

School District #5: Baie Verte, Central, Connaigre  
Regular School Board Meeting  
April 20, 2004  
MINUTES

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Terry Brown, Chair  
Carolyn Andrews  
Clarence Brown  
Randy Edison  
Robert Elliott  
Raymond Gray  
Albert Hodder  
Winston Keeping  
Sharon Mayne  
David Morrow  
Gregory Roberts  
Mabrey Winsor

Debbie Armstrong, Director of Education  
Terry Hillier, Assistant Director (Finance & Administration)  
Bonnie Lane-McCarthy, Assistant Director (Human Resources)  
Frank Norman, Assistant Director (Programs)  
Marina Hewlett, Associate Assistant Director (Hum. Res./Stud. Supp. Serv.)  
Beverly Wells, Recorder

**ABSENT**

Sean Power

Trustees reviewed pertinent information for the meeting prior to the meeting being called to order.

**1. INVOCATION**

The Board Chair called the meeting to order with the reading of the invocation by those present.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations at this meeting.

**3. PROGRAM PRESENTATION**

There was no program presentation at this meeting.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*On motion the Agenda was approved as circulated. (Morrow/Gray) Carried.*

109-03/04

**5. MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2004, REGULAR MEETING & APRIL 6, 2004, SPECIAL MEETING**

*On motion the Minutes of the March 16, 2004, Regular and Closed Session Meetings were approved. (Winsor/Mayne) Carried.*

110-03/04

*On motion the Minutes of the Special School Board Meeting held on April 6, 2004, were approved. (Gray/Andrews) Carried.*

111-03/04

## **6. BUSINESS ARISING**

### **6.1. HELEN TULK ELEMENTARY, VENTILATION SYSTEM**

A letter was received from the Department of Education advising that tenders had recently closed for the ventilation project at Helen Tulk Elementary School, Bishop's Falls. The Department had previously committed \$5,000 to the project while the Board had committed \$22,000. The tender results were higher than estimated for a total of \$34,000. The Department of Education asked if the Board was willing to proceed with the project.

After discussing the issue, the following action was taken:

*On motion it was agreed to accept a tender bid of \$34,000 to upgrade the ventilation system at Helen Tulk Elementary School, Bishop's Falls. An extra \$12,000, as agreed on April 15, 2004, in a conversation with Gary Hatcher, Senior Director at the Department of Education, will be absorbed from special incentives money owing to this Board for 2004-2005. (Elliott/Brown) Carried.*

112-03/04

David Morrow said he was uncomfortable with making such a motion in light of the present Board being disbanded on August 31, 2004. He was informed that the transition would allow for such activities to take place.

### **6.2. GYM FLOOR, BAIE VERTE HIGH SCHOOL**

The Board has asked the Department of Education to call tenders on the proposed new gym floor at Baie Verte High School. In view of the present labour dispute in the province, a tender has not yet been called.

### **6.3. SCHOOL BOARD RESTRUCTURING**

The Minister of Education will announce on April 21 the names of those who will be serving on the interim boards (transition committees).

Terry Brown, Chair of the Board, said NLSBA met with their board of governors and the directors of education on April 16 and 17 and discussed concerns under three headings: time lines, resourcing and termination benefits. Mr. Brown said the governors want the new committees to be filled by current school board trustees. The president of NLSBA met with the Minister of Education on Sunday afternoon.

The administrators of District 5 and 6 have been talking to the deputy minister asking if there is anything they can do to assist in a smooth transition. The administrators do not want to lose the things they are doing well in the face of chaos.

The ad for the directors for the new districts has been circulated via newspapers and the internet. It is expected that the positions will be filled mid-May to late June.

District 5's senior administration team's efforts will be to try to influence the new committee as to what they would like to see as a new district.

Terry Hillier, Assistant Director (Finance & Administration), and his counterparts, has had a teleconference with financial staff at the Department of Education. Mr. Hillier said there is no financial plan for the transition and the Department is seeking help from those in the system to help bring it about. Mr. Hillier said more time and resources are needed to look at proper

delivery in schools with such a large geographic area and fewer proposed people to do the job. He said the new board will need a large travel budget.

