



**HALIFAX REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
April 23, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

A Regular Board Meeting was held this date in the Board Chambers,
33 Spectacle Lake Drive, Dartmouth, NS.

PRESENT:

Gin Yee
Melinda Daye
Cindy Littlefair
Christy Linders
Kirk Arsenault

Steve Warburton
Nancy Jakeman
Dave Wright
Sheryl Blumenthal-Harrison

Denise Bell, Regional Education Officer

REGRETS:

Bridget Ann Boutilier
Chris Abraham, Student Advisor
Tristan Maxwell, Student Advisor

STAFF:

Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent
Gary Adams, Senior Staff Advisor
Selena Henderson, Corporate Secretary
Terri Thompson, Director, Financial Services
Doug Hadley, Coordinator, Communications
Danielle McNeil-Hessian, Director, School Administration
Mike Christie, Director, Human Resource Services
Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services
Alison Leverman, Director, Program
Tracey O’Kroneg, Coordinator, Human Resource Services
Tracey Jones-Grant, Coordinator, Diversity Management
Gerard Costard, Coordinator, Information Technology
Susan Tomie, Coordinator, School Administration
Vicki Palmeter, Assistant to the Corporate Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded (Littlefair/Wright) that the agenda be approved.
(CARRIED)

3. AWARDS / PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Hope Blooms was unable to attend.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Gin Yee, Chair, presented the Chair's report. A copy of the report is filed with the minutes.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent, presented the Superintendent's Report. A copy of the report is filed with the minutes.

6. PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

March 27, 2013 (Regular Board)

It was moved and seconded (Daye/Jakeman) that the minutes/business arising from the minutes of the March 27, 2014, Regular Board meetings be approved.
(CARRIED)

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Board Member Sheryl Blumenthal-Harrison provided the Chair with two letters of correspondence to be shared with the Governing Board.

It was moved and seconded (Jakeman/Linders) that the Board Chair send correspondence to the Minister of Education requesting an update on the site selection for the new high school in Eastern and the Dartmouth South school P-9.
(CARRIED)

9. ITEMS FOR DECISION

9.1 Report #14-02-1450- Capital Plan – Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services

It was moved and seconded (Blumenthal-Harrison/Littlefair) that the Governing Board approve the prioritized list of projects for submission to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development as follows:

- 1. Central Spryfield Elementary (Addition and Alteration)**
- 2. Shannon Park Elementary (Purchase/Addition and Alteration)**
- 3. New High School-Kearney Lake/Hammonds Plains area (New School Construction)**
- 4. Bicentennial School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 5. J.L. Ilsley High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 6. Eastern Shore District High School (Addition and Alteration)**

It was moved and seconded (Warburton/Jakeman) that the Governing Board amend the motion to add Sunnyside Elementary school renovation as #7 to the capital projects list.

(WITHDRAWN)

It was moved and seconded (Linders/Wright) that the Governing Board amend the motion to the capital project lists as follows:

- 1. Central Spryfield Elementary (Addition and Alteration)**
- 2. Shannon Park Elementary (Purchase/Addition and Alteration)**
- 3. New High School-Kearney Lake/Hammonds Plains area (New School Construction)**
- 4. Bicentennial School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 5. J.L. Ilsley High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 6. Eastern Shore District High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 7. Inglis Street Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 8. Sunnyside Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)***

***If Central Spryfield Elementary receives funding through the Capital repair budget it would be removed from the list.**

(CARRIED)

It was moved and seconded (Blumenthal-Harrison/Wright) that the Governing Board amend the motion to the capital project lists as follows:

- 1. Central Spryfield Elementary (Addition and Alteration)**
- 2. J.L. Ilsley High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 3. Shannon Park Elementary (Purchase/Addition and Alteration)**
- 4. New High School-Kearney Lake/Hammonds Plains area (New School Construction)**
- 5. Bicentennial School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 6. Eastern Shore District High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 7. Inglis Street Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 8. Sunnyside Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)***

***If Central Spryfield Elementary receives funding through the Capital repair budget it would be removed from the list.**

(CARRIED)

It was moved and seconded (Jakeman/Blumenthal-Harrison) that the Governing Board amend the motion to the capital project lists as follows:

- 1. Central Spryfield Elementary (Addition and Alteration)**
- 2. J.L. Ilsley High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 3. Shannon Park Elementary (Purchase/Addition and Alteration)**
- 4. New High School-Kearney Lake/Hammonds Plains area (New School Construction)**
- 5. Bicentennial School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 6. Inglis Street Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 7. Eastern Shore District High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 8. Sunnyside Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)***

***If Central Spryfield Elementary receives funding through the Capital repair budget it would be removed from the list.**

(DEFEATED)

It was moved and seconded (Blumenthal-Harrison/Littlefair) that the Governing Board approve the prioritized list of projects for submission to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development as follows:

- 1. Central Spryfield Elementary (Addition and Alteration)**
- 2. J.L. Ilsley High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 3. Shannon Park Elementary (Purchase/Addition and Alteration)**
- 4. New High School-Kearney Lake/Hammonds Plains area (New School Construction)**
- 5. Bicentennial School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 6. Eastern Shore District High School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 7. Inglis Street Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)**
- 8. Sunnyside Elementary School (Addition and Alteration)***

***If Central Spryfield Elementary receives funding through the Capital repair budget it would be removed from the list.**

(CARRIED)

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Audit Committee

Board Member Christy Linders indicated that the Audit Committee's next meeting will be held on June 25, 2014.

