

Eastern School Board

May 6, 2008

1. OPENING

A meeting of Eastern School Board took place on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at O'Donel High, Mount Pearl. The meeting was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by the Chairperson, Mr. Peach.

Members present: Mr. Milton Peach, Chair
Dr. Jim Hearn, Vice Chair
Mr. Ken Best
Dr. David Dibbon
Ms. Anne Marie Furlong
Mr. Chris Hammond
Mr. Jeff King
Mr. Melvin Lambe
Mr. Rick Martin
Mr. Jack Murphy
Mr. Jerry Rice
Mr. George Sheppard
Mr. Eric A. Snow
Mr. Derek Winsor

Absent with regrets: Ms. Rosalind Robere

Also in attendance: Mr. Darrin Pike, CEO/Director of Education
Mr. Allister Dyke, Assistant Director, Human Resources
Mr. Ford Rice, Assistant Director, Programs
Dr. Albert Trask, Assistant Director,
Rural Education & Corporate Services
Mr. Eric C. Snow, Assistant Director, Finance & Administration
Mr. Steve Brooks, Senior Education Officer
Mr. Pat Royle, Manager of Facilities
Ms. Mary Tucker, Manager of Communications
Ms. Gwen Hurley, Executive/Corporate Assistant

The Chair welcomed the publics in attendance. Mr. Peach introduced Byron Smith, C.A. would was in attendance to oversee the voting as necessary during the meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Melvin Lambe, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the agenda be adopted. Carried.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Jack Murphy, that the minutes of the School Board Meeting of March 5, 2008, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING**

4.1 **Phase II Planning**

It was requested by Trustee Chris Hammond to follow the same protocol as in other meetings dealing with restructuring and to hold a secret ballot. This was agreed.

Mr. Peach appointed Assistant Directors Mr. Eric C. Snow and Dr. Albert Trask to act as scrutineers.

1. **FACILITIES**

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Derek Winsor, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- All new schools built in the Eastern School District will have enhanced facilities for student programming.

Carried.

2. **BEACHY COVE ELEMENTRAY**

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Chris Hammond that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 9 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The Eastern School Board secure funds from Government to complete an extension and necessary renovations to accommodate program and space needs of additional students at Beachy Cove Elementary, Portugal Cove-St. Phillips.

Carried.

It was noted that this extension will be needed by 2009-2010.

3. HOLY HEART OF MARY HIGH SCHOOL

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Melvin Lambe, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 10 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- Holy Heart of Mary High School, St. John's will close and be replaced with a new high school, but not earlier than June 2011.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- Students from Bishop Abraham Elementary and Holy Cross Elementary will feed to Holy Cross Junior High which will be rezoned to attend the new high school built to replace Holy Heart of Mary High School.

Carried.

Trustee from Zone 10 raised the issue of the placement of the schools, leaving the center of the city without a high school, with a demographic that may be at risk. It was noted by the Trustee from Goulds (zone?) that PWC and Gonzaga are center city schools that are accessible to the center city children.

4. BISHOPS COLLEGE/BOOTH MEMORIAL HIGH

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Ken Best, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zones 10 and 11 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- Bishops College, St. John's and Booth Memorial High School, St. John's, will close and be replaced with a new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's, but not earlier than June 2011.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- Students from Beaconsfield Junior High will be rezoned to attend the new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's.
- I. J. Samson Junior High, St. John's, will close when an extension and necessary renovations are completed to Beaconsfield Junior High School. Students from I. J. Samson will be rezoned to attend Beaconsfield Junior High School.
- Students from Cowan Heights Elementary will be rezoned to attend Beaconsfield Junior High and then proceed to the new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's.

- Students from Hazelwood Elementary will feed to Beaconsfield Junior High and then proceed to the new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's.
- Students from St. Matthew's Elementary will feed to Beaconsfield Junior High and then proceed to the new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's.
- Students from Bishop Abraham Elementary and Holy Cross Elementary will feed to Holy Cross Junior High which will be rezoned to attend the new high school built to replace Holy Heart of Mary High School.

Carried.

5. ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Derek Winsor, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 11 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The catchment area of St. Mary's Elementary, St. John's, will be rezoned for students to attend Beaconsfield Junior High, St. John's, when an extension and necessary renovations to accommodate program and space needs of additional students are completed.

Carried.

6. BEACONSFIELD JUNIOR HIGH

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by George Sheppard, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 11 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The Eastern School Board secure funds from Government to complete an extension and necessary renovations to accommodate program and space needs of additional students at Beaconsfield Junior High, St. John's.

Carried.

