

Chignecto-Central Regional School Board

Regular Meeting

14-02 Minutes

December 11, 2002

The regular monthly meeting of the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2002, in the Central Office Boardroom, Truro commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Kaaren Barkhouse
Robin Bourque
Jim Grue
John Henderson
Bernie Knockwood
Mark Lavers
Mary Macaulay
Lawrence MacKinnon

Ron Marks
Marilyn Murray
David Myles
Robert Parker
Mackie Ross
Marilyn Thompson
Trudy Thompson

In Attendance:

Doug Benedict
Valerie Gauthier
Gary Miller
Terri Mingo-MacNeill

Dale Sabean
Linda Campbell
Elizabeth Van den Eynden, Board Solicitor

Absent:

Cheryl Samson, with regrets

Raymond Tynes, with regrets

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair Robert Parker who welcomed all in attendance. Mr. Parker extended compliments of the season, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was MOVED by David Myles, seconded by Trudy Thompson

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED by Jim Grue, seconded by Bernie Knockwood

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 9, 2002
BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

In response to a request for clarification on the Cafeteria Surplus (2001-02) – Budget Transfer for Equipment item, Dale Sabean, Director of Corporate Services, indicated the monies in question had been generated in the previous fiscal year from the sixteen cafeterias formerly under the Colchester-East Hants District School Board. He advised that \$30,000. was transferred to purchase equipment for a number of these same cafeterias and \$8,000. has been set aside for renovations to the Central Office dining room. Approximately \$10,000. remains in the account for emergency needs in cafeterias. Mr. Sabean noted the transfer reported in the Finance Services Committee report under Cafeteria Surplus is actually the same transaction.

Mr. Sabean also clarified that Oxford Elementary and Springhill Elementary had not been included in the request for audits submitted over a year ago to the Department of Education. He indicated that, to his knowledge, none of the requested audits have been conducted.

Responding to a Board member's query, Terri Mingo-MacNeill, Communications Officer, verified a letter of concern had been sent to the *Atlantic Press Council* in relation to an alleged incident involving a media representative enticing students onto the highway for a contrived photo opportunity. A response is yet to be received.

The question was called.

MOTION CARRIED

It was MOVED by Marilyn Thompson, seconded by Bernie Knockwood

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HELD ON
OCTOBER 16, 2002 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.**

MOTION CARRIED

It was MOVED by Mark Lavers, seconded by Marilyn Murray

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING HELD
ON NOVEMBER 20, 2002 BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.**

MOTION CARRIED

-

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There was no business arising from the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board Secretary reported on items of correspondence received.

Minister of Education – School Board Governance Structure:

In correspondence dated December 5th, the Minister of Education indicated that a decision has been made to maintain the present structure of the pilot school boards and that the South Shore and Tri-County district boards will not be recombined after 2004.

She further stated there will be no change in school board governance structure elsewhere.

A copy of this correspondence was provided to Board members for information.

Minister of Health – Smoke-Free Places Act Implementation:

A letter dated December 4th was received from the Minister of Health acknowledging receipt of correspondence from the Board Chair with regard to the implementation of the Smoke-Free Places Act.

Mr. Muir confirmed that Bill 125 is scheduled to come into effect on January 1, 2003 at which time all locations and establishments that are required to be smoke-free must comply with the Act. This includes school facilities and school grounds.

He also commended the Board for developing and implementing a Smoke-free policy.

Smoke-Free Places Act Implementation:

Several responses to the Board's letter of November 26th, sent to all municipal units throughout the Region, regarding enforcement concerns related to the implementation of the Smoke-Free Places Act have been received. They include replies from the Towns of Amherst, New Glasgow, Parrsboro and Truro as well as the Municipalities of Cumberland and Pictou Counties.

During discussion, concern was expressed that some of the municipal units had misinterpreted the intent of the Board's correspondence of November 26th. Board Chair Robert Parker acknowledged that while some of the terminology used was unfortunate, the letter was written in the spirit of cooperation, to ask the municipal units to work with the Board on the enforcement of the Smoke-free Places Act, off school property. Mr. Parker offered his assurance that a follow-up letter would be sent to the municipal units clarifying that the Board's intent was to solicit their support and to offer to have CCRSB staff meet with their representatives to explore ways to work together to achieve the goals of the new Provincial legislation.

