
CHIGNECTO-CENTRAL REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
12-06 MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2006, in the Bible Hill Junior High School, 741 College Road, Truro beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Gordon Anderson	David Myles
Kaaren Barkhouse	Elizabeth Paris
Vivian Farrell	Mackie Ross
Jim Grue	Jamie Stevens
Keith MacKenzie	Marilyn Thompson
Wendy Matheson-Withrow	Trudy Thompson
Marilyn Murray	Jeff Williams

In Attendance:

Gary Clarke	Herb Steeves
Valerie Gauthier	Terri Mingo
Noel Hurley	Linda Campbell, Board Secretary
Allison McGrath	Elizabeth Van den Eynden, Legal Counsel

Absent:

Alex Cope, with regrets	Bert Young, with regrets
Ron Marks, with regrets	

Board Chair Trudy Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. Thompson announced that the Department of Education had advised of a change in location for the October 2nd, 2006 *Provincial School Closure Review Public Meeting* from Amherst to the Oxford Regional High School.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was MOVED by Elizabeth Paris, seconded by Jamie Stevens
THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was MOVED by Keith MacKenzie, seconded by Jim Grue
**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 23,
2006 BE APPROVED.**

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Policy #FS-01, Procurement and Purchasing:

It was MOVED by David Myles, seconded by Mackie Ross
**THAT THE BOARD ADOPT REVISED POLICY #FS-01, *PROCUREMENT
AND PURCHASING* AS PRESENTED.**

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board Secretary read two items of correspondence.

Retirement – Regional Education Officer:

Correspondence dated September 12th, 2006 was received from Dave White advising of his retirement as of August 31st from the Department of Education. His correspondence read in part:

“I have enjoyed the last five years working with the CCRSB and its senior administration. The hard work of Board members and staff has lead to the development of an excellent school system, one of which you should be justifiably proud.

I want to express my appreciation to Board members who devote so much of their time to ensure students in their region receive a quality education. Regardless of the discussion or the issue at hand, I observed a Board which kept the interest of students at the forefront. I

applaud you for the many Board led initiatives – regional exams, distance education, international education, to name a few – all with the aim of providing more educational opportunities for your students. I wish the Board continued success.”

Student Thank You Notes:

Several Board Members received notes from students expressing thanks for the Board’s support of their participation in the 2006 Summer Science Academy at Saint Francis Xavier University.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE:

Vice-Chair Keith MacKenzie read a report from a Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on September 6th, 2006.

Presentation – Civic Centre Steering Team:

The Board received a presentation from Truro’s Mayor Bill Mills on behalf of the *Civic Centre Steering Team* outlining a proposal regarding the construction of a prospective new Civic Centre to be built adjacent to the Colchester Legion Stadium on Lorne Street. With the preliminary plan requiring additional parking space, the Town of Truro has asked the CCRSB to consider an agreement for joint use of Board-owned property.

Board Budget 2006-07:

Ron Marks, Finance Services Committee Chair, presented details on a proposed budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007. A motion recommending formal Board approval of the budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year will be addressed later in the meeting.

Request Re G. R. Saunders Elementary:

Ron Marks, who represents the Stellarton area, provided an update on the status of renovations at the G. R. Saunders Elementary School. He advised that the project, having been impacted by escalating costs within the construction industry, would require additional capital to ensure a timely completion of the renovations.

Subsequent to discussion, there was consensus that the following motion be brought forward for Board consideration. Accordingly,

It was MOVED by Keith MacKenzie, seconded by Gordon Anderson

THAT THE BOARD SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR AN INCREASE OF \$1,500,000 IN 2007-08 PROVINCIAL TCA (TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS) FUNDING, THE AMOUNT REQUIRED TO BRING THE G. R. SAUNDERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RENOVATION TO COMPLETION.

MOTION CARRIED

It was MOVED by Keith MacKenzie, seconded by Marilyn Murray

THAT THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE REPORT FROM A MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2006 BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION SERVICES:

Gordon Anderson, Committee Chair, advised that no Education Services Committee meeting had been held since the regular Board Meeting on August 23rd. Subsequently there was no report to bring forward.

