

8.15

COUNCILLORS' OFFICE

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor Peter Kelly

George McLellan, CAO

FROM:

Councillor Sue Uteck, District 13

DATE:

May 3, 2002

SUBJECT: Added Item - School Closure Policy

I would like to add the issue of school closures to the Council agenda. Over the last number of weeks, due to school closures issues, parents have raised a number of concerns with respect to how the Board is reaching decisions on whether to close a school or keep it open. The Regional School Board policy clearly defines these parameters. It has been stated in the past that these procedures are not being correctly followed as defined by the Board's own policy.

I intend to highlight instances where the Board has kept a school open and where the Board has closed a school in direct contravention of their own policy. It is with this factual information in mind that I would request a full inquiry by the Minister of Education's office in how the Board is arbitrarily applying this policy throughout the HRM. We may not be able to save those schools already closed but we may be able to prevent future misdeeds.

Sue Üteck

cc: Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk