

## **Eastern School Board**

*March 7, 2007*

### **1. OPENING**

A meeting of Eastern School Board took place on Wednesday, March 7, 2007, at Coley's Point Primary School, Coley's Point. 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. Don Blackmore  
Dr. Ed Brown  
Dr. David Dibbon  
Mr. Chris Hammond  
Mr. Rick Martin  
Mr. Jack Murphy  
Mr. Jerry Rice  
Mr. George Sheppard  
Mr. Eric A. Snow  
Mr. Derek Winsor

Absent with regrets: Mr. Ken Best  
Mr. Melvin Lambe  
Ms. Rosalind Robere

Also in attendance: Dr. Darin King, CEO/Director of Education  
Mr. Allister Dyke, Assistant Director, Human Resources  
Mr. Darrin Pike, Assistant Director, Programs  
Mr. Eric C. Snow, Assistant Director, Finance  
Mr. Ed Walsh, Assistant Director, Rural Schools  
Ms. Mary Tucker, Manager of Communications  
Ms. Gwen Hurley, Executive/Corporate Assistant  
Mr. Pat Royle, Manager of Facilities

The Chair welcomed the public, from both the CBS/Paradise area and the Coley's Point school community, to the meeting. Mr. Peach recognized Roland Butler, MHA and Beth Marshall, MHA, in the audience as well as Mr. Byron Smith, Chartered Accountant, who was engaged to assist with voting. The Chair then introduced the Trustees to the audience.

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

**Motion:** Moved by Chris Hammond, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Moved by Rick Martin seconded by Eric Snow, that the minutes of the School Board Meeting of January 10, 2007, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING.** There was no business arising.

5. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

**5.1.1 Planning & Priorities – January 18, 2007** These minutes were distributed for information purposes.

**Planning & Priorities - February 7, 2007.**

It was requested and all agreed that voting would be by ballot for motions from the Planning and Priorities Committee. It was also agreed that the count of the results would not be provided.

The Chair appointed assistant directors Snow, Pike and Dyke as scrutineers.

**CBS-Holy Spirit System**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Derek Winsor, that effective September, 2007:

- Topsail Elementary will be reconfigured from a K-5 to a K-4 school. The Grade 5's will move to Villanova School.
- Villanova will be reconfigured from Grades 6-9 to Grades 5-8;
- The Grade 9's will move from Villa Nova to Holy Spirit, which will be configured from Levels 1- 4 to Grade 9 - Level 4.

The result will see:

- Topsail Elementary K-4
- Villanova School Grades 5-8
- Holy Spirit Grade 9 – Level 4

Further, that District Staff move immediately to work with Schools and school councils to ensure the necessary renovations/transition issues are addressed.

**Motion carried.**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Jerry Rice, that in response to ongoing and projected growth, the Board apply for an extension to Holy Family Elementary School (K-6), Paradise. This extension will ensure that appropriate learning spaces are provided for students, factoring the provincial class-size cap, as well as the provision of a cafeteria/lunch room. Further, it is recommended that an adjustment be made to the catchment area for Holy Family such that enrolment (as projected) can be maintained at about the current level.

**Motion:** Moved by Ed Brown that the Board defer current motion until public hearings can be held on a complete phase II plan for St. John's/Mount Pearl/Paradise/Conception Bay South area. No seconder.

Main motion carried.

### **Mt. Pearl - Mt. Pearl Sr. High System**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Jack Murphy, that in response to further projected growth in the current Paradise Elementary catchment area, the Committee recommends that Eastern School Board immediately make application to Government for one new school for Paradise (K-6, giving the community 3 K-6 schools.)

Further, the catchment area for Paradise students be adjusted from two to three, to more equitably distribute the Paradise Grade K-6 student population over the three schools (i.e. Holy Family, New School, and Paradise Elementary).

Carried.

Mr. Pat Royle, District Engineer, provided a summary of the two engineering studies carried out on the existing Paradise Elementary.

### **Notice of Motion on December 8, 2006: George Sheppard was recognized.**

**Motion:** Moved by George Sheppard, seconded by Don Blackmore, that the Board make application to government for a new facility to replace the existing Paradise Elementary. This request to Government will be in addition to our previously submitted Capital Works Plan.

**Motion defeated.**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Jerry Rice, that an application be made to government to redevelop the current Paradise Elementary School facility. This project will include the following:

- Removal of all current exterior walls, and a reconstruction to current standards (concrete block construction with complete air barrier system and new aluminum windows; cladding to be split face block and metal siding);
- All interior walls (gyproc, wood construction, etc.) will be demolished and reconstructed, to current standards.
- The redevelopment is to include a complete mechanical ventilation system and the addition of new cafeteria.
- Site work is to include reconstruction of the parking lot (complete with storm drainage) to accommodate bussing.
- The project will include moving forward with the proposed extension to ensure adequate learning spaces are provided for students, considering the provincial class-size cap currently being implemented.

