



Education,
Early Learning
and Culture

Éducation,
Développement
préscolaire et Culture



Office of the Minister

Holman Centre
250 Water Street, Suite 101
Summerside
Prince Edward Island
Canada C1N 1B6

Bureau du ministre

Centre Holman
250, rue Water, pièce 101
Summerside
Île-du-Prince-Édouard
Canada C1N 1B6

RECEIVED OCT 13 2016

September 30, 2016

Ms. Lisa MacDougall, President
Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation Inc.
P.O. Box 1012
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Ms. MacDougall:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Resolutions passed at your April 9th Annual General Meeting. First, let me thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend and speak to your membership. As you know, I strongly believe that engaged parents make a significant contribution to learning

With regards to the resolutions, I am pleased to provide the following responses:

RESOLUTION 1 – 2016 – Social Media Policy

The province of Prince Edward Island has initiated a social media policy for all of its departments and education authorities which is presently under review.

RESOLUTION 2 – Teaching Profession Act

The Education Act includes sections that pertain to the teaching profession in the area of Responsibilities of Principals and Responsibilities of Teachers. As well, the following regulations stipulates requirements regarding: Instructional Personnel Regulations, Teacher Discipline Regulations, as well as the Certification and Standards Regulations which deals with certification of teachers for the province of PEI.

RESOLUTION 3 – 2016 – Public Reporting and Removal of School Fees

The Public School Branch (PSB) is in the process of merging Western School Board Policy 33 and ESD policy CFA-R on School Fund-raising Administration and Accounting Procedures. The Director will consult with school principals and school communities to determine the best manner to convey the fee structure. Once the consultation process is complete, the PSB Board of Directors who will direct the PSB on implementing any recommendations.

RESOLUTION 4 – 2016 – French Immersion

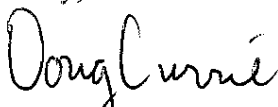
1. The Department works closely with the Human Resources staff of the Public Schools Branch to assess their staffing needs and if necessary, to recruit French teachers off Island. In 2015-2016, the Department has provided financial support to the Board for recruitment efforts in Nova Scotia and Moncton. The Department also works closely with UPEI to support the French B. Ed. The Bachelor of Education in French at UPEI receives \$380,000 annually to support the delivery of the program. A joint funding agreement between the provincial and federal governments is in place until 2017-2018. Twelve students graduated from the program in 2016 and 16 are now registered for 2016-2017. Many of these students are hired to teach in our schools
2. There are no specific initiatives that address the concern of French substitute teachers and EAs. However, French language is certainly an asset that is prominent in the database used to search for substitutes.
3. A minimum of \$200,000 of learning resources is annually put into our French Second Language programs. Schools that have seen large increases in the number of students can always apply for extra funding for school and classroom libraries.
4. The Department provides bursaries for teachers wishing to further their study in French (\$7000 in 2015-16). It also provides individual French language coaching for up to ten teachers a year through the Programme de Perfectionnement Langagier (\$16 000 in 2015-16). The Department also provides bursaries for French Second Language teachers to attend out-of-province Professional learning sessions in French (2015-16, \$6000)

RESOLUTION 5 – 2016 - Automated External Defibrillators

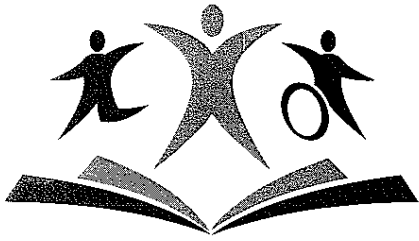
Some schools have purchased these devices on their own and training by qualified personnel has been offered to individual school staff if they have purchased the equipment. The board has not initiated a program to purchase devices for schools. It is estimated that a board wide initiative would cost in excess of \$100K. Currently, the board would not be able to finance this expenditure for all schools. However, funding is provided to the Public Schools Branch if there are special circumstances that arise for individual students

I look forward to further conversations on educational matters.

Sincerely,



Doug W. Currie
Minister



English Language School Board

Stratford Office • PO Box 8600 • Charlottetown PE C1A 8V7 • 902-368-6990(T) • 902-368-6960(F)
Summerside Office • 288 MacEwen Road • Summerside PE C1N 0J1 • 902-888-8400 (T) • 902-888-8449(F)

May 19, 2016

Ms. Lisa MacDougall, President
PEI Home and School Federation Inc.
P O Box 1012
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7M4

Dear Ms. ^{Lisa} MacDougall:

Thank you for your correspondence of May 2, 2016, for a copy of the resolutions approved at your Annual General Meeting on April 9, 2016.

As you are aware, the English Language School Board will be integrated into the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture in the near future. The new entity will be called the Public Schools Branch. I have noted that your resolutions have been directed to the Minister of Education, Learning and Culture. As the Minister will be responsible for the Public Schools Branch, I feel it would not be appropriate for me to respond to the resolutions at this time.

I wish you well in the years to come as you carry on the work of the federation in support of our parents, staff and students.

Yours sincerely,

Ricky Hood
Official Trustee

c Bob Andrews, Acting Superintendent of Education
Shirley Jay, Executive Director, PEI Home and School Federation

RECEIVED MAY 27 2016