

**School Board Meeting Minutes: May 28, 2012**

**Category : School Board Meeting - Minutes**

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Sherwood Park Education Center  
Sydney, N.S.  
May 28 2012

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**(1) CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board was called to order today beginning at 7:00 p.m. **(2) RECORD OF ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Lorne Green, Chair  
Charlie Keagan  
Sandra Margettie  
Cathi Pierrard  
Jackie Organ  
Darren MacNeil  
Joan Currie  
Gary Fraser  
Darrell Flynn  
Barb Mercer  
Steve Parsons  
Kevin Ruelland  
Darren Googoo  
Fred Tilley

**Absent:** Darlene Morrison (sent regrets)

**Also Present:** Ambrose White, Superintendent  
George Boudreau, Director of Financial Services  
Beth MacIsaac, Director of Human Resource Services  
Susan Kelley, Director of Programs and Student Services  
Paul Oldford, Director of Operational Services  
Michelle MacLeod, Board Recording Secretary

**(3) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** (a) Deletions: There were no deletions. (b)  
New Business/Additions: Moved by Commissioner Organ  
Seconded by Commissioner Parsons That the Board accept the agenda as presented including the following two items. . . a. Commissioner Tilley â€œ Vocational Consultant at Memorial High School  
b. Commissioner Flynn â€œ Koodos to Glace Bay High **Motion carried**

**2012-05-19**

**(4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** Moved by Commissioner Pierrard

Seconded by Commissioner Organ that the minutes for the following meetings be approved by the Board. . .

Regular Public Board Meeting - April 30, 2012  
Special Board Meeting - April 30, 2012  
Special Board Meeting - May 7, 2012  
Special Board Meeting - May 14, 2012  
Special Board Meeting(budget) - May 22, 2012

Commissioner Parsons questioned the number of new requests for Teacher Assistants for the primary level which was identified however have not been assigned support to date. Mrs. Susan Kelley, Director of Programs and Students advised that she will follow-up with a response.

**Motion carried**

**2012-05-20**

**(5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:** n/a

**(6) CORRESPONDENCE:** Three pieces of correspondence were provided. The Board secretary received correspondence from the President of CUPE Local 5050, Ms. Liz MacDonald regarding setting up a Board/CUPE Committee. The second piece of correspondence was from Ms. Ramona Jennex with regards to the SchoolsPlus program. At this time she regrets she will not approve our request to extend the program. The third piece of correspondence was also from Ms. Ramona Jennex advising the NSSBA to reduce their member fees by 15%.

Commissioner Pierrard wished to add to the Education Committee the request received from CUPE Local 5050. She also requested clarification with regards to the fees which Halifax pay to the NSSBA. Moved by Commissioner Keagan

Seconded by Commissioner Flynn That the Board accept the correspondence as received. .

**Motion carried**

**2012-05-21**

**(7) SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Ambrose White, Superintendent of Schools provided his report to those in attendance. His report included: The Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board approved the 2012-2013 budget at a meeting on May 22, 2012. The budget shortfall is a total of \$4,493,631. There are reductions in all departments within the Board including such things as professional development, equipment/supplies, travel, maintenance, property service, transportation, repairs, reduced bus runs, etc. There is also a total of 75.7 staff reductions for next year, including 56.7 Nova Scotia Teachers' Union positions and 19 non-teaching staff positions. The impact of such reductions on top of the over \$5 million reduction last year, certainly imposes challenges and strains within our system. Our Board faces extremely difficult days ahead if such reductions continue over the next year or more. Despite the challenges, Board and staff are committed to offer the best educational services to the students within our Board. He had the opportunity to attend Music Monday which was held on May 7, 2012. This is a national event celebrating music programs across Canada. This wonderful event was hosted in Cape Breton and included a parade along Alexandra Street culminating at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre. There was a one-hour National web broadcast from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The event included over 1100 students and the Barra MacNeils. It

