

## **Eastern School Board**

*June 8, 2005*

### **1. OPENING**

A meeting of the Eastern School Board took place on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, in the District Conference Centre, St. John's. The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by the Chair, Bruce Peckford.

Members present: Bruce Peckford, Chair  
Danny Button  
Earl Elliott  
Ron Ellsworth *joined at 8:30 p.m.*  
Joan Marie Gatherall  
Angus Gilbert  
Cyril Hayden  
Jim Hearn  
Mel Hong  
Joe Keating  
Rick Martin  
Vi Parsons  
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

Chair welcomed the public to the meeting.

### **2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** Moved by Brendan White, seconded by Rick Martin, that the agenda be accepted. Carried.

### **3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

It was noted that the School Board minutes approved at the May 4 meeting should have been for April 11.

**Motion:** Moved by Danny Button, seconded by Angus Gilbert, that the minutes of the School Board meeting of May 4, 2005, be adopted as amended. Carried.

Trustees asked that the costs associated with the professional development seminar being offered by the Department of Education be circulated and Trustees should contact the Office of the Director to indicate interest in registering.

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 **NLSBA.** The inaugural meeting took place last weekend in Gander. The Vice Chair reported on the events. The main issue was the Constitution, which was passed. The budget did not reflect the two principles approved by ESD. These issues will be reflected in the new budget to come back to each Board for approval.

Ms. Nada Borden, Chair, Western School Board, was elected president of NLSBA.

Several Trustees expressed a special thank you to Vi Parsons for her continued work over the past year with NSLBA.

A discussion was held on a request from NLSBA for payment of dues for 2004-05. To date \$20,000 has been approved and submitted by ESD.

**Motion:** Moved by Brendan White, seconded by Rick Martin, that Eastern School Board pay what is deemed to be its share of NLSBA fees for 2004-05 year and no other monies will be expended by ESD until the NLSBA budget is passed by ESD.

**Motion:** Moved by Joan Marie Gatherall, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the motion be deferred until information is received from NLSBA regarding showing the guiding principles of ESD incorporated in a budget. **Motion lost on a 5-7 count.**

**Main motion carried on a 7-4 vote.**

It was agreed that the Director would determine what amount is due NLSBA for 2004-05, based on the \$70,000 approved in the ESD budget for 2004-05.

It was noted that the motion of May 24 regarding the question of ESD commitment to NLSBA and funds to be paid will be raised when the budget comes back from NLSBA for Board approval, ensuring that the 2 guiding principles articulated by ESD are incorporated.

5. **REPORT FROM COMMITTEES**

5.1 **Executive - May 31, 2005.**

The By-Laws were tabled for review and decision at the next meeting of ESD.

Noted changes/omissions included:

#10.09.d (page 11) change to reflect same as board and executive.

#10.09.i (page 12) unanimously removed and make it 2/3's

It was agreed that the section dealing with the Directors= Contract will move to privileged session.

5.2 **Programs - May 11, 2005**

**Motion:** Moved by Brendan White, seconded by Earl Elliott, that the Board approve Policy CGID: Policy on School Shut Down (Professional Development).  
Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Brendan White, seconded by Earl Elliott, that the Board approve Policy on Supervision. Carried.

5.3 **Finance & Property - June 1, 2005**

**Motion:** Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the Board approve the 2005-06 Budget. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the Board submit a proposal for the Holy Heart of Mary Auditorium restoration with the estimated costs to Government. If this is approved, it needs to be reiterated that this project would not take priority over other capital works approved by the Board. This auditorium work would be funded from the Arts and Culture Fund, while the remainder of the work would be as submitted through our capital priority request from Department of Education funding. Carried.

**Motion:** Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Jim Hearn, that the following serve on the Environmental Education Commission as representatives of the Eastern School District:

S Assistant Director of Finance & Administration or designate

S Assistant Director of Programs or designate

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**S** Chair of the Finance & Properties Committee.  
Carried.

Trustee White raised the issue of protocol surrounding issues of Leary's Brook as noted in the minutes of the Finance and Properties Committee meeting of June 1, 2005. He raised two specific concerns as follows:

- i. The engagement of individual trustees with Department of Education officials
- ii. A trustee as a committee member giving direction to professional staff.

It was agreed that this would be noted in the minutes and this will be discussed at the next Finance & Properties Committee meeting, with a view to proper protocol in this respect being addressed.

## 6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 **Minister of Education - Response to Concerns**. Distributed for information only.

6.2 **Minister of Education - Re Baccalieu Collegiate Deficiencies**. Concern was expressed re the contents of the last paragraph and the Board's frustration with the way school construction is handled.

**Motion:** Moved by Ron Ellsworth, seconded by Brendan White, that the Board respond to this letter noting that the Board is only involved with construction until the project is identified, then ESD staff are removed. The Minister would be advised that this is not acceptable. Carried.

## 7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Director's Report**. The June 2005 Director's Report was circulated providing information on the highlights during May. Given that it was the last Board meeting for the 2004-05 school year, Dr. Sheppard also highlighted some of the successes and challenges throughout the school year.

The Director thanked the Board for a very successful year.

The Chair thanked the Director and senior staff for their leadership over the past year.

7.2 **Summer Meeting**. The Director advised that there is a need to have several policies in place

for September 2005 and the Board would need to meet to review same. It was agreed that a summer meeting would be held on Wednesday, August 17 at the Avalon West Regional Office, Spaniard's Bay, commencing at 2:00 p.m. followed by a small reception at the Director's residence. The reception would include significant others.

The Board expressed gratitude to the Director, his Senior Staff, the Corporate Assistant and the Communications Officer for their excellent work over the past year.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Moved by Jim Hearn, seconded by Danny Button, that the meeting move to privileged session at 9:45 p.m. Carried.