The anticipated completion date of this project is September 2008.

Further, district staff will develop and share a transition plan with parents which will provide details on the implementation of these recommendations, including the adjusted catchment areas, the opening off the new school, and the return to the re-developed Paradise Elementary.

Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the catchment area for Newtown Elementary School be adjusted to encompass the area generally known as Southbrook subdivision. This will be on a go-forward basis.

Carried.

### **Coley's Point Primary School**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that application be made to Government for a new school to replace Coley's Point Primary. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Don Blackmore, that the grade 4 students from Coley's Point Primary be moved to Amalgamated Academy, Bay Roberts, resulting in Coley's Point becoming a K-3 school and Amalgamated Academy becoming a 4-9 school, effective September, 2007. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the Board immediately make application to Government for an extension to Amalgamated Academy which will include the appropriate number of learning spaces as well as the previously-requested cafeteria. Carried.

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**Motion:** Moved by Chris Hammond, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the ballots be destroyed. Carried.

### **5.1.2 Finance – February 8, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Ed Brown, that Policy KF: Community Use of Schools be approved.

**Motion to amend:** Moved by Derek, seconded by Chris Hammond, the additional paragraph distributed would be added to Policy KF. Carried.

#### **Amended motion carried.**

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Don Blackmore, that Policy GBG: Return to Work, be approved as presented. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Don Blackmore, that Policy EBD: Occupational Health and Safety Policy be approved as presented. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the School Board retain ownership of the property around St. Mary's School until a decision is made on the future use of the property. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Eric A. Snow that the recommendation on the request by the Lions Club to construct a playground for Goulds Elementary contingent on a change to Government's insurance policy which will cover after hours usage of the facility by the general public be deferred. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Don Blackmore, that the request from the School Lunch Association to eliminate the balance of its debt to the Board be denied. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by George Sheppard, that staff follow the direction provided by Government in seeking an appraised value for all property which it no longer requires for school purposes prior to sale or disposition of the property. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the School Board proceed with the disposition of the properties for St. George's School, English Harbour East, and Sts. J. Fisher and T. Moore School, Petite Forte as per the agreement of the St. John's R. C. Episcopal Corporation and referenced in their letter of January 25, 2007. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Chris Hammond, that the School Board submit to Government the capital priority listing, as presented, with the first 25 prioritized, as noted. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Rick Martin, that St. Thomas' School property, Grand LePierre, be advertised publicly for sale and expressions of interest. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Dave Dibbon, that the request to rename the gymnasium at Leary's Brook Junior High to the Matthew Churchill Gymnasium as requested by the School Council Chair in his correspondence of November 28, 2006 be approved. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Eric A. Snow, that the School Board accept as presented the budget status report and revised budget for the six months ended December 31, 2006. Carried.

## **5.2 Programs – January 17, 2007**

The Chair, Dr. Brown, advised that the motions in January 17, 2007 were superseded by those in February 28, 2007

### **February 28, 2007**

**Motion:** Moved by Ed Brown, seconded by Jerry Rice, that Policy JJI: Athletics be approved as presented. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ed Brown, seconded by Chris Hammond that Policy JJ: Co-curricular be approved as presented. Carried.

There was a discussion on both policies and their effect on student leadership regarding the restriction on age to participate

**Motion:** Moved by Ed Brown, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the Board rescind the Policy IJOAB: Student Ski Trips. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Chris Hammond, seconded by Derek Winsor, to extend the meeting 10 minutes at 10:10 p.m. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ed Brown, seconded by Dave Dibbon, that the Board support a pilot project for the implementation of a full day Kindergarten for September, 2007. The pilot will require eight additional teaching units to be provided by the Department of Education above and beyond the regular teacher allocations. Carried.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

**6.1 Town of Paradise.** This correspondence was distributed for information purposes only.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- 7.1 **NLSBA Report – January 19, 2007.** Distributed for information purpose.
- 7.2 **Policy Governance (Information Article).** This was distributed for information purposes only.

**8. DIRECTOR’S REPORT.** Due to time restraints, the Director’s Report was distributed without discussion.

The Chair informed the Board that the Governance Retreats would be held at the Delta St. John’s on March 30 & 31, 2007, and at the Clarenville In on June 15 & 16, 2007. Both sessions would begin on Friday at 6:30 p.m. and go all day Saturday.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. motion by Derek Winsor.