certainly was a day of celebration of music and the wonderful programs within our system. He congratulated all our students who participated in Music Monday along with their teachers, principals and entire school communities. Well done everyone! The months of May and June often include evenings of celebrations within the schools of the Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board. There are Band spring concerts, art exhibits, academic and athletic awards, extra / co-curricular awards to name a few. These events showcase all the wonderful accomplishments and activities of our students and schools. It is wonderful to celebrate the great work of our students. He would like to offer congratulations to our Transportation Service for being awarded the "Gerald W. Buchan Memorial Award" for the second consecutive year. This award is given to the Board for providing "driver training, accident prevention, mechanical and bus body preventative maintenance programs, stops per kilometer, pre-trip inspections, hours of work regulations, garage cleanliness and appearance." This is a very prestigious award, and we are very proud of our Transportation Service for winning the second year in a row! The program "How Credit Works For You and Against You" is offered to our Junior High School students this year. It aims to educate students on the importance of managing and budgeting their finances and the crucial role credit plays in future financial decisions. The students heard an hour long presentation, and there is an essay aspect of the program that tests the students' knowledge of the subject matter. Students who participate, share \$7500 in prize money during an Awards Banquet later this month. This year, a bursary of \$1000 in memory of former Police Chief, Myles Burke, will be presented for the first time to the overall student submission and the school of the winning student. Program partners are Marquis Development, MGM and Associates, Khattar and Khattar Law Firm, Black and Sons Ltd., Dynasty Cabs, Plaza Taxi, Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, Cape Breton Regional Police, Cape Breton Post, XFM Radio, The Coast FM, and the Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board. We thank all our community partners for this terrific program and their funding support. The Department of Education is holding a series of information sessions for Nova Scotians who are interested in seeking office during October's School Board elections. The sessions will give insight into the roles and responsibilities of an elected Board Member, eligibility requirement, nomination process, honoraria, and general information about individual school boards. Present Board Members are also welcome. The session for the Cape Breton Victoria Regional School Board is scheduled for June 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the School Board Office, 275 George Street. Moved by Commissioner Currie

Seconded by Commissioner Parsons that the Board accept the Superintendent's Report as presented. . . **Motion carried**

**2012-05-22**

A copy of his report is attached to the original minutes.

**(8) BOARD CHAIR REPORT:** Mr. Green advised that he has no report this month.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

**(9) REPORT FROM COMMITTEE:** Moved by Commissioner Mercer  
 Seconded by Commissioner Pierrard that the Board approve the minutes of the Education  
 Committee Meeting of Monday, May 7, 2012. . **Motion carried**  
**2012-05-23**

**a. NSTU Requests for a Leave of Absence:** Moved by Commissioner Mercer  
 Seconded by Commissioner Margettie That the Board approve the following requests for a  
 leave of absence. . . .

**Employee #**

**Name**

**School**

**Effective**

40015625	Michael	Isaac, Mi	Kmaq Linguist/Cultural Support Teacher	-2nd Year
	Shipyards School	Year 2012	â€“ 2013	
40015330	Kent	Brewer,	Vocational Teacher (Electrical)	Memorial High School
	School	Year 2012 - 2013	<b>Motion carried</b>	

**2012-05-24**

**b. NSTU Request for Shared Teaching:** Moved by Commissioner Mercer  
 Seconded by Commissioner Currie That the Board approve the following requests to participate  
 in Shared teaching. . . .

**Employee #**

**Name/School**

**Terms**

**Effective**

40015140	Jean	Marie Imlay	MacInnis/Boularderie	Grade	4/5 Teacher 80%
	for 1 Year at Boularderie	August	1, 2012	â€“ July 31, 2013	<b>Motion carried</b>

**2012-05-25**

**c. NSTU Request to participate in a deferred salary plan:** Moved by Commissioner  
 Mercer

Seconded by Commissioner Margettie That the Board approve the following requests to participate in a deferred salary leave plan. . .

<b>Employee #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Effective</b>
40014871	Tom Murphy	Baddeck	One School Year 2015 â€“ 2016
40014969	Juanita Romard	Coxheath	One School Year 2015 â€“ 2016
40014567	Anne Doyle	Harbourside	One School Year 2014 â€“ 2015
40015802	Nicole Forgeron	Cusack	Complex One School Year 2014 â€“ 2015

**Motion carried**  
**2012-05-26**

**d. NSTU Request to amend deferred date:** Moved by Commissioner Mercer  
 Seconded by Commissioner Organ That the Board approve the following request to amend deferred date . .

**Employee #**

**Name**

**School**

**Original Dates Requested**

**New Deferred Dates Requested**

40015358	Alysha Goora	Riverview	Aug 1/12 â€“ Jan 31/13	Aug 1/13 to Jan 31/14
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**Motion carried**  
**2012-05-27**

**e. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS AND STUDENT SERVICES:** Moved by Commissioner Mercer  
 Seconded by Commissioner Margettie That the Board accept the report as presented. . .  
**Motion carried**  
**2012-05-28**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**e. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
 Seconded by Commissioner Margettie that the Board approve the minutes of the Management

Committee Meeting of Monday, May 14, 2012, . . . **Motion carried**  
**2012-05-29**

f. **DESTRUCTION OF BOARD RECORDS:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Pierrard That the Board approve the destruction of Board records  
which are over seven years old as presented by the Director of Finance. . . **Motion carried**  
**2012-05-30**

g. **BILLS â€“ APRIL, 2012:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Margettie That the Board accept the report and presentation of the  
bills for April, 2012 as presented **Motion carried**  
**2012-05-31**

h. **CUPE Resignation/Retirement:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Pierrard That the Board approve the following retirements with regret  
and thanks for years of service. . .