10.2 Policy Development and Review Committee

Board Member Steve Warburton provided an update from the April 9, 2014 Committee meeting.

10.3 Nova Scotia School Board Association - Board Member Melinda Daye, NSSBA Director

Board Member Melinda Daye provided an update on recent meetings and information regarding the Nova Scotia School Boards Association.

Board Member Christy Linders provided an update on the activities of the Resolutions Committees.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

11.1 Report # 14-03-1459– Focus on Learning: Gifted Education and Talent Development – Alison Leverman, Director, Program

Alison Leverman, Director, Program, presented the report and answered questions from the Governing Board.

11.2 Report #14-04-1462 - School Calendar – Danielle McNeil-Hessian, Director, School Administration

Danielle McNeil-Hessian, Director, School Administration, answered questions on the report.

11.3 Report #14-04-1463 - Superintendent and SAC Consultations – Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent

Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent, presented the report and answered questions from the Governing Board.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

Board Chair Gin Yee provided the following notice of motion:

5.01 Meetings

- (a) The Board shall hold a regular board meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month or by resolution by the Halifax Regional School Board.
- (b) The agenda for the regular board meeting shall be posted on the Halifax Regional School Board website the Wednesday prior to the regular board meeting. Agendas shall follow the format contained in Appendix A.
- (c) The Board package, including a draft agenda and staff reports, shall be distributed the **Friday** prior to the board meeting. Staff reports shall follow the format contained in Appendix B.

Vice-Chair Dave Wright provided the following notice of motion:

I move that Appendix A revised be the date of the next scheduled Policy and Audit Committee meetings be included in the Board template and that the bylaws be amended to reflect this change.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Special Meeting – May 7, 2014
Board Meeting - May 28, 2014

14. IN-CAMERA

15. ADJOURNMENT

**It was moved and seconded (Linders/Jakeman) that the meeting be adjourned.
(CARRIED)**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Gin Yee
Chair
Halifax Regional School Board

Selena Henderson
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by Vicki Palmeter
Assistant to the Corporate Secretary

APPROVED

Gin Yee – Board Report
April 23, 2014

Fellow board members, Superintendent LeRoux, members of staff, ladies and gentlemen, good evening.

April is traditionally one of the board's busiest months. And this year has been no exception.

There have been a number of events that I have attended on behalf of the board and I'd like to highlight a few tonight.

On April 7, I attended the official opening of the Early Years Centre at Rockingstone Heights School. Minister Casey and Margaret McCain, chair of the Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Foundation, were on hand for the opening.

This is one of three centres across the province – and the first one in our board – to open. The purpose of the centres is to provide supports to families and children before they start school.

I attended the We Day event at Prince Andrew High School along with Elwin and Gary on April 15. There one thousand students in attendance to hear inspirational

messages from Spencer West and others as part of the We Create Change Tour.

I have finished my individual meetings with Board members. I want to thank all of you for being open and honest, and sharing your ideas. I have found these meetings to be extremely helpful and I hope you have as well.

As part of our ongoing work to address one of the priorities in the Business Plan under Goal 4, I met with the Mayor to start the organizing of a joint meeting with the Governing Board and HRM Council. I am confident we will be able to find a time to come together in the near future and I will share more details as they become finalized.

And yesterday, I had the privilege of attending the Education Week Awards at Rocky Lake Junior High. Three of our teachers were recognized but in addition, board member Daye was the recipient of the NSSBA award.

The theme for this year is Active Citizenship: Get Involved, Take Action, Be the Difference. Board member Daye has certainly been active in her community throughout her life and continues to influence in her role on our board and provincially with the NSSBA.

This is a wonderful and well deserved award Melinda and on behalf of the board I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations.

And before I finish, tonight marks the final board meeting for Mike Christie our Director of Human Resources. Mike is moving on to the Halifax International Airport Authority where he will become their Vice President of Human Resources.

Mike, we are sad to see you go because you have always provided the board with exceptional support. We will miss your expertise, advice and professionalism.

We wish you well in your new role and you should leave knowing our system has benefitted tremendously from your leadership.

Good luck and I would ask my fellow board members to join me in extending our thanks. (Stand up and start c;aping).

And that concludes my remarks.

Thank you.