Honourable Bill Casey:

Correspondence in response to the Board's recent letter concerning taxation of mileage payments has been received from the Honourable Bill Casey. Mr. Casey shared a copy of the letter he had received from the Honourable Elinor Caplan, Minister of National Revenue and indicated his intention to arrange a meeting with Ms. Caplan to review the information and to discuss other issues that have arisen.

Diane Ablonczy, Member of Parliament:

A letter was received from the Honourable Diane Ablonczy, Member of Parliament for Calgary-Nose Hill regarding the recent Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) reassessment incurred by some Board employees. She indicated in order to call for an appropriate solution to the situation it would be necessary to review background information and accordingly asked to be provided with details.

CONFERENCE REPORT:

The Outdoor Classroom – From Ideas to Implementation Conference, held November 2nd and 3rd in Moncton, N. B. was attended by Board member Mary Macaulay.

In her report, Ms. Macaulay indicated the conference focused on encouraging schoolyards to be planted with native species. The value of creating natural habitat communities on school grounds through hands-on experience was stressed as an excellent educational model for exploring plant and animal interaction and life and energy cycles.

Ms. Macaulay shared information on funding sources for school groups wishing to become involved in preserving native species by "greening" their school grounds. She also provided a copy of a *Schoolground Naturalization* newsletter to be circulated to all Board members for information.

Following discussion, Board Chair Robert Parker thanked Ms. Macaulay for bringing this valuable message to the Board's attention. There was **agreement** to refer the topic to the Education Services Committee for follow-up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE:

Vice-Chair Trudy Thompson reported on Committee-of-the-Whole meetings held on November 13th and December 4th, 2002.

Presentations:

At the November 13th meeting, Dr. Larry Elchuck, Assistant Director of Education Services, provided an update of the various elements of the Board's draft Business Plan. He circulated copies of the draft document to Board Members and highlighted information on the requirements and the process involved. Board Members were encouraged to review the document at the Standing Committee level prior to discussion at the December Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. Due to time constraints at the December meeting, there was agreement to defer discussion on this matter until the public Board meeting.

Superintendent Gary Miller offered his assurance that correspondence to the Municipal Units within the Board's jurisdiction and to the Ministers of Health and Justice with respect to enforcing the Board's tobacco-free policy would be addressed as soon as possible.

The December 4th meeting opened with a presentation by representatives from Critical Mass Promotions Inc.

Highlights from Standing Committees:

Education Services:

Committee Chair Marilyn Thompson reported on meetings held on October 17 and November 21, 2002. She presented highlights on several items including:

- Canada Wide Science Fair - the Education Services Committee agreed to seek Board approval in support of a request from the Canada Wide Science Fair Bid Committee to host this event in 2007.
- The Committee discussed the progress on the implementation of Smoke-Free Facilities and Grounds Policy.

The Board, in Committee-of-the-Whole, discussed implementation concerns at length. There was consensus to move further discussion to the public Board meeting.

Corporate Services:

Committee Chair, Dr. Lawrence MacKinnon, highlighted information from the meetings held on October 23 and November 27, 2002.

Karen Casey, Facilitator of New School Construction, provided an update on 11 new school construction or renovation projects at the November 13th Committee-of-the-Whole meeting following which she addressed questions for clarification.

*Following lengthy discussion on a proposed policy entitled Advertising in Schools and on School Property there was **agreement** for the Director of Corporate Services and the Corporate Services Committee Chair to reword procedures under the policy to include additions suggested by Board Member Mary Macaulay.*

Finance Services:

Ron Marks, Finance Services Committee Chair, reported on meetings held on October 30 and November 27, 2002. He reviewed information on a number of issues including a revised Procurement and Purchasing Policy, Budget Transfers and Audit Committee membership.

Subsequent to Committee-of-the-Whole discussion on the Budget Transfer Guidelines there was **agreement** with a suggestion that the guidelines be referred to the Finance Services Committee for policy development.

Extensive discussion at the November 13th Committee-of-the-Whole meeting focused on a recommended option to address equity in CCRSB schools from the \$250,000. held in reserve for this purpose.

