

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE SCHOOL DISTRICT-NORTH**

**MINUTES
October 16, 2023
Bonar Law Memorial School**

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair
Sheila Rogers, Vice-Chair
Carmel Hambrook
Nancy McBain
Paul Mourant
Andy Flanagan
Dean Mutch, Superintendent
Alexis McAllister, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Gilbert Cyr

AGENDA ITEMS	
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 4:13 p.m.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen acknowledged that 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 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 Paul Mourant and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION: Ms. Carol Davis, Principal, Bonar Law Memorial School</p> <p>Ms. Davis opened her presentation by welcoming council members and stating that this is her 25th year of her teaching career.</p> <p>Bonar Law Memorial School was named after British Prime Minister Bonar Law (October 1922 – May 1923). Born in New Brunswick, he was the first and only British Prime Minister to be born outside of the British Isles.</p>

The school opened in 1979. Current enrollment numbers are at 479- this has the school at maximum capacity. The student population represents 21 nationalities, not including international students. First Nations student represent 51% of the student population. Students come from two feeder schools- Elsipogtog School and Eleanor W. Graham Middle School.

Staff at Bonar Law Memorial School consists of the following:

- 39 Teachers (including 1 guidance)
- 24 Educational Assistants
- 1.5 Administrative Assistants
- 2 First Nation Support Workers
- 1 Library Worker
- 5 Custodians
- 3 Cafeteria Workers
- 1 Community School Coordinators
- 1 Mental Health Social Worker – Jordan’s Principle
- 1 IT

Ms. Davis was proud to share the school’s 2022 assessment results for ELPA Reading were 86.7%. She was proud of this accomplishment as students had worked hard to achieve this. To attain these results- daily study block time was used for students to do their homework, and staff would have PLC- teachers would get together to discuss programs and teaching strategies. The school has a Math Lead, English Lead and Peer Tutoring.

Students are celebrated for their achievements with “Smartie Parties”, the top ten grade 12 students at the end of the first semester, get a box of Smarties and the Admin. team takes them out to lunch at Pizza Delight. There is a Breakfast of Champions every term, students with perfect attendance, have a 90 or above average, or can be nominated by teachers.

The school celebrates student diversity by having Traditional Tuesdays, Pow Wows, Multicultural Mondays.

There are many sports and activities at the school as well. Ms. Davis started the Bengals Angels- they use funds raised by staff to provide students with necessities, like clothing and toiletries, or help pay grad fee/ grad pictures. Friends of the Bengals will fundraise for student activities. Last year they raised \$10,000 for students from a craft fair. And hosted a hockey tournament that raised \$4000, where all proceeds were used for an outdoor activity day to help students’ mental health.

Many community partners have been essential in donating funds to help provide hot meals and snacks for students.

Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Davis on behalf of the council members for her informative presentation.

D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the September 25, 2023 minutes. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) School Trips in Anglophone Districts (Regulation 611)</p> <p>Members reviewed and discussed moving forward with Regulation 611. At the previous meeting Mr. Cyr requested the regulation address the issue of transporting students between the communities in New Brunswick and Quebec. Mr. Mutch said the district is currently working to resolve this issue but does not have an exact date for resolution.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Paul Mourant and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve and adopt Regulation 611 with the intention to amend once there is a resolution for transportation between the New Brunswick and Quebec border. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>(b) Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities (Policy E-4)</p> <p>Members reviewed and discussed moving forward with amendments to Policy E-4</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve changes to District Education Council Policy E-4. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
F.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <p>(i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7, GP 11 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the Consent Agenda Items. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>(a) Draft Email, Darren Blois, Lawyer, Re: Response to “Request for Corrective Actions”</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>No New Business</p>

I.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Petersen reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meetings to attend since the previous DEC meeting in September. • His first PSSC meeting for the year will be held at Dalhousie Regional High School. • Mr. Petersen continues to communicate with Assistant Deputy Minister, Dr. Tiffany Bastin and Jeffrey LeBlanc regarding the Symposium to be held in November. • Mr. Petersen continues to communicate with DEC's in both Anglophone and Francophone sectors regarding Policy 713. There is a scheduled meeting for October 17th with all DEC's, Superintendents and lawyer, Darren Blois.
J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mutch's comments were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten registrations for 2024-2025 school year are complete. • Provincial Assessment Results have been received. The results are currently under embargo. This information will be shared with the DEC once the embargo has been lifted. • Mi'gmaq Grand Council Flag was raised at Miramichi Valley High School. We now have 13 schools flying the Grand Council Flag. • An unexpected increase in Educational Assistants has resulted in a change to our budget forecast. Previously, funds were requested and approved by the DEC to cover our forecasted deficit, now with this increase in student population, Mr. Mutch is seeking to increase this funding request, by an additional \$183,000. <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve an additional \$183,000 from the Nineteen Accounts to cover the Educational Assistants needed. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p>Andy Flanagan's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James M. Hill Memorial High School is raising funds to replace their bus used for extra-curricular activities.

- Napan Elementary School is fundraising for the local foodbank.
- Mr. Flanagan wanted to thank the district for installing a gate to allow emergency vehicles access to the soccer field at Dr. Losier Middle School.

Nancy McBain's report:

- Ms. McBain will be visiting First Nation communities in the Miramichi area on October 17th to assess how our district is meeting expectations and supports for our First Nation students.
- Ms. McBain met with Patricia Miller last week and attended the Mawio'mi at Dalhousie Regional High School. Students proudly wore their regalia, there was drumming and food. She was impressed with the what the school is doing to support First Nations students.

Sheila Rogers' report:

- Ms. Rogers attended an event at Bathurst High School with presenter, Michael Landsberg for a presentation about mental health. There were teachers and social workers there, it was well attended.
- She spoke with Mr. Shaun MacDonald, the Principal at Bathurst High School, he said they raised \$1700 for the Terry Fox Walk. He also noted that they have 60 students involved with drama this year, they will be putting on the production, Godspell. They sent six students and two teachers to the Canadian Leadership conference in Saint John. The school has 21 students from the AEI International Student Program. The school also implemented two new courses this year- the History of Rock and Roll and Mindfulness. The school will also be sending 50 students on the trip to Juno, in 2024.
- Terry Fox Elementary School's first PSSC meeting will be held October 17th. The school received a donation from Remax Reality of \$1419 for the breakfast program.
- Parkwood Heights Elementary School recently hosted the cross-country event at their school.
- Superior Middle School held an immunization clinic for their grade 7 students on October 16th.

Paul Mourant's report:

- Mr. Mourant is still waiting to hear from his schools for their PSSC schedules.

	<p>Carmel Hambrook's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Hambrook will be attending the PSSC meeting at Max Aitken Academy on October 18th. She has emailed her principals, but it waiting to hear from her other schools about their PSSC meeting schedules.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., via Teams.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
 Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/
 District Education Council