



**Halifax Regional School Board
Ad Hoc Governance Committee
Minutes
January 8, 2016
12:00 p.m.**

Meeting was held this date in the Board Lounge,
33 Spectacle Lake, Dartmouth, NS.

PRESENT: Dave Wright Christy Linders
Cindy Littlefair Melinda Daye

Denise Bell, Regional Education Officer
Nancy Pynch-Worthylake, NSSBA

REGRETS: Gin Yee

STAFF: Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent
Lance Bullock, Senior Staff Advisor
Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Cindy Littlefair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Linders/Wright) to approve the agenda.

(CARRIED)

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Daye/Linders) that the minutes/business arising from the minutes of the December 9, 2015, Ad Hoc Governance Committee meeting be approved.

(CARRIED)

4. Discussion Items

A discussion took place between members with regards to different governance models.

A member noted she came across the Generative Governance model and, if the committee wishes, she could send the information to everyone.

Is there a good governance framework somewhere? Maybe it is time to look at the provincial framework for good governance.

HRSB is status quo with respect to a governance model. Business is done the same way as it has always been. History has been a big driver in the way HRSB does things.

Other boards do not govern their meetings as HRSB does. They seem to operate with more committees than HRSB does. Maybe HRSB could visit another board and look at public meetings are done?

With the recent publication of the Auditor General report, there may be provincial framework being elaborated. Nancy Pinch will be meeting with the ADM at EECD next week to discuss this.

A brief discussion took place with regards to the following article: **THE IMPACT OF CENTRALIZATION ON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE IN CANADA** by, Gerald Galway, Memorial University, Bruce Sheppard, Memorial University, John Wiens, University of Manitoba, and Jean Brown, Memorial University.

It would seem like it is not a model that is adapted to Education. It is based on the Carver model from 1990.

Three models emerged from this conversation: Policy Governance, Coherent Governance, Generative Governance.

When looking at various models, it is important to take notes of each model and look at Student Achievement. What will this new governance fix?

Cindy discussed her conversation someone from the Calgary school Board with regards to their Governance Model (previously Policy Governance and now Coherent Governance) and stated that this Board spends a lot of time discussing students' education. The Calgary SB stated that since adopting the Coherent Governance model, it has taken their board to another level.

She also said that Howard Windsor has declined an invitation to come meet with the Halifax Regional School Board.

Following all members are asked to complete a SWOT analysis with regards to the book – *Good Governance is a Choice*. See appendix 1.

A discussion ensued about what the next steps for this committee should be.

Someone asked what other boards are doing with regards to Governance? Nancy will look into this for our next meeting.

What is the Halifax Regional School Board's independence with regards to adopting a Governance Model? Nancy and Denise will discuss this at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

5. Decision Items

6. Next Meeting

Friday, January 22 at 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

7. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded (Linders/Wright) that the meeting be adjourned.

(CARRIED)

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

APPROVED