The Finance Services Committee had agreed to recommend that the Board approve an option presented by the Superintendent of Schools that would result in bringing all schools up to the average per student of \$37.73 with the exception of the six new schools constructed since 1996 *i.e. Amherst Regional High, Elmsdale Elementary, Enfield Elementary, Maple Ridge Elementary, Pictou Elementary and Riverside Education Centre.*

This option would be supported by the following guidelines:

1. Assign the recommended allocation to Families of Schools (to special accounts designated "Family Equity");
2. Family of Schools Supervisors and Family principals to collectively make final decisions on individual school allocations by December 20, 2002;
3. Direction to be given to Family of Schools Supervisors to ensure that the needs of those schools which received no funding (or minimal funding) in the summer of 2002 unauthorized spending receive priority through this new funding;
4. Further, the strong recommendation be made that available funds be used to:
 - a) acquire computers for student use,
 - b) "pay out" photocopier leases;
5. Director of Education Services, Doug Benedict, to receive a detailed report from Supervisors on the educational expenditures made possible through this special allocation, said report to be received by Mr. Benedict in early January 2003;
6. Mr. Benedict to present this information to the January 2003 meeting of the Education Services Committee and to append this documentation to the Committee's minutes which will be received by all members and will be presented at the February public Board meeting.

Following lengthy discussion held in the Committee-of-the-Whole session and in light of a decision made in principle:

It was MOVED by Trudy Thompson, seconded by Marilyn Murray
**THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED OPTION AS
PRESENTED; TO BE IMPLEMENTED ACCORDING TO THE
GUIDELINES RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

In response to a question posed by a Board member, Doug Benedict, Director of Education Services, clarified that as the Board ensures students are provided with required textbooks, fundraising for prescribed curriculum textbooks should be unnecessary.

The question was called on the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

Business Plan Discussion:

At this point in the meeting Board Chair Robert Parker welcomed Dr. Larry Elchuck, Assistant Director of Education Services, to the meeting. Dr. Elchuck was in attendance to provide an update on the draft Business Plan that would reflect changes resulting from a review of the document at each Standing Committee.

Following Dr. Elchuck's overview there was **agreement** with a suggestion contributed by Mary Macaulay that the measure supporting the priority with respect to fostering an increased awareness and appreciation of the environment be amended to include a reference to provision of professional development for Principals on school grounds naturalization.

It was also **agreed** to refer the topic of *funding for school libraries in Nova Scotia* to the Education Services Committee for review and subsequent report to the Board.

Following an indication that the Business Plan is still in draft form and there would be further opportunity to update and amend the document,

It was MOVED by Trudy Thompson, seconded by Lawrence MacKinnon
**THAT THE CHIGNECTO-CENTRAL REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN BE APPROVED AS AMENDED BASED ON
BOARD DISCUSSION AND SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENTAL
REQUIREMENT.**

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE

Mr. Parker expressed appreciation to Dr. Elchuck and his fellow committee members for their hard work and the many hours spent in preparing the draft Business Plan.

It was MOVED by Trudy Thompson, seconded by Lawrence MacKinnon

**TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE.
MOTION CARRIED**

EDUCATION SERVICES:

Marilyn Thompson, Chair, provided reports on Education Services Committee meetings held on October 17 and November 21, 2002.

October 17, 2002 Meeting:

Student Travel:

The following schools trips were approved:

1. 1. Central Colchester Jr. High School - Quebec City, February 7-11, 2003.
2. 2. Cobequid Educational Centre - Dominican Republic, March 6-13, 2003.
3. 3. Cobequid Educational Centre - London/Paris, March 7-15, 2003.
4. 4. Stellarton Middle High School - Quebec City, last weekend of April or 1st weekend of May 2003 (dates to be confirmed).
5. 5. Trenton High - Quebec City, May 5-9, 2003.
6. 6. East Pictou Rural High School - Quebec City/Montreal, Late April or Early May 2003 (dates to be confirmed).

Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CAN-U):

At the Committee Meeting held on September 19, 2002, a letter was read from Mr. Gerald A. Randall, Chairperson, Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CAN-U) proposing that CAN-U sponsor a Cumberland County Spelling Bee Championship for our students as a fundraiser. A response to this letter was forwarded to Mr. Randall asking for more specific information in regards to the plans as articulated in his letter. Mr. Benedict presented the response from Mr. Randall. The Committee agreed not to approve the proposed Cumberland County Spelling Bee Championship.