CORPORATE SERVICES:

Committee Chair Mackie Ross reported that the Corporate Services Committee had not met since the August 23rd Board Meeting. He brought forward one item from the September 6th Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. During Committee-of-the-Whole discussion Board Members indicated strong support for the development of a multi purpose civic centre to serve the Central Nova Scotia Region. Based on this and previous discussions,

It MOVED by Mackie Ross, seconded by Vivian Farrell

THAT THE BOARD AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO SUPPORT THE HIGHEST EVALUATED COLCHESTER LEGION STADIUM SITE, ADJACENT TO COBEQUID EDUCATIONAL CENTRE. APPROVAL IS PENDING SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING SHARED USE OF BOARD PROPERTY AND CIVIC CENTRE RECREATIONAL SERVICES; THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO BE COMPLETED BETWEEN CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES BY DECEMBER 31, 2006.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE SERVICES:

In the absence of Finance Services Committee Chair Ron Marks, Vice-Chair David Myles advised that the Committee had not convened since the Board Meeting in August. Mr. Myles reminded those in attendance that Mr. Marks had presented a proposed detailed budget at last week's Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. Therefore,

It was MOVED by David Myles, seconded by Kaaren Barkhouse

THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR THE 2006-2007 FISCAL YEAR AS PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2006 COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING.

MOTION CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Noel Hurley highlighted several items from his first printed administrative report to the Board including: *CCRSB's August Leadership Meeting; New Leadership Assignments; the Business Plan; and, System Priorities 2006-07.*

In reference to the section devoted to the Leadership Meeting, Dr. Hurley reiterated his statement regarding the warm welcome and encouragement he had received from Principals and Vice-Principals.

Responding to a Board Member's query pertaining to the *Business Plan*, Dr. Hurley clarified that the December 17th, 2006 submission date referenced in his report pertains to a draft of the 2007-08 Business Plan. From that date until sixty days after the formal adoption of the 2007-08 Budget, the Board will engage in collaborative activity developing both a Strategic Plan and finalizing the 2007-08 Business Plan. He noted that the Board is currently at the final stage of completion of the 2006-07 Business Plan. With the 2006-07 Budget having been approved this evening, the Board is in a position to ratify the 2006-07 Business Plan at its October 11th Board Meeting for subsequent submission to the Department of Education.

BOARD CHAIR / VICE-CHAIR REPORT:

Chair Trudy Thompson publicly welcomed students and staff to the 2006-07 school year. She encouraged new and returning staff and students to work to their highest potential and expressed warm wishes for a successful year.

Vice-Chair Keith MacKenzie concurred with her comments.

NSSBA REPORT:

David Myles, Board representative to the Nova Scotia School Boards Association, encouraged attendance of the “*Multiple Pathways to Success Symposium*” scheduled for the evening of November 8th, November 9th – 10th. The symposium will provide opportunity for discussion on various alternate programs including vocational training and “options and opportunities”.

NEW BUSINESS:

CCRSB School Closure Process Review Ad hoc Committee:

Vivian Farrell, Chair of the ad hoc committee, which was established to prepare for the Board’s participation in the *Provincial Review of the School Closure/Consolidation Process*, provided an update on the draft document to be presented to the Review Committee by October 31st, 2006. Board Members in collaboration with Principals, School Advisory Councils and other stakeholders will have opportunity to contribute feedback prior to the report’s completion.

Moment of Silence Observed:

At this point in the meeting, those in attendance observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the tragic shooting that occurred at the Dawson College, Westmount, Quebec earlier today.

NOTICE OF MOTION:

No notices of motion were presented.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:

Truro Mayor Bill Mills thanked the Board for agreeing in principle to support the Colchester Legion Stadium site for the proposed construction of a multi purpose civic centre to serve the Central Nova Scotia Region, subject to successful negotiations regarding shared use of Board property. He commented that complying with the December 31st, 2006 deadline might be unrealistic. His suggestion to extend the December 31st deadline, if necessary, to March 31st, 2007 will be considered by the Corporate Services Committee at its next meeting.

IN-CAMERA SESSION:

It was MOVED by Jamie Stevens, seconded by Vivian Farrell

THAT THE MEETING MOVE TO IN-CAMERA SESSION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING PERSONNEL ISSUES.

MOTION CARRIED

It was MOVED by Elizabeth Paris, seconded by Keith MacKenzie

THAT THE MEETING RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION.

MOTION CARRIED

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Board, scheduled for **October 11, 2006**, will be held in the Hants North Rural High School, 4369 Highway 236, Kennetcook, beginning at **7:00 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on motion by Wendy Matheson-Withrow and Gordon Anderson.

Note: At the conclusion of the meeting Board Chair Trudy Thompson thanked Principal Bill Kaulback and his staff for providing meeting accommodations.

Trudy Thompson, Board Chair

October 11, 2006
Date

Linda Campbell, Board Secretary

October 11, 2006
Date