



**Halifax Regional School Board
Policy Development and Review Committee
June 8, 2016
7:30 p.m.**

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

PRESENT: Dave Wright Christy Linders
Cindy Littlefair Melinda Daye
Steve Warburton Nancy Jakeman
Pamela Glode-Desrochers

REGRETS: Gin Yee
Bridget Boutilier
Sheryl Blumenthal-Harrison

STAFF: Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent
Lance Bullock, Senior Staff Advisor
Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary
Alison King, Director, Program
Susan Tomie, Director, School Administration
Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services
Tracy O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resource Services
Wendy Mackey, Senior Diversity Advisor
Athena Leclair, Administrative Assistant to the Corporate Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:47 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Glode-Desrochers/Wright) that the Committee approve the agenda.

(CARRIED)

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Wright/Warburton) that the minutes/business arising from the minutes of the May 11, 2016, Policy Development and Review Committee meeting be approved.

(CARRIED)

4. Information Items

- **C.010 Race Relations, Cross-Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning**

Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary, indicated the *C.010 Race Relations, Cross-Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning* policy is currently being reviewed and will be coming forward at a later PDRC meeting. It was noted that originally it was thought that *B.020 Religious Education in Schools* could fit within *C.010 Race Relations, Cross-Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning* but that is no longer the case. It was also noted that some of the language in *C.010 Race Relations, Cross-Cultural Understanding and Human Rights in Learning* has been updated. A discussion ensued around how the title of the policy and the content do not necessarily match. Another discussion ensued around the word “promote” and whether or not there is a stronger word that can be used. It was noted that perhaps there was a way to make the policy more accessible, for example, by removing “Halifax Regional School Board” numerous times. It was asked if any other school boards in the province or country have a similar policy that would be a model to review and it was mentioned that there are a few different policies to reference.

- **B.020 Religious Education in Schools**

Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary, indicated the *B.020 Religious Education in Schools* policy is currently being reviewed and will be coming forward at a later PDRC meeting.

- **B.023 Distribution and Display of Materials in Schools of the HRSB**

Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary, indicated the *B.023 Distribution and Display of Materials in Schools of the HRSB* policy is currently being reviewed and will be coming forward at a later PDRC meeting.

- **E.003 Budget and Business Planning**

Terri Thompson, Director, Financial Services, indicated the *E.003 Budget and Business Planning* policy is currently being reviewed and an update was provided. It was noted that this policy will be brought to the Committee in September.

- **F.005 Student Transportation**

Ron Heiman, Director, Operations Services, indicated the *F.005 Student Transportation* policy is currently being reviewed and an update was provided. It was noted that the policy will go out to consultation in September and will be brought to the Governing Board at a later date.

5. Decision Items

- **C.013 Digital Citizenship**

Lance Bullock, Senior Staff Advisor reviewed changes to the policy and responded to questions from the Governing Board. It was noted that there is always a balance between how general and prescriptive a policy should be. A discussion ensued regarding how the Halifax Regional School Board is keeping up with technology. It was noted that this policy was intended to discuss citizenship and what good practice entails. It was noted that the province will be updating the ICT outcomes including the addition of digital competencies.

It was moved and seconded (Daye/Wright) that the Committee forward the new *C.013 Digital Citizenship* policy to the Governing Board for approval.

(CARRIED)

- **A.005 Advisory Committee to the Board**

Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary, reviewed changes to the policy and responded to questions from the Governing Board. It was noted that assuming the proposed by-law changes are approved at the Regular Board Meeting, this policy will be brought forward for rescinding.

It was moved and seconded (Littlefair/Jakeman) that the Committee forward the *A.005 Advisory Committee to the Board* policy to the Governing Board for rescinding.

(CARRIED)

6. Lookahead

a) PDRC Workflow

Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary, reviewed the changes to the PDRC Workflow chart with the Committee, and outlined which policies would be coming forward to the September PDRC meeting. It was noted that a statement will be coming forward in September that summarizes the work the Committee has done the last few years.

b) Update from Directors

Tracey O’Kroneg, Director, Human Resources noted that the Occupational Health and Safety policy will be reviewed. Alison King, Director, Program noted that there will also be some ministerial policies that will be shared.

7. Next Meeting

September 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

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

(CARRIED)

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

APPROVED