Progress on Implementation of Smoke-Free Policy #OG-03:

An update was given on the implementation of the Smoke-Free Policy in schools across the Region, in particular with regard to West Pictou District High School. The Committee agreed that the Smoke-Free Policy would continue to be enforced, and in place of erecting a chain link fence to mark the West Pictou District High School boundaries, a supervisor will be hired to oversee the students during breaks. It was further agreed that the letter being sent to the Department of Justice, outlining concerns regarding implementation of the Smoke-Free Policy, should also address the need for consequences to be announced in relation to Bill 125.

HRDC – Homelessness Project:

Mr. Benedict advised that he has been contacted by Human Resources Development Canada with an offer to provide funding to the Board to be used in relation to the youth

homelessness issue. Mr. Benedict indicated that CAYAC (Child and Youth Action Committee) will take on the application for funding, with the Board acting as Lead Agency.

During discussion on the report, concern was expressed with respect to the safety of students while on approved school trips. A suggestion to implement the possible requirement for a Post Trip Report, which would provide relevant details on trip itineraries, was proposed. There was **agreement** to refer the matter to the Education Services Committee for action.

It was MOVED by Marilyn Thompson, seconded by Mark Lavers

THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT THE EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT FROM A MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2002, AS PROVIDED.

MOTION CARRIED

November 21, 2002 Meeting:

South Colchester High School:

A request was received from South Colchester High School for permission to adjust the June school calendar in order to provide professional development for teachers as they prepare to begin classes in the new high school in September 2003, and to facilitate the demolition of the present high school in order to have the site ready for the opening of the new school. Concern was expressed for the instructional time that will be lost if the proposed change to the school calendar is approved. It was the consensus of the committee that it would be more beneficial to students if the professional development component for teachers was carried out at the beginning of the school year. Additional information will be requested from Corporate Services, and this request will be discussed further at the December meeting.

School Trip Requests:

One of the eight school trips approved on November 21st was to France during March Break 2005 for the first Middle French Immersion graduates of the new Pictou East High School. Approval, in principle, was given to allow planning to begin; however, final approval will be considered in the 2004-2005 school year.

Canada Wide Science Fair Proposal:

On recommendation of the Education Services Committee,

It was MOVED by Marilyn Thompson, seconded by Mary Macaulay

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE CANADA WIDE SCIENCE FAIR BID COMMITTEE TO HOST THE CANADA WIDE SCIENCE FAIR IN TRURO IN 2007.

MOTION CARRIED

It was noted a copy of the proposal was included as an attachment to the Nov. 21, 2002 Education Services Committee minutes.

Tobacco Use

The Committee discussed changes to the Draft #2 document that outlines a proposed position on smoking or possession of tobacco products after January 1, 2003 when Bill 125 comes into effect. A third draft has been prepared and forwarded to the Board Solicitor for review.

It was MOVED by Marilyn Thompson, seconded by Trudy Thompson

THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT THE EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT ON A MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 21, 2002, AS PROVIDED.

During discussion on School Trip requests, concern was raised regarding loss of instructional time for participating students and teachers as well as for the students remaining in class. The Board Chair acknowledged the value of school trips as well as the importance of minimizing loss of instructional time for all students.

At this point in the meeting, Doug Benedict, Director of Education Services, presented two options of proposed guidelines which would support the enforcement of policy CS-G-03: *Environment: Smoke-Free Facilities and Grounds* after January 1, 2003 when Bill 125 comes into effect. One option was reflective of previous Board discussion while the second was an option resulting from input received at a recent meeting with a focus group of school administrators.

During debate on the options presented, discussion centered on several matters including: student safety and behaviour, policy enforcement off school grounds, students over the age of nineteen, confiscation issue, cessation programs, liability issues, etc. A series of motions followed:

It was MOVED by Ron Marks, seconded by Marilyn Thompson

THAT THE BOARD MAINTAIN THE GUIDELINES CURRENTLY IN PLACE TO SUPPORT THE ENFORCEMENT OF BOARD POLICY #CS-G-03: ENVIRONMENT: TOBACCO-FREE FACILITIES & GROUNDS FOR THE REMAINING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

**MOTION DEFEATED
3 Votes in Favour**

Following additional discussion,

It was MOVED by Trudy Thompson, seconded by Marilyn Murray

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE GUIDELINES TO SUPPORT THE

ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY #CS-G-03: ENVIRONMENT: TOBACCO-FREE FACILITIES & GROUNDS, AS PRESENTED IN DRAFT #4; TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003.

