

2016 Approved Amended Resolutions

Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education goals and programs		
<p>Resolution 1</p> <p>Funding and implementation of Learning Management and Reporting.</p> <p>Submitted by: AVRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS having timely, accurate, and comprehensive student achievement and demographic data is important to support the education of all students in Nova Scotia; and</p> <p>WHEREAS school boards are expected to review and analyse student, school, and system data to make decisions that support the goals identified in their annual Educational Business Plan; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will soon be releasing details of the new Student Success Planning (SSP) framework, which will guide the important work of teachers and school staff analysing student-level data for school improvement; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has implemented a province-wide student information system, iNSchool, for the recording and storage of important student-level data; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the procurement and implementation of the critical data consolidation and reporting component of iNSchool, referred to as Learning Management and Reporting (LMR), has not been funded; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the reporting component of LMR is essential for schools and boards to effectively analyse a wide range of important data, including the consolidation of longitudinal data across many different information areas;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the DEECD fund and implement the reporting component of Learning Management and Reporting so school and board staff have the data they need to make effective data-based decisions.</p>	

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Education goals and programs		
<p>Resolution 2</p> <p>The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development establish deliverables (staff reporting requirements) for the Provincial School Code of Conduct Policy and Provincial Homework Policy.</p> <p>Submitted by: SSRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has introduced two Ministerial Policies in the 2015/16 year; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Provincial School Code of Conduct Policy and the Provincial Homework Policy are part of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s Statement of Mandate for 2015/16; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Auditor General’s Report on School Boards released in 2015, recognized a need for governing boards to receive more information to provide better oversight on student performance,</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development establish deliverables (staff reporting requirements) for the Provincial School Code of Conduct Policy and the Provincial Homework Policy, and any future policies, which would then allow School Boards to measure and monitor the implementation of any and all Ministerial Policies.</p>	



Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education Finance and Capital		
<p>Resolution 3</p> <p>Operational funding for receiving schools after school closure.</p> <p>Submitted by: CCRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS the Province of Nova Scotia through the <i>Education Act</i> determines the school review process to be followed by school boards in reviewing schools for permanent closure; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has indicated the beginning of a three-year capital planning process; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS there can be associated operating and/or capital requirements from school closure(s) at receiving school(s),</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial operational funding be made available for use by a school board at the receiving school(s) over a three-year period declining annually in equal amounts.</p>	



Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education Finance and Capital		
<p>Resolution 4</p> <p>Additional sustainable funding for technology infrastructure growth and maintenance.</p> <p>Submitted by: CCRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS providing technology infrastructure, maintenance and refresh is an increasingly difficult financial pressure for school boards to manage; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS Public School Program learning outcomes include the expectation that students will acquire digital competencies throughout the program; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS increased digital competency supports improved career readiness for students; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS teaching practices and assessment methods must align with models of learning that integrate technology; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS teachers must achieve fluency in using new technologies to engage and support student learning in relevant and rigorous experiences; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS learning environments must be technology rich with adequate technical support and infrastructure; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS learning environments must ensure access to devices and infrastructure for all users, including assistive technologies,</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nova Scotia School Boards Association advocate to the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to take a critical and strategic approach in providing additional sustainable funding for technology infrastructure growth and maintenance, equitable internet access for educators and students and curriculum development and associated professional learning for educators.</p>	



Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education Finance and Capital		
<p>Resolution 5</p> <p>Alignment of multi-year capital funding process with the school review process.</p> <p>Submitted by: HRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has created a new school review process that includes a methodical data-based analysis of the existing school facilities in each Board (the Long Term Outlook) and an extensive community-based consultative planning model (driven by School Options Committees); and</p> <p>WHEREAS the current process for accessing capital funding is not integrated well into that school review process and that leads to a lack of available information that is crucial for Boards to use in making decisions necessary for their long term planning; and</p> <p>WHEREAS in these challenging financial times it is imperative that we make the best and most well-informed choices regarding the use of our financial resources,</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development create a more transparent and predictable multi-year capital funding process that can be used in tandem with the school review process to allow Boards to make prudent decisions about facility management with more complete knowledge of the capital investments that will be available to them in the near future.</p>	



Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education Governance and Legislation		
<p>Resolution 6</p> <p>NSSBA advocate for the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to re-evaluate sections 33 and 34 of the Education Act to make the teacher suspension and termination process more manageable for boards.</p> <p>Submitted by: CBVRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS Section 33 (1) and 34 of the <i>Education Act</i> allows boards to suspend a teacher for a reasonable period and provide a written report stating the reasons; and</p> <p>WHEREAS Section 33 (4) of the <i>Education Act</i> gives the power to school boards to confirm, vary, or revoke their own recommendation; and</p> <p>WHEREAS a similar process is for the termination process; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the teacher suspension and termination process under the Education Act may be construed as cumbersome and/or the appropriateness of the board's evaluating their own recommendation may be viewed as not appropriate.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nova Scotia School Boards Association advocate to the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to revise sections 33 and 34 of the Education Act to make the process more manageable for boards.</p>	



Topic/Submitted by	Resolution	
Education Governance and Legislation		
<p>Resolution 7</p> <p>Minister to work with appropriate government departments to increase the fine for school bus red light violations.</p> <p>Submitted by: TCRSB</p>	<p>WHEREAS passing a stopped school bus with red lights flashing in PEI results in a \$1000-\$5000 fine and in New Brunswick \$1006.50, plus loss of driver's license; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the current Nova Scotia fine of \$410.00 is not in line with PEI and New Brunswick; and</p> <p>WHEREAS motor vehicles are still passing stopped school busses with red lights flashing sometimes increasing the number of incidents over the same time period as last year; and</p> <p>WHEREAS we need to educate motorists of the rules and raise awareness of this senseless act and penalize those committing this offence accordingly; and</p> <p>WHEREAS not if, but when, there will be a tragedy resulting in a student's injury or death if this continues to happen;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nova Scotia School Boards Association requests the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to work with the appropriate departments to have the current penalties to pass school buses with red lights flashing increased as well as reviewing the legislation and judicial processes regarding prosecution of said drivers and provide strategic education for all to protect the safe transportation of our students.</p>	

