

## **Eastern School Board**

*February 3, 2006*

### **1. OPENING**

A meeting of the Eastern School Board took place on Friday, February 3, 2006, at the Vista Regional Office, Clarendville. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by the Chairperson, Mr. Peach.

Members present: Mr. Milton Peach, Chair  
Dr. Jim Hearn, Vice Chair  
Mr. Ken Best  
Dr. Ed Brown  
Dr. David Dibbon  
Mr. Chris Hammond  
Mr. Melvin Lambe  
Mr. Rick Martin  
Mr. Jack Murphy  
Mr. Jerry Rice  
Ms. Rosalind Robere  
Mr. Eric A. Snow  
Mr. Derek Winsor

Absent with regrets: Mr. George Sheppard

Also in attendance: Dr. Darin T. King, CEO/Director of Education  
Mr. Richard Harvey, Assistant Director, Human Resources  
Mr. Darrin Pike, Assistant Director, Programs  
Mr. Eric C. Snow, Assistant Director, Finance  
Ms. Mary Tucker, Manager of Communications  
Ms. Gwen Hurley, Executive/Corporate Assistant

The Chair welcomed to all to the meeting.

### **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Moved by Jerry Rice, seconded by Rick Martin, that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Rosalind Robere, that the minutes of the School Board meeting of December 7, 2005, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising. It was suggested that next year concerns regarding student assistant hours be tied to the pre budget consultation presentation.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

5.1 **Minister of Education – Liability Insurance.** The Director noted that the policy on school use by outside groups requires insurance, as mandated by Government. There is concern that this is restricting community use of schools. This correspondence was to inform the Minister of Education of the concerns and to seek Government support of a blanket insurance policy to cover communities groups.

It was suggested that the Chair write the Minister on this issue to lend Board support to the action taken by the Administration.

**Motion:** Moved by Dave Dibbon, seconded by Ken Best, that the issue of liability insurance be brought to NLSBA in an effort to lobby government on the provincial level. Carried.

6. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

6.1 **Executive – January 16, 2006** This was distributed for information purposes only.

Mr. Eric C. Snow advised that he has spoken with the RC Episcopal Corporation regarding the Mobile School site but did not get a response to date. There has been no response from the Department of Education at this point either.

The Director agreed to investigate the use of technology for voting in the case of inclement weather.

6.2 **Programs – January 12, 2006** The report was distributed for information only. Programs committee suggests that the Executive consider recommending the Board have a presentation on the new math program.

It was noted that there are approximately 20-25 interim policies and 20 new policies to be developed in the Programs Division. A list of policies would be provided to Derek Winsor by the Programs Committee.

- 6.3 **Finance – January 20, 2006.** The report was circulated. There was no meeting due to lack of a quorum, however, the items were discussed by the group.

The appropriateness of the agenda and items for discussion being forwarded prior to any committee meeting was discussed.

**Motion:** Moved by David Dibbon, seconded by Ken Best, that the agenda and relevant information for all committees be sent out 48 hours in advance when practical. Carried.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 School Council Protocol Agreements

**Motion:** Moved by David Dibbon, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the following school council protocol agreements be approved.

- |      |                          |     |                          |
|------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| i.   | Heritage Collegiate      | ii. | Roncalli Elementary      |
| iii. | Tricon Elementary        | iv. | St. Joseph's Academy     |
| v.   | Brother Rice Junior High | vi. | Beaconsfield Junior High |

Carried.

It was agreed that a list of approved protocol agreements would be forwarded to Derek Winsor.

- 7.2 **Financial Statements for September 1 - December 31, 2005.** The Assistant Director of Finance gave an overview of the financial statements.

For internal reporting it was agreed that the statements would color highlight lines that are "in and out" items, therefore allowing review of the discretionary spending lines only.

The Auditor General's report was raised and the Director advised that there were factual inaccuracies as it related to senior administrators' salaries being paid. Dr. King noted that all salaries being paid are approved by Government. It was agreed that the Director would review the AG report and come back to the Board if concerns need to be addressed.

A discussion was held regarding the Board's ability to be more influential in budgeting with Government. It was agreed that the Finance Committee would prepare a strategy

that could include programming, staffing, capital needs and the use of the NLSBA and the Federation of School Councils in this strategy.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Ken Best, that the financial statement, and the revised budget for period ended December 31, 2005 be accepted as presented. Carried.

7.3 **Operating Line of Credit.**

An operating line of credit is required for cash flow during this part of the year. The renewal is subject to approval by the Minister of Education. It was noted that the line of credit must be liquidated at the end of June each year.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the School Board establish a revolving line of operating credit to the extent of \$4,000,000. This line of credit is to be renewed annually with the bank pending ministerial approval. Carried.

8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT.**

Dr. King gave a verbal report up to February 1, 2006.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. on a motion by Ken Best.