An official enrollment number will be available at the end of September.

To support transitions, there was increased public awareness about the government's back-to-school web page and Public Schools Branch website that provided helpful information.

2. Staffing Update

There are 1430.35 full time equivalent teaching positions in the Public Schools Branch. Approximately 65 new teaching positions have been filled this year. We have 15 first time teachers hired with fixed term contracts.

3. School Renovations

More than \$100,000 was invested in schools where enrolment increased. Investments included additional computers, furniture and equipment, and paving. A considerable amount of maintenance took place over the summer in many schools. Most notably, asbestos ceiling tile abatement was completed at East Wiltshire Intermediate School and Queen Elizabeth Elementary School. Major renovation and construction work is continuing at Three Oaks Senior High School.

4. French Immersion

More than 375 Island students are participating in French Immersion programs at West Kent Elementary and Birchwood Intermediate schools this year. Classrooms were prepared, materials ordered and teachers hired to welcome 145 new Early French Immersion students at West Kent Elementary, and 232 new Continuing and Late French Immersion students at Birchwood Intermediate.

5. Transition Update

Public Schools Branch is monitoring bus routes to ensure things are working as smoothly as possible. We appreciate the patience of students and parents as these routines are established.

It is important that students travel on the bus that they have been assigned. We are asking parents to ensure schools have the most up to date address information so that transporting their children can be done in the most efficient manner.

We have also worked to ensure plans are in place to re-route buses impacted by the construction work in September and October at the Queens Arms intersection in Charlottetown.

6. Branch Directed Professional Development Day

The PSB was responsible for delivering branch directed professional development to some of our staff on September 5 and 6. Training included:

September 5, 2017

- Bus Driver First Aid Training (Day 1) at Summerside Intermediate, 12 staff
- Hearing Test for PSB Music Teachers at Summerside Intermediate, 30+ staff

September 6, 2017

- Bus Driver First Aid Training (Day 2) at Summerside Intermediate, 12 staff
- Standard First Aid for Schools (Day 1) at Greenfield Elementary (Western Schools), 22 staff. Stratford Elementary for (Eastern Schools), 34 staff
- Scaffolding for Carpentry Teacher at Colonel Gray, 15 staff
- JHSC Training at Bluefield High, 80+ staff

7. Inspire Award

The Public Schools Branch believes in celebrating the achievements of students, parents, staff and other valued members of our educational community. The Inspire Award is one of the ways we are showing our appreciation. We are inviting and encouraging members of our school communities to help us recognize individuals for the inspirational things they do to help us all experience success and make our schools a great place to work and learn. Anyone can nominate an employee, student, volunteer, parent or community member by completing the online nomination form.

8. Good Things Happening In Island Schools

- Hockeyville

The community of O'Leary was recently voted as the winner of Kraft Hockeyville 2017. Hockeyville committee invited students from the Westisle Family of Schools to attend the Hockeyville game day practice on September 25.

- Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters, September 30

Since it began in 2013, many schools throughout the country have included Orange Shirt Day in their calendar of events. Participation in this day is an opportunity for teachers and students to bring awareness of residential schools and is also an invitation to reconciliation.

STUDENT WELLBEING PROGRAM

(The complete presentation will be filled with the official minutes).

Julia Gaudet, Director of Student Services, presented a report on Student Well-Being Program, (SWBP) supporting children, youth and families to reach their full potential.

In the spring of 2016 the DEELC initiated a review of mental health services for students in the Montague, Westisle and Colonel Gray Families of Schools.

The SWBP includes Core Services Teams known as Student Well Being Teams, and will expand access for students to occupational Therapy services; establish a West Prince A+ site; enhance MAST to include broader service range and increased accountability and advance staff and community awareness for existing programs and services.

Each team will consist of: Two comprehensive school health nurses, one mental health social worker, two youth outreach workers and one counselling consultant.

UPDATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

The proposed request for funding in the upcoming capital budget from the Province of Prince Edward Island was presented to the Board of Directors by John Cummings. Mr. Cummings requested additional funding to our existing budget for the following projects: Addition to Stratford Elementary School, Addition to West Royalty Elementary School, Addition to LM Montgomery Elementary School and a new build for Sherwood Elementary School.

09/17/04 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the Board request funding in the upcoming capital budget from the Province of Prince Edward Island for the following projects:**

- **Addition to Stratford Elementary School**
- **Addition to West Royalty Elementary School**
- **Addition to LM Montgomery Elementary School**
- **New build for Sherwood Elementary School**

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Mr. Cummings presented Invoice #294190 (PSB Property Insurance Premiums) be approved for payment in the amount of \$549,246.00 to be approved.

09/17/05 **It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the invoice #294190 to PSB Property Insurance Premiums be approved as presented.**

Mr. Cummings presented Invoice #294191 (PSB Automobile – School Bus Liability Insurance Premiums) in the amount of \$184,516.00 to be approved.

09/17/06 **It was moved by Dale Sabean and seconded by Harvey MacEwen that the invoice #294191 to PSB Automobile (School Bus) Liability Insurance Premiums be approved as presented.**

Mr. Cummings presented Invoice #294192 (PSB Property Insurance Premiums) in the amount of \$364,466.00 to be approved.

09/17/07 **It was moved by Harvey MacEwen and seconded by Dale Sabean that the invoice #294192 to PSB Property Insurance Premiums be approved as presented.**

PUBLIC INPUT

(The complete presentation will be filled with the official minutes).

Parents, Robyn Walsh Campbell and Andrew Campbell, and Melissa Dias presented on behalf of the Campbell's Way issue regarding bussing.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair indicated that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on November 15, 2017 at Queen Elizabeth Elementary School.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.