Discussion on the motion ensued following which,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Mark Lavers

THAT THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE GUIDELINES BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE PROVISION FOR STUDENT SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAMS.

MOTION CARRIED ON THE AMENDMENT

Subsequent to additional debate the question was called on the original motion as amended.

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

CORPORATE SERVICES:

Dr. Lawrence MacKinnon, Committee Chair, provided a report on meetings held on October 23 and November 27, 2002.

October 23, 2002 Meeting:

Gerald Hoganson - Request for Information:

Mr. Hoganson appeared before the Committee, requesting that the Board waive the \$740. fee with respect to his FOIPOP application.

The Committee denied Mr. Hogansons's request, and also requested that the Pugwash High SAC provide the Committee with minutes relating to the request.

At this point in the meeting Board member John Henderson, indicating he supported Mr. Hoganson's request, advised of his intention to follow through on a notice of motion he had presented in a previous meeting. Accordingly,

It was MOVED by John Henderson, seconded by Marilyn Thompson

THAT THE BOARD PROVIDE GERALD HOGANSON, PUGWASH SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR, WITH THE INFORMATION HE REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF THE SAC AND THAT THE \$740. FEE BE WAIVED.

Following extensive discussion on the merits of the request,

It was MOVED by Mary Macaulay, seconded by Robin Bourque

THAT THE MOTION BE AMENDED TO STIPULATE THAT THE

INFORMATION BE COMPILED TO COINCIDE WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE BOARD'S ANNUAL SALARY AND EXPENSE REPORT.

**AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED
3 Affirmative Votes**

Accordingly, the question was called on the original motion.

MOTION CARRIED

6 Negative Votes: Kaaren Barkhouse, Lawrence MacKinnon, Marilyn Murray
David Myles, Robert Parker, Trudy Thompson

David Thibault – Busing:

Mr. Thibault, a parent of children attending Hilden Elementary requested that his children be allowed to remain on the Hilden bus when it makes its second run to Brookfield.

The Committee denied Mr. Thibault's request to allow the children to remain on the bus for the extra trip and agreed existing conveyance guidelines were to be followed.

Laidlaw Contract – 2 Year Extension:

On recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Marilyn Thompson

THAT THE BOARD GRANT APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE LAIDLAW CONTRACT FOR AN ADDITIONAL TWO YEARS, UNDER THE SAME RATES AND REGULATIONS AS THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT.

MOTION CARRIED

South Colchester Academy – Name Recommendation:

The Committee received a letter from Jim Burns, South Colchester High, on behalf of the School Advisory Council, requesting that the new school in Brookfield be named "South Colchester Academy". The Committee accepted the recommendation of the Advisory Council, and requested Board approval for the name recommendation. Accordingly,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Kaaren Barkhouse

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT OF NAMING THE NEW SCHOOL IN BROOKFIELD – SOUTH COLCHESTER ACADEMY.

MOTION CARRIED

East Stewiacke SAC:

Mr. Sabeau received a letter from James Jollimore, Chairperson of the East Stewiacke School

Advisory Council.

Mr. Jollimore advised, in his letter, that the East Stewiacke SAC were very pleased with recent renovations and upgrades at the school and requested that the issue of a joint school between East Stewiacke and Stewiacke be revisited.

The Committee requested that Mr. Sabean respond to Mr. Jollimore and advise him that the Board will respond to his request pending outcome from the Department of Education recommendations on new school construction.

November 27, 2002 Meeting:

Advertising in Schools:

The committee reviewed the Board Policy on Advertising in Schools and on School Property. After a lengthy debate, the committee recommended that the discussion continue at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

Dr. MacKinnon indicated there had been agreement at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting for the Director of Corporate Services and the Corporate Services Committee Chair to reword procedures under the policy to include additions suggested by Mary Macaulay as well as a reference that the Director of Corporate Services review any proposed contracts with the Board solicitor . It was noted that revised document had been shared with Board members earlier in the week. Accordingly,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Marilyn Murray

THAT THE BOARD ADOPT POLICY #CS-G-14, ADVERTISING IN SCHOOLS AND ON SCHOOL PROPERTY, WITH SUPPORTING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, AS PRESENTED.