David Morrow questioned what is the role of the Baie Verte, Central, Connaigre School Board to August 31, 2004. He was informed that the Board is responsible for staffing the schools for September.

#### **6.4. NLSBA AGM**

The meeting was informed that the NLSBA AGM scheduled for May 13-15 in Marystown has been cancelled.

#### **6.5. TEACHER ALLOCATIONS**

This item can be found under Personnel Committee Report.

### **7. REPORTS**

Some committees have not been meeting since the government's announcement that eleven boards would now become five boards. David Morrow asked that the committees continue to meet and bring their concerns to the new Board.

#### **7.1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

There was no Director's Report at this meeting.

#### **7.2. EXECUTIVE REPORT**

The Executive met on April 5, 2004. There were no recommendations from that meeting. The Proceedings were presented for consideration and the following action was taken:

*On motion it was agreed to accept the proceedings of the Executive Committee dated April 5, 2004. (Hodder/ Gray) Carried.*

113-03/04

#### **7.3. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Copies of the Board's financial statements to the period ending February 29, 2004, were circulated to Board trustees. The projected final to June 30, 2004, shows a deficit of \$18,900.00.

*On motion it was agreed to approve the February 29, 2004, financial statements of the Board. (Morrow/ Winsor) Carried.*

114-03/04

#### **7.4. FINANCE & PROPERTIES REPORT**

Copies of the Finance and Properties Committee's Proceedings from their meeting on April 1, 2004, were circulated to Board trustees. A prioritized summary of the Board's capital projects was submitted to the Department.

A letter was received from the Minister of Education advising school boards that ministerial approval must be obtained before entering into contracts in excess of \$1000 and before signing employment contracts after March 31, 2004.

The Board was information that the official opening for Bay d'Espoir Academy is June 7, 2004.

*On motion it was agreed to accept the Proceedings of the Finance and Properties Committee meeting held on April 1, 2004. (Morrow/Winsor) Carried.*

115-03/04

#### **7.4.1. Motion to Borrow**

*On motion it was agreed that the Assistant Director (Finance and Administration) be empowered to temporarily borrow an additional \$250,000 operating line of credit effective April 1, 2004. (Morrow/Mayne) Carried.*

116-03/04

### **7.5. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Randy Edison, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported that the Committee had met on April 15 and agreed with the allocation of teachers to schools. A copy of the allocations was circulated to School Board trustees. Mr. Edison said the Committee has asked Bonnie Lane-McCarthy to do a study to ascertain whether or not if the SNE schools were changed the District could have better schools. Trustees said the Board should make another attempt to cancel the distinction of SNE schools. The trustees also suggest the Board taking a look at amalgamating Burlington and Middle Arm schools.

The Board was informed that there are 23.5 less units in the system for September 2004. The Board has lost 70.5 teaching units during the past five years.

*On motion it was agreed to accept the allocation of teachers to schools for September 2004 as presented by the Personnel Committee. (Brown/Mayne) Carried.*

117-03/04

### **7.6. PROGRAMMING REPORT**

There was no programming report at this meeting.

### **7.7. CRSC REPORT**

David Morrow reported that the rural secretariat is now responsible for the implementation of the strategic social plan.

### **7.8. SCHOOL BOARD-TEACHER LIAISON COMMITTEE**

The School Board-Teacher Liaison Committee has not met recently. They will meet on May 10 at 5:30 p.m.

### **7.9. COMMUNICATIONS**

There was no report from the Communications Committee.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.1. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- May 18 – Next Board Meeting
- June 7 – Bay d'Espoir Academy Official Opening
- June 11 – District Retirement Banquet
- June 15 – Closing Board Meeting/Supper

## 8.2. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

Indian River High, May 7 – Mabrey Winsor will attend

Valmont Academy, May 14 – Randy Edison will attend

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for consideration at this meeting.

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular school board meeting will be held on May 18, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the School Board Office, Grand Falls-Windsor.

## 11. MOTION TO CONVENE CLOSED SESSION MEETING

*On motion it was agreed to convene a closed session meeting. (Hodder/Morrow) Carried.*

118-03/04

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Beverly Wells, Recorder

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Terry Brown, Chair of the Board