7. LARKHALL ACADEMY

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 12 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- Larkhall Academy, St. John's, will close and be replaced with a new school, but not earlier than 2011.

Carried.

8. RONCALLI ELEMENTARY

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Chris Hammond, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 12 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The catchment area of Roncalli Elementary, St. John's, will be rezoned for students to attend Macdonald Drive Junior High, St. John's, effective September 2008.

Carried.

9. RONCALLI ELEMENTARY

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by George Sheppard, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 12 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The Eastern School District secure funds from Government to have the proposed extension for Roncalli Elementary to become part of a long term plan to re-develop Roncalli Elementary.

Carried

10. ST. JOHN BOSCO

Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Ken Best, that

WHEREAS the Eastern School District is committed to providing the best possible educational programs for students; and

WHEREAS a reorganization of schooling in Zone 13 is required to achieve that objective,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- The catchment area of St. John Bosco, St. John's, will be rezoned for students to attend the new high school located in the west end of the city of St. John's.

Carried.

Dr. Hearn thanked the trustees and staff for all the work for the Planning & Priorities Committee in the Phase II process.

Motion: Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the ballots be destroyed. Carried

5. REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

5.1 **Executive – April 21, 2008.** This report was distributed for information purposes. The Chair drew attention to the decision to move Grade 6 French Immersion students from St. Peter's Elementary to Mount Pearl Intermediate for September 2008.

A discussion ensued regarding the authority of the Executive under the Schools Act 1997.

5.2 **Planning & Priorities – April 21, 2008.**

Motion: Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the Board proceed to move the Grade 7-9 students from Perlwin Elementary (Winterton) to Persalvic Elementary (Victoria) effective September 2008 and to move the Grade 7-9 students from Cabot Academy (Western Bay) to Persalvic Elementary, effective September 2009. Carried.

5.3 **Programs – April 17, 2008.** This report was distributed for information purposes. It was noted that Heather Churchill from Learning Disabilities presented to the Programs committee.

5.4 **Finance & Property – April 29, 2008.**

Motion: Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Melvin Lambe, that the Board approve the amended capital priority listing for submission to Government. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the Board approve the request by the Guards Athletic Association to construct a building to accommodate the construction of change rooms, bathrooms, and a parking lot at the Ayre Athletic Grounds, in accordance with the agreement amended in 1997, which will when completed extend the lease until 2036. Carried.

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 9:30 p.m.

The meeting moved back to public session at 9:40 p.m.

Motion: Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Ken Best, that the Board give approval for the staff to proceed to tender for four replacement pick-up

trucks and three cargo vans at a projected cost of \$215,000. This would be financed over a period of time. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by George Sheppard, that the Board accept the budget status report and revised budget for the 9 months ended March 31, 2008. Carried.

The Board was advised that Larry Blanchard, Comptroller, would be accepting a new position with NL Hydro.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 **Minister of Education – Updates on capital projects.** This correspondence was distributed for information purposes.

6.2 **Minister of Education – Full day kindergarten response.** This correspondence was distributed for information purposes also. It was noted that the Programs Committee was extremely disappointed with this decision.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 **Education Foundation.** Mr. Rice provided an update on the foundation work. He strongly encouraged Trustees to be involved with the annual golf tournament and was seeking volunteers for the event.

It was also reported that the scholarship deadline is changed to the spring this year and the scholarships would be available for distribution to the scholars at the fall awards nights in the various schools.

7.2 **Newfoundland and Labrador School Boards Association -** Selection of delegates for the Annual General Meeting. Eastern School Board has a total of 5 voting delegates at the AGM. The sessions, however, are open to all trustees.

Motion: Moved by George Sheppard, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the four voting delegates, besides the Chair, would be selected by a random draw from those expressing an interest in attending. Carried.

The voting delegates for Eastern School District would be Milton Peach, Chair, Jerry Rice, Rick martin, Derek Winsor, Ken Best. The alternates would be Dave Dibbon, Eric A. Snow, and Jim Hearn.

Other trustees expressing an interest in attending were: Melvin Lambe, Jack Murphy, and Anne Marie Furlong.

Motion: Moved by Jack Murphy, seconded by Ken Best at 10:15 p.m. that the meeting be extended for 30 minutes. Carried.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Chair introduced Steve Brooks, Senior Education Officer, who was invited to attend as part of an effort to expose senior staff to the Board proceedings.

The Director provided highlights from the monthly report that was distributed. Mr. Pike noted that an exploratory meeting was held with Eastern Health with a view to possible collaboration between the boards on student health related issues.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Jerry Rice, seconded by Rick Martin, that the meeting move to closed session at 10:25 pm. Carried.