Clarification was sought on a number of issues including the parameters surrounding licensing agreements, following which the question was called.

MOTION CARRIED

4 Negative Votes: Robin Bourque, John Henderson
Mackie Ross, Marilyn Thompson

Northumberland Regional High School – Name Recommendation:

The Committee received a letter from the “Name the School Committee” requesting that the new school in Alma be named “Northumberland Regional High School”. The Committee accepted the recommendation of the Committee, and requested Board approval for the name recommendation; therefore,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Mackie Ross

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT

OF NAMING THE NEW SCHOOL IN ALMA – NORTHUMBERLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL.

MOTION CARRIED

North Nova Educational Centre – Name Recommendation:

The Committee received a letter from Eileen English requesting that the new school in Pictou East be named “North Nova Educational Centre”. The Committee accepted the recommendation and requested Board approval for the name recommendation; accordingly,

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by David Myles

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT OF NAMING THE NEW SCHOOL IN PICTOU EAST – NORTH NOVA EDUCATIONAL CENTRE.

MOTION CARRIED

Due to the lateness of the hour Dr. MacKinnon indicated we would not read the rest of the report. However, the last three items contained in the report are included as a matter of record.

Stellarton Busing Request:

The committee received a request from the Stellarton and Area Minor Girls Softball Association requesting that the Board providing busing for their softball tournament in August, 2003. The Committee agreed to approve the busing request at no cost to the Board.

Request - Robert Ferguson:

The Committee received a request from Robert Ferguson, Principal of East Pictou Rural High to return to a classroom assignment for the 2003/04 school year. The Committee accepted Mr. Ferguson’s request.

Department of Education Lease:

The Committee agreed to proceed with the lease renewal for the Department of Education offices located at 60 Lorne Street, Truro, for five years at a rate of \$17.50 per square foot.

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Marilyn Murray

THAT THE BOARD ADOPT THE CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE SERVICES:

Because of time constraints Committee Chair Ron Marks chose to present just one item from the Finance Services report. Mr. Marks indicated the remainder of the Finance Services Committee

report on meetings held on October 30 and November 27th, 2002 would be presented at a future meeting.

Purchasing Card Resolution:

All Boards in Nova Scotia have transferred banking services to the Bank of Montreal which necessitates changing to the Bank of Montreal's Purchasing Card system, Mastercard. The Bank of Montreal establishes a resolution for Mastercard with a credit limit of \$300,000. with the Director of Finance and Board Chair being designated to sign the resolution.

On recommendation of the Finance Services Committee:

It was MOVED by Ron Marks, seconded by Lawrence MacKinnon

THAT THE BOARD CHAIR AND THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE APPROPRIATE PURCHASING CARD RESOLUTION (MASTERCARD) WITH THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

MOTION CARRIED

Board Members Ron Marks and John Henderson each expressed strong concern with not adhering to the three-hour period established as the duration for Board meetings. Following indications of their intent, they absented themselves from the meeting.

-

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

It was MOVED by Ron Marks, seconded by John Henderson

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN.

MOTION DEFEATED

EXTENSION OF TIME LIMIT:

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Marilyn Murray

THAT THE MEETING EXTEND BEYOND 10:00 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION:

It was MOVED by Marilyn Murray, seconded by Lawrence MacKinnon

THAT THE MEETING MOVE TO IN-CAMERA SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL ISSUE.

MOTION CARRIED

It was MOVED by Marilyn Murray, seconded by Lawrence MacKinnon
THAT THE MEETING RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA SESSION:

Based on discussion held during the In-Camera session regarding a personnel issue:

It was MOVED by Lawrence MacKinnon, seconded by Mackie Ross
**THAT THE BOARD APPROVE DISCIPLINARY ACTION, AS RECOMMENDED
BY THE BOARD SOLICITOR, WITH RESPECT TO THE EMPLOYEE IN
QUESTION.**

MOTION CARRIED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for January 15, 2003 and will be held in the Board Room at 60 Lorne Street, Truro beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Jim Grue, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Robert Parker, Board Chair

Date

Linda Campbell, Board Secretary

Date