

# Eastern School Board

December 6, 2007

## 1. OPENING

A meeting of Eastern School Board took place on Thursday, December 6, 2007, at the District Conference Centre, St. John's. 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. David Dibbon  
Mr. Chris Hammond  
Mr. Melvin Lambe  
Mr. Rick Martin  
Mr. Jack Murphy  
Mr. Jerry Rice  
Ms. Rosalind Robere  
Mr. George Sheppard  
Mr. Eric A. Snow  
Mr. Derek Winsor

Also in attendance: Dr. Darin King, CEO/Director of Education  
Mr. Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education (Acting)  
Mr. Allister Dyke, Assistant Director, Human Resources  
Mr. Ed Walsh, Assistant Director, Programs (*Acting*)  
Dr. Albert Trask, Assistant Director,  
Rural Schools & Corporate Services  
Mr. Eric C. Snow, Assistant Director, Finance & Administration  
Ms. Mary Tucker, Manager of Communications  
Ms. Gwen Hurley, Executive/Corporate Assistant  
Mr. Ford Rice, Senior Education Officer

The Chair welcomed the public to the meeting, recognizing the effort to attend with the inclement weather. He welcomed MHAs John Dinn, Tom Osborne, and Sheila Osborne, and Ron Ellsworth, City Councillor. The Board and staff were introduced for the benefit of the meeting.

The Chair asked for a moment of silence in memory as a sign of respect on the anniversary of the Ecole Polytechnique shooting.

## 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Moved by Councillor Jerry Rice, seconded by Melvin Lambe, that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Moved by Chris Hammond, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the minutes of the School Board Meeting of October 10, 2007, be adopted as presented. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by George Sheppard, seconded by Dave Dibbon, that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of November 7, 2007, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

4.1 No business arising

5. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

5.1 **Executive - November 14, 2007.** This report was circulated for information purposes.

5.2 **Planning & Priorities – November 14, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Chris Hammond, that the Board approve the re-zoning of Low Point to Tricon Elementary, Bay de Verde. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the Board seek an extension of two classrooms to Immaculate Conception School, Colliers. Carried.

**Planning December 3, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Ken Best, that Board approval be given for the administration to proceed with negotiations regarding the proposed soccer field/joint agreement with the City of St. John's regarding the St. Kevin's soccer field. Carried.

*Phase II Draft Multi-Year School Organization and Capital Works Plan (St. John's Area)* was tabled for circulation to the public. Public consultation would be as outlined in the timelines approved previously and published. It was noted that the *Phase II Draft Multi-Year School Organization and Capital Works Plan* would be posted to the board website following the meeting. The Director provided highlights of the draft report.

5.3 **Programs – October 30, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Rick Martin, that the Board approve the amended *Policy EBCC: Bomb Threats*. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the Board approve the amended *Policy JICI: Weapons*. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Rick Martin, that the Board approve the amended *Policy ADD: Safe and Caring Schools*. Carried.

#### **Programs – November 27, 2007**

It was reported that the priorities for the committee for 2007-08 included:

- i. Full Day Kindergarten
- ii. Programming for Rural Schools
- iii. Anti-violence/Anti-bullying
- iv. Career Counseling

#### **5.4 Finance & Property – November 26, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that approval be granted for an easement for overhead wires requested by Aliant on Bishop Abraham Elementary School property for a negotiated fee. Carried. Mr. Hammond abstained due to possible conflict.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Jim Hearn, that approval be granted for the district to enter into a financing arrangement with a chartered bank up to an amount of \$500,000 for a copier purchase/lease agreement for the 2007-08 fiscal year. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Chris Hammond, that the year-to-date actuals and revised budget for the three months ended September 30, 2007, as presented, be approved. Carried.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 **Minister of Education –Approval of Amendments to Constitution.** This was distributed for information purposes.

6.2 **Petition – West End High School Committee.** Dr. Dibbon, on behalf of the West End High School Committee and parents presented a petition to the Board. This was tabled with the Board on behalf of the parents of the west end.

**Motion:** Moved by Dave Dibbon, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the Board receive, the petition on behalf of the parents supporting the West End High School Committee. Carried.

6.3 **Jerry Rice – Motion re Public Hearings.** Mr. Rice withdrew the motion at this time.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Education Foundation.** Mr. Rice reported that the 50/50 lottery is growing very well and continues to be a revenue generator. The annual golf tournament will be held on June 17<sup>th</sup> and sponsors will be sought, through the Trustees.

7.2 **April Board Meeting Date.** As several trustees are attending professional development sessions on the scheduled date, it was suggested that the meeting date be changed.

**Motion:** Moved by Rick Martin, seconded by Ken Best, that the meeting be moved to April 9, Wednesday. Carried.

7.3 **NLSBA Report – Board of Governor’s Meeting October 30, 2007.** Mr. Pike provided an overview of the meeting.

7.4 **NLSBA Review of Constitution Changes.** The Chair presented the options for the Term of Office for the NLSBA President, seeking the Board’s direction on this matter. The Chair noted that each year an election must be held. It was also agreed that the present wording would have to be changed.

**Motion:** Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Jerry Rice, that ESD recommend #2 “The NLSBA President’s term of office may be by election for a one year term with a limited extension of 1 year (by re-election and not on the recommendation of the Board of Governors). Carried.

7.5 **Board Committees 2007-08.**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Ken Best, that the Board Committees 2007-08 be approved as presented. Carried.

8. **DIRECTOR’S REPORT.**

Mr. Pike provided highlights of the past two months.

Belated happy birthday was extended to Mr. Peach on behalf of the Board.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on a motion by Jim Hearn.