

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
February 23, 2023
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair
Carmel Hambrook
Paul Mourant
Gilbert Cyr
Rev. Albertine LeBlanc
Andy Flanagan
Dean Mutch, Interim Superintendent
Alexis McAllister, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Sheila Rogers, Vice Chair
Nancy McBain

AGENDA ITEMS	
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Petersen called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:36 p.m. This was a virtual meeting that was live-streamed to the public. Mr. Petersen began the meeting by acknowledging the land on which the District Education Council was meeting is located on traditional unceded and unsurrendered territory. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship, which the Mi'kmaq peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources but, in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Paul Mourant that the agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION Ms. Barbara Brown, Principal, Napan Elementary School</p> <p>Ms. Brown provided council members with a presentation about Napan Elementary School. Currently the school has 40 students, from kindergarten to grade 5. This includes English Prime and grade 5 Intensive French.</p> <p>The school is participating in a research project that involves grades K-2 having a longer school day (students remain at school 1 extra hour per day). The school has implemented sensory paths in classrooms and a Zen Den has been created as well to help students reset/recharge.</p>

	<p>Napan Elementary School has a strong Home & School Committee and receives an abundance of support from the local community. This has helped them to obtain a rock wall, new curtains in the gymnasium, new outside fencing among other things. The Home & School Committee also helps with the Hot Lunch and Breakfast Programs.</p> <p>Other programs and activities include after-school sports such as soccer and basketball. Floor hockey and Lego programs are offered during lunch hours. Across the street from the school, at the community rink, students participate in the school skating program.</p> <p>The school uses various methods for student recognition- there is a monthly Bucket-Filler Award (students receive a gift card). Other school programs include the Fish Friends Program, Roots of Empathy, the annual Terry Fox Walk and annual Heart & Stroke Foundation fundraiser.</p> <p>Ms. Brown highlighted that the school elected a new mascot, a bear, for the Napan Cubs. Artist Allie Howe painted a new mural of the school mascot in the gymnasium over the Christmas break.</p> <p>Ms. Brown concluded by highlighting the school's Facebook Page. She said parents, grandparents and other family members of students really enjoy the photos shared of school activities.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Brown for her presentation.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Gilbert Cyr that the minutes of the January 23, 2023, meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) PSSC Appreciation Dinner- will be held May 9th at Gowan Brae Golf & Country Club in Bathurst. Mr. Mutch and Mr. Petersen will discuss speakers and extend an invitation to the new Minister of Education- Hon. Bill Hogan.</p> <p>(b) Retirement Banquet Dates- June 6th, Miramichi Rodd Resort June 8th, Bathurst Atlantic Host Hotel</p>
F.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <p>(i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>(ii) C/SR 4 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>(iii) EL 1,7 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>(iv) EL-4 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes</p>

