

Eastern School Board

June 17, 2009

1. OPENING

A meeting of Eastern School Board took place on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at District Conference Centre, St. John's. The meeting was called to order at 7:55 p.m. by the Chairperson, Mr. Peach.

Members present: Mr. Milton Peach, Chair
Mr. Ken Best
Dr. Dave Dibbon
Ms. Anne Marie Furlong
Mr. Chris Hammond
Mr. Jeff King
Mr. Jerry Rice
Mr. George Sheppard
Mr. Eric A. Snow
Mr. Derek Winsor

Absent with regrets: Dr. Jim Hearn, Vice Chair
Mr. Rick Martin
Mr. Jack Murphy
Ms. Rosalind Robere

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

The Chair welcomed Mr. Ford Rice to his first meeting as new CEO/Director of Education. Congratulations were extended Dr. David Dibbon on receiving *the Patricia Cowan Award for Support and Promotion of Education* from the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers Association.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Peach advised that there would not be a closed session following the meeting, as originally planned.

Motion: Moved by Chris Hammond, seconded by Ken Best, that the agenda be adopted as changed. Carried.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Derek Winsor, seconded by Ken Best, that the School Board minutes of May 6, 2009 be approved as presented. Carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 There was no business arising.

5. REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

5.1 Finance & Property – June 10, 2009

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the Board approve the Budget for 2009-10 fiscal year and request the Minister's approval of the projected deficit. Carried.

It was noted that this deficit is a term deficit only and will not reflect on the bottom line at the end of the year.

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Jerry Rice, that the Board approve the allocation of sufficient monies from its 2008-09 special incentives funding to cover the cost of the third modular classroom for Villanova Junior High School. Carried.

The Board's position on modular classrooms had been set previously and concern was expressed over contravening this position. It was agreed that the use of modular classrooms would be referred to the Finance & Property Committee for discussion in the fall.

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Derek Winsor, that Policy ECA: Building Security and Access be approved. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the Board rescind the motion of October 10, 2007, regarding the transfer of St. Thomas School, Grand LePierre to the Town of Grand LePierre. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Eric A. Snow, seconded by Jerry Rice, that St. Thomas School, Grand LePierre be transferred back to the Diocesan Synod of Central Newfoundland and Labrador as requested. Carried.

5.2 Program – June 10, 2009

Motion: Moved by Ken Best, seconded by George Sheppard, that Policy LBC: Homeschooling be amended. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Jerry Rice, that Policy EBD: Occupational Health & Safety be amended. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Ken Best, seconded by George Sheppard, that Policy ADC: Smoke Free Environment be amended. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Dave Dibbon, that Policy GBG: Return to Work be amended. Carried.

After discussion, it was agreed that senior management would give consideration to the proper channel for general policies making a decision on the appropriate committee to consider.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 **Eric C. Snow.** The Chair advised that a note had been received from Mr. Snow, thanking the Board for its support and sympathies on the recent death of his father.

A discussion was held on the appropriateness of recognizing safety-conscious initiatives, but it was agreed that, although laudable, the Board would not acknowledge/endorse such actions of outside individuals/groups.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 **Educational Foundation.** Mr. Rice updated the Board on the annual golf tournament taking place on June 18 and thanked all for their support. It is expected that the tournament will be a financial success for the foundation.

7.2 **Report – NLSBA Annual General Meeting.** A written report of the meeting was distributed. There was considerable discussion on the fair representation for Eastern School District in the organization, as well as recognition for the significant contribution of ESD.

It was agreed that ESD involvement in NLSBA would be referred to the appropriate committee for discussion in the fall, 2009.

7.3 Board meeting schedule – 2009-10.

A discussion was held on the appropriateness of the Board setting a schedule of meetings for 2009-10, as a new board will be in place in early November.

Motion: Moved by Ken Best, seconded by Derek Winsor, that the schedule be approved up until November 14, and allow the new board to set its own schedule for the remainder of the year. Defeated.

Motion: Moved by Jerry Rice, seconded by George Sheppard, that the following Board meeting schedule be approved for 2009-10:

September 23	Wednesday	Burin Region	
October 21	Wednesday	Vista Region	
November 13	Friday	Avalon East Region – Annual General Meeting	
November 14	Saturday	Orientation Session	
December 3	Thursday	Avalon East Region	
January – NO MEETING			
February 3	Wednesday	Avalon East Region	
March 3	Wednesday	Avalon East Region	
April 14	Wednesday	Avalon East Region	
May 12	Wednesday	Avalon West Region	
June 16	Wednesday	Avalon East Region	Carried.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rice provided highlights for the past month. It was noted that the Trustee Melvin Lambe was awarded posthumously an honorary award at the NLSBA meetings. It was suggested that a special presentation of this award would be made by the Board to Madonna Lambe.

Of significant note was the fact that Ed Walsh, Senior Education Officer, Human Resources, has been granted a year leave of absence to assume the position of Assistant Director of Education, Human Resources, with the Nova Central School Board (September 2009-August 31, 2010).

8. ADJOURNMENT

The closed meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. on a motion by Jerry Rice.