

- The Board recognized **Yvonne Rafuse**, Coordinator of Student Development – Elementary Level, for her achievement of being named the 2009 recipient of the Sobey’s Green Jacket Award for her work in the autism community. The Sobey’s award is presented annually to “champions in the autism community, who work tirelessly for the cause and who have taken a leadership role, and that certainly describes Yvonne,” said Board Chair **Elliott Payzant**. On behalf of the Board, he presented her with a bouquet of flowers and advised her that the Board was donating Dr. Tony Attwood’s Cognitive Affective Training Program Kit to the South Shore Autism Society in her name.
- The Board received a report from Operations Director **Barry Butler** on the October 27 meeting of the Lunenburg School Steering Committee. He indicated that construction of the new school will be managed by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, in consultation with the Board, and that a Request for Proposals for design services will be issued in the next few days. Construction of the new school will get underway in July 2010 and is scheduled to be completed in December 2011. Students at the existing school will complete the current year there and will attend Centre Consolidated School the following year.
- The Board received a report on the PREPaRE crisis management program from **Marla Rafuse**, Coordinator of Community Based Education. The PREPaRE model is used in all South Shore schools, she explained, because it was developed by professionals to meet the needs of students. Other crisis management models were developed by emergency personnel and are not appropriate for schools. The PREPaRE model has helped South Shore schools strengthen their crisis management plans, emergency response and recovery capacities.
- The Board approved a policy outlining the steps to take when developing or revising policies and administrative procedures. New policies and procedures, or major revisions to existing policies and procedures, will be developed by Board staff and then go to senior management and Board standing committees for review. They will then go to stakeholders for their input and back to the standing committees for recommendation and finally to the Board for approval. Minor revisions in policies and procedures follow much the same process, although stakeholder input is not sought.
- The Board tabled the response from the Big Tancook Island School Advisory Council to the School Review Impact Assessment Report received by the Board at its May 27 meeting. The report and response will be the subject of a public meeting within the next few months.

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- Operations Director **Barry Butler** outlined the school bus route review guidelines for Board members. He explained that the objectives of bus route reviews are to improve service to students, improve operating cost efficiency and comply with Utility and Review Board Regulations. The review of a complete subsystem takes at least three months to complete and changes are implemented the following September. The review of several routes within a subsystem requires at least one month of planning and changes can be implemented during the school year or deferred until the following September. The review of a few stops in a bus route happens frequently and is usually the result of bus stops being added or removed as students start school, move or graduate.