	<p>IT WAS MOVED BY Rev. Albertine LeBlanc and seconded by Gilbert Cyr that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>(a) Letter from Mr. Donovan- Intention to Retire.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Paul Maurant that Mr. Donovan’s Intention to Retire be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Celebrate the Spirit Awards- after a hiatus during the pandemic, these awards will continue for the 2023 year. A call for nominations will be sent out to school Principals.</p>
I.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mutch wanted to share the names of the following Superintendent’s Merit Award recipients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lisa Brophy, Parent, NSER -Michelle Jardine, Parent, NSER -Peter O’Toole, Parent, NSER -Gary Ryder, Teacher/Coach, NSER • Naomi Wallace- Grade 12, JMH, was nominated by Krista Cabel, Subject Coordinator- K-12 Literacy, for a Student Starfish Award. • The following staff have received Starfish Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Charlene Robinson, Principal, RES -Connie Agnew, Administrative Assistant, RES -Candice Gallivan, Teacher, RES -Maureen Kane, Budget and Accounting Manager, MEC • There will be a budget update by the end of February. Mr. Mutch said a balanced budget is predicted with a small surplus. Detailed information will be provided at the March meeting. • February 13th -17th was Staff Appreciation week. Funds had been distributed to schools head of time to help Administrators organize activities to show their appreciation to their staff. All Educations Centers held special activities and a luncheon as well. • Mr. Mutch shared that Mr. Craig Caldwell is continuing to meet with First Nation Communities to help create a guideline for the District’s First Nations Coordinator role. • Innovation Grants- Mr. Mutch will continue to support this initiative by setting aside \$250,000 for the 2023-2024 school year. • In consultation with other districts, Mr. Mutch has earmarked \$25,000 for promotional materials to be purchased throughout the school year for staff, guests and events.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mutch is encouraging schools to take the time and fill out the application for the Microsoft Class Action Lawsuit. To date our schools have received \$1 million in Microsoft Products.
J.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Petersen will be attending the PSSC meeting at L. E. Reinsborough School next week. • Mr. Petersen is part of the Hiring Committee for the new Superintendent. The committee's first meeting was February 22nd and is organized by consulting firm KBRS. • Mr. Petersen is also serving on the New Campbellton K-8 School Building Committee. The last meeting was postponed and has yet to be rescheduled. • Mr. Petersen attend the Minister's Forum in Fredericton on February 21st. Covered during the forum was Policy 322, Governance, High School Renewal, Mental Health, and data results from School Improvement Plans. He did note discussions included the call for a new DEC Manager and a Fall Symposium.
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p><u>Carmel Hambrook</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Hambrook attended PSSC meetings for Gretna Green School and Max Aitken Academy. Gretna Green School has a program called Gator Designs- student designed merchandise. One student will be attending a trade show in Saint John to show off their designs. • Ms. Hambrook reported on Max Aitken Academy students collecting items for local homeless shelters. • The PSSC for Miramichi Valley High School has been rescheduled until March. The PSSC for Tabusintac Community School is being held next week. <p><u>Andy Flanagan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Flanagan received an email from concerned parents regarding the French Immersion program ending at Nelson Rural School. Mr. Flanagan indicated that the Immersion program will be going ahead in grades 1 and 6, but still planned a meeting with these parents to answer some of their questions. <p><u>Gilbert Cyr</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Cyr recently attended the PSSC meeting for Sugarloaf Senior High School and will be attending the PSSC meeting for Campbellton Middle School on February 27th. • Mr. Cyr thanked Mr. Petersen and the Superintendent for helping him secure a position on the New Campbellton K-8 School Building Committee. He is honored to have the opportunity to serve on this committee.

	<p><u>Paul Mourant</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mourant is taking part in the Superintendent's Hiring Committee. • Regarding the Premier's recent announcement about the Provincial budget surplus, Mr. Mourant wanted to know if this was an opportunity for the districts to approach the Premier's office with capital projects and building repairs that need to be done but have been delayed over lack of available funds. Mr. Petersen responded that this is something the DEC Chairs could bring forward at their next meeting. <p><u>Rev. Albertine LeBlanc</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev. LeBlanc attended the Blackville School PSSC meeting. Discussions include the School Improvement Plan- the school bathrooms are in dire need of repairs/renovations. Their next PSSC meeting is scheduled for March 14th. • The February PSSC meeting for Millerton School has been postponed. The PSSC Meeting for North and South Esk Regional High School is scheduled for March 15th. <p><u>Sheila Rogers</u></p> <p>Ms. Rogers was not able to attend but submitted her comments prior to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rogers attended the Minister's Forum on February 23rd with Mr. Petersen, Mr. Mutch and the CDC members with their District Superintendents. Updates were given on Policy 322, High School Renewal, and data results from School Improvement Plans from the 4 Anglophone Districts. Ms. Rogers indicated that they were able to ask about Governance and potential changes but will have to wait until the Legislature opens in the Spring to see how the Education Act will be altered. • Inclusion Steering Committee was rescheduled for February 23, 2023, in Fredericton, this is why Ms. Rogers was not able to attend the current meeting. • Ms. Rogers recently polled the 5 Principals of her Subdistrict on the following: Student Mental Health and the resources available; Newcomer Support in Schools; and District Budget Priorities. Responses were outlined in her report for council members to review.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held virtually on Monday, March 20, 2023.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m. on a motion by Joe Petersen.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC