

Eastern School Board

May 4, 2005

1. OPENING

A meeting of the Eastern School Board took place on Wednesday, May 4, 2005, in the Avalon West Regional Office, Spaniards Bay. The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by the Chair, Bruce Peckford.

Members present: Bruce Peckford, Chair
Danny Button
Earl Elliott
Ron Ellsworth
Joan Marie Gatherall
Angus Gilbert
Cyril Hayden
Jim Hearn
Mel Hong
Joe Keating
Vi Parsons

Absent with regrets: Rick Martin
Brendan White

Also in attendance: Dr. Bruce Sheppard, Director of Education
Mr. Richard Harvey, Assistant Director, Personnel
Dr. Darin King, Assistant Director, Programs
Mr. Eric Snow, Assistant Director, Finance & Administration
Dr. Albert Trask, Assistant Director, Rural Issues
Ms. Gwen Hurley, Executive Assistant
Ms. Mary Tucker, Communications Officer

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Cyril Hayden, that the agenda be accepted. Carried

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Angus Gilbert, seconded by Joe Keating, that the minutes of the School Board meeting of March 2, 2005, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

- 4.1 **NLSBA.** The Chair updated the Board on a recent meeting held with NLSBA and noted that there are again proposed changes to the NLSBA Constitution, By-Laws and Governance Structure. Each board is asked to review the documents, when received and delegates from each board will come to the inaugural meeting set for June 3 & 4 in Gander, prepared to discuss and give direction. The inaugural meeting will be attended by the 5 elected delegates from each board who will make decisions regarding the Constitution,.

After considerable discussion it was agreed that a special meeting will be convened when the newest draft is received from NLSBA and circulated to the Eastern School Board, for review and decision.

Motion: Moved by Joan Marie Gatherall, seconded by Ron Ellsworth, that when the newest material is received from NLSBA, it will be distributed to all Trustees and a special meeting to consider that and all material related to NLSBA will be convened. Carried.

- 4.2 **Deficiencies at Baccalieu Collegiate** Correspondence from the Board to the Minister of Education was distributed. It was noted that a response has not been received to date.

5. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

- 5.1 **Finance & Properties - April 27, 2005.**

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the Board approve the Budget report as presented. Carried.

The Chair congratulated Mr. Doody and Mr. Snow on their competence and thoroughness on the presentation of the budget at the Finance Meeting.

It was noted that the Education Foundation golf tournament is going ahead on June 10. Anyone requiring information on sponsorship, prizes, etc., was asked to contact Mary Tucker.

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the Board approve the emergency repair work recently carried out at Holy Heart of Mary, as a result of water damage, totalling approximately \$75,000, and request reimbursement of these costs from the Department of Education. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the Board Chair write the Minister of Education requesting an update on the status of the Leary's

Brook project. The letter should reiterate the Board's initial request to Government and seek an explanation of the reference to the Leary's Brook project as stated in the recent provincial budget. Carried.

5.2 **Programs - April 13, 2005**

Motion: Moved by Earl Elliott, seconded by Ron Ellsworth, that the Board approve the School Council Protocol as presented as the template of the Eastern School Board for all schools in the Eastern School District. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Earl Elliott, seconded by Vi Parsons, that the Policy on Professional Development for School Administrators be adopted by the Board. Carried.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 **Morris Academy.** An appeal was received from Morris Academy School Council on the Board decision of April 11. A written request for this school council to meet with the Executive to further explain their position was tabled. Mr. Hong asked that he be included in any other meetings held with this school.

After discussion the following resulted:

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Cyril Hayden, that the Board reaffirm its decision of April 11 regarding Morris Academy and that this be communicated to the School Council, also advising of the multi-year planning underway for the whole district. Carried.

6.2 **Department of Education: Board Member Professional Development Session**

Information was distributed outlining a session planned by the Department of Education for public funded boards.

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Danny Button, that approval is granted for any trustee interested in attending the Professional Development offered by Government on June 22 & 23 to attend. Carried.

The Office of the Director will advise Trustees of the costs to be incurred by the Board for attendance for those interested in availing of this opportunity. Trustees interested in attending are asked to contact the Office of the Director so arrangements may be made.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Director=s Report.** The Director presented his monthly report.

The Chair thanked the Director for the excellent report informing the Board of happenings in the system and advising of the considerable work of senior administrators in this district.

Trustees asked to have communication of events in schools forwarded to them.

The Assistant Director for Personnel, Mr. Harvey, was commended for work carried out in this year=s staffing and for providing a positive approach to dealing with reduced staffing allocations.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Cyril Hayden, that the meeting move to privileged session at 9:40 p.m. Carried.