

**South Shore Regional School Board
School Review 2015-2016
BJSHS/PVEC School Options Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. Record of Attendance

In attendance – Gary Walker, John Biebesheimer, Hope Demone, Siobhan Doyle, Stephanie Martin, Andrea McGinnis, Kim Benjamin (arrived 6:20), Mitch Foley, Iris Charlton, Anne Burgess, Pam Hebb, Shelley Mann, Tina Grace, Heather Mackenzie-Carey, Allen Sullivan, Leif Helmer, Sarah Tingley, Maja Kelley

Regrets – Palma Champoux, Erica Moore, Melissa Risser, Cheryl Veinotte

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Anne Burgess, seconded by Tina Grace, to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Heather Mackenzie-Carey, seconded by John Biebesheimer, to approve, as amended, the minutes of the March 30, 2016 BJSHS-PVEC SOC Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Reminder

Our mandate:

1. The SOC will conduct a review of Bridgewater and Park View families of schools. The review will consider catchment areas, boundaries, facility utilization, operational costs, grade configurations, program options, and P3 renewal recommendation.
2. The SOC will submit a report and recommendation to the School Board, which will inform the School Board's final decision.

Review Objectives:

1. Make a recommendation to the Board that optimizes high school programming options and choices for all students.
2. Review school catchment areas as defined in the catchment area policy.
3. Consider facility utilization and operational costs when making recommendation.
4. Make recommendation to the Board regarding school grade configuration at all schools.
5. Determine whether Bayview Community School will be needed beyond 2020.

The SOC now has to submit a report and recommendations to the Board through the Superintendent for consideration. The report outlines the work of the SOC, addresses each issue identified in the recommendation to review, and makes a recommendation consistent

with the review objectives. If deemed necessary, Board staff will submit a technical report providing additional technical details or pertinent comments related to the SOC's Report and Recommendations. The staff's technical report is presented at the same public Board meeting as the Report and Recommendations.

MOTION by John Biebesheimer, seconded by Siobhan Doyle, to recommend the following:

It is a recommendation of the SOC that Bayview Community School continue to provide P-9 education as part of the Park View family of schools beyond the year 2020, and that the SSRSB convey its intention to do so by requesting the province of Nova Scotia to exercise Article 21 – Option to purchase or renew or surrender by selecting option (a), (b) or (c) in the service agreement between the Province and Nova Learning Inc.

MOTION CARRIED

5. New Business

In the report, the SOC must make recommendations on each of the review objectives. The recommendations should speak to the stated objectives. These recommendations should be clear and focused but not restrictive in what the SOC is trying to accomplish. Items that should be considered in the technical report should be highlighted.

The following recommendations were the result of group work on the objectives. We looked at each objective and decided on several recommendations for each one. Over the past four months, the SOC has been presented with a great deal of information on each topic. Discussion and agreement took place by the Committee to come to the following recommendations.

Should the Board proceed with moving the grades 10-12 students from BJSHS to PVEC, the following recommendations flow from that decision:

1. For high school programming options and choices for all students.
 - a. It is recommended the movement of students from BHS to PVEC is conditional on the point that there needs to be 100% completion of the interior renovation of PVEC.
 - b. It is recommended that the movement of students happen at the start of a school year not midway through the year.
 - c. It is recommended that there should be a transition plan for those students in French Immersion, Advanced Placement, and the International Baccalaureate programs. The transition team should have school advisory chairs, staff from both schools, administration and where appropriate representative students. The plan should make sure no students miss out on learning opportunities in the transition.
 - d. It is recommended that there be a focus on students with learning, social, and emotional supports in the transition plan and that guidance staff be on the team assembled.

- e. It is recommended a transition team meet to deal with the items around scholarships between the two schools.
 - f. It is recommended the transition team begin immediately as there may be other items that require input.
 - g. It is recommended that there needs to be very clear communication from the Board to the public about the transition plans and possible changes.
2. For school catchment areas.
 - a. It is recommended that the Board review catchment areas with consideration to improvement of busing times for all students.
 3. For facility utilization and operational costs.
 - a. It is recommended that the Board direct the Superintendent to evaluate facility utilization and operational costs across the entire infrastructure of the South Shore Regional School Board.
 - b. It is recommended that the Superintendent request to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development an Addition and Alteration for the Bridgewater Elementary and BJSHS facilities.
 - c. It is recommended that any savings on staffing or operational items should move to the 7-9 building of BJSHS.
 4. For grade configuration at all schools.
 - a. It is recommended that the Superintendent direct the staff to review grade configurations for Bridgewater Elementary School and Bridgewater Jr./Sr. High School to optimize programming and facility use and space.
 - b. It is recommended that the grade configurations at all other Park View feeder schools remain unchanged.
 5. For Bayview Community School.
 - a. It is recommended that the Board inform the Minister of Education of the need to keep Bayview Community School as part of the Board's infrastructure.

6. Correspondence

It was agreed that correspondence dated March 22, 2016 from Donna Coleman, Chairperson of the Bridgewater Elementary Home and School Association, be sent to Board staff for discussion.

7. Next Meetings

A. SOC Meeting

The next regular SOC meeting will be Monday, April 18, 6:30 p.m. at the Board Office.

B. Public Meeting

The third and final public meeting will take place on Thursday, April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Hebbville Academy.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

** In the Recording Secretary's absence, these minutes were recorded by Gary Walker.*