**EMPLOYEE#**

**NAME OF EMPLOYEE**

**POSITION EMPLOYED IN**

**RETIREMENT/**

**RESIGNATION**

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

40016701 Marlena Nicholson LBG/Gowrie School Retirement June 29, 2012

40016345 Rita Maclsaac School Clerical/George D. Lewis/Mira Road Retirement  
Nov 16, 2012 **Motion carried**

**2012-05-32**

i. **Addition to the casual Maintenance list:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Keagan That the Board recommend approval of the following  
individual for the casual clerical list for the Rankin area. . .

**#**

**NAME OF APPLICANT**

**CLASSIFICATION      RECOMMENDED**

- |    |                   |                          |             |                       |
|----|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Leonard Cholock   | General                  | Labourer    |                       |
| 2. | Shawn Corbett     | General                  | Labourer    |                       |
| 3. | Patrick MacLeod   | General                  | Labourer    |                       |
| 4. | Ted Neidzielski   | General                  | Labourer    |                       |
| 5. | Donald Wrathall   | General                  | Labourer    |                       |
| 6. | Angus Darling     | Tradesperson             | “ Carpenter |                       |
| 7. | David Darling     | Tradesperson-Carpenter   |             |                       |
| 8. | Francis O’Connell | Tradesperson-Carpenter   |             |                       |
| 9. | Ron Wells         | Tradesperson-Electrician |             | <b>Motion carried</b> |

**2012-05-33**

**j. Report of the Director of Operational Services:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Margettie That the Board accept the report of the Director of  
Operational Services. . . **Motion carried**

**2012-05-34**

**k. GOWRIE ELEMENTARY:** Moved by Commissioner Parsons  
Seconded by Commissioner Pierrard That the Board support the request of the Gowrie Home  
and School Association to name the library the Ron and Jane Armstrong Library. . . **Motion  
carried**

**2012-05-35**

**(10) NSSBA REPORT:** Commissioner Fraser distributed his report to those in attendance  
through email. A copy of his report is attached to the original minutes. Moved by Commissioner  
Fraser  
Seconded by Commissioner Flynn that the Board accept the report as presented. . . . **Motion  
carried**

**2012-05-36**

**(11) DIRECTOR OF THE REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REPORT: n/a**

**(12) NEW BUSINESS: a. Commissioner Tilley “ Vocational Consultant at  
Memorial High School “** Noted he has given strong consideration of the decision which was  
made to reduce the consultant position for the Vocational program at this site. He noted this  
program is a school within a school. Moved by Commissioner Tilley  
Seconded by Commissioner Fraser That the Board serve Notice of Motion to move a motion at  
the next regular meeting of the School Board to reinstate the Vocational School Consultant from  
50% to 100%. . . . On the question several Board members expressed their support for the  
program at Memorial High School. Commissioner Pierrard noted it would mean reopening the  
budget and relooking at all areas of the budget. Commissioner Parsons noted if this position  
should be put back then we should turn to the government for the funding. **Motion carried**

**2012-05-37**

**b. Commissioner Flynn “ Koodos to Glace Bay High “** He wished to congratulate

Ms. Roberta McIsaac and Mr. David Lavigne on their recent school trip with students to India. He noted the education they received and the experience they gained was overwhelming. He would further like to give them an opportunity to present at the next Committee meeting of the Board. Commissioner Tilley echoed earlier comments made by Commissioner Flynn. Commissioner Pierrard would like to see fifteen minutes dedicated to presentation by students. She would further like to see the intent relayed to the principals of the opportunity of the students to present. Commissioner Tilley supported the idea.

**(13) NEXT MEETING DATE:** Next Scheduled meeting date - Monday, June 18, 2012 at Sherwood Park Education Centre.

**(14) Adjournment of the meeting. . .**  
the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

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*LORNE GREEN GEORGE BOUDREAU*  
**BOARD CHAIR BOARD SECRETARY**

**(15) PUBLIC SESSION:** Ms. Colleen MacKenzie requested a response to their presentation. Chair Green noted that the Board received a report this evening with regards to Riverside which will be discussed further at the next Education Committee. He welcomed those in attendance to attend. She would like to see the Board go back to the province to readdress the issue of class sizes. She would also like to see when reviews are conducted at the school level that the classroom teachers are consulted. Ms. Leslie Sheppard, parent from Riverside noted she is still waiting for the decision. She noted she is still searching for the minutes of the commitment made to the community. Ms. Tammy Weagle noted she has concerns over the placement of In-camera sessions on the agendas.