

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

**MINUTES
November 18, 2024
Virtual- Microsoft Teams**

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair
Sheila Rogers, Vice-Chair
Gilbert Cyr
Carmel Hambrook
Paul Mourant
Ed Gilchrist
Andy Flanagan
Dean Mutch, Superintendent
Alexis McAllister, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Nancy McBain

AGENDA ITEMS	
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 5:30 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 Andy Flanagan and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION: Rodney Buggie, Principal, Blackville School</p> <p>Mr. Buggie joined the meeting to discuss current events at Blackville School. Blackville School is one of 12, K- 12 schools in the province, and the only K-12 in ASD-N. They currently have 297 students, 30 teachers, and 10 educational assistants.</p> <p>The school's improvement plan (SIP) is focused on the on the following:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grades K-5 – Numeracy and literacy (concentration depends on grade level) - Middle School – Writing, attendance, and emotional wellness - High School – Attendance and emotional wellness <p>These focus areas were determined based on report card data, as well as assessment data.</p> <p>Blackville School has become a pilot school for Get Moving, Get Outside. This initiative is to have K-8 students outside for 60 mins per day.</p> <p>There is a Cell Phone Policy in place, it is a big change for the high school students. Phones are placed in a storage area, where the phone will remain for the duration of the class.</p> <p>The dismissal time has changed, now all students are dismissed at the same time. This presented a few challenges at first, but these issues have subsided.</p> <p>There is a Maker Space program for middle school students, and an Essential Skills Program for high school students. Both programs have been very successful.</p> <p>For extracurricular activities, all levels have music, drama, soccer, basketball and volleyball. The school also has student council and an active grad class that stays busy fundraising for graduation activities, such as Safe Grad.</p> <p>The school does have celebrations and awards to recognize students at each grade level, mostly handed out at reporting periods. This includes perfect attendance, class helper and bucket filler. In the high school the school does a monthly draw for a gift certificate for students with perfect attendance.</p> <p>Before closing, Mr. Buggie answered questions from DEC Members. Mr. Petersen thanked Mr. Buggie for his time and the informative presentation.</p>
D.	<p>PRESENTATION: Krista Cabel, Director of Curriculum and Instruction – Annual Report and Update of the District Improvement Plan</p> <p>The District Improvement Plan was implemented in 2022 with a target year for completion of 2025. Ms. Cabel wanted to provide an update to the council members as we are now entering year 3 of the plan.</p> <p>Ms. Cabel spoke to the goals of First Nations education and social studies and showed that the present level of performance is 83% of grade 4-5 students and 80% of grades 6-12 students reported learning about First Nations traditions, culture, and knowledge in their classroom in lessons in June 2024. Social Studies results will be completed in the winter of 2025.</p>

	<p>For French Second Language, the present level of performance is 46%, compared the original goal of 51%.</p> <p>English Literacy for grade 2 is currently at 34.5% (these numbers are affected by the implementation of the DIP). Grade 4 Literacy is presently at 56.2%. Grade 6 Literacy is currently 81.1%.</p> <p>Data for the 2024 numeracy results- grade 2 students were at 67%. Grade 5 students were at 56%, and grade 7 students achieved a result of 58%.</p> <p>Results for grade 4 sciences averaged at 75.6%, with grade 6 students increase their average to 80.3%.</p> <p>Present level of performance for Technology, Innovation and Experiential Learning for students grade 6-12 with 53.1% saying they learned at least one thing that made them want to know more in the past two weeks. The target goal was 57%.</p> <p>Another goal of the DIP was to reduce absenteeism and chronic absenteeism by 10% by 2025. Currently, chronic absenteeism for grades K-8 is 28%. For grades 9-12 students is 25%.</p> <p>Ms. Cabel spoke to other areas, such as student mental fitness, stating to achieve original goals, they have revised and implement additional measures that will be compiled and assessed in the coming year.</p> <p>After answering some questions from council members, Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Cabel for her time and expressed great appreciation for the efforts of her and her staff.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Ed Gilchrist and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the October 22, 2024, minutes. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) Inclement Weather Policy – Mr. Mutch sent the updated Inclement Weather Policy to all council members prior to the meeting to review.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the updated Inclement Weather Policy. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>(b) Language Training – a question was asked at the previous meeting regarding the language training offered to district employees, if the training was available to members, however training is only available for employees.</p>

F.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7, GP – Meeting Review Form (ii) C/SR 4 – Meeting Review Form (iii) EL 1, 7 – Meeting Review Form (iv) E-5, EL-4 – In Compliance <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the Consent Agenda Items. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>No correspondence.</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Appointment of Chairperson for the Superintendent’s Evaluation Committee- Andy Flanagan has volunteered. (b) DEC’s Christmas Greetings for Schools. <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Paul Maurant to approve the ordering of poinsettias and greeting cards to be delivered to the schools on behalf of the District Education Council. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
I.	<p>CHAIR’S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Petersen will be attending the Council of DEC Chairs on December 4th, 2024. It was discussed that this meeting would involve Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons with the intention to plan the agenda for the upcoming Minister’s Forum planned for January 2025 and the Symposium planned for May 2025. The CDC has also decided to meet more frequently in-person/virtually.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen said he is pleased with the new appointment for Minister of Education and Early Childhood. He and Mr. Mutch plan on attending the throne speech on November 19th.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen attended the Student Leadership Conference recently held in Fredericton and participated in a Q&A session with students, he heard some interesting opinions and viewpoints from the students.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen and Mr. Collette, DEC Manager, are keeping in touch on a regular basis.</p>

	<p>The last PSSC meeting Mr. Petersen attended was at Jacquet River School.</p>
J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mutch shared that there was a total of 23 Starfish Awards awarded to staff this past month, six Student Starfish Awards and five Outstanding Volunteer Awards.</p> <p>This year there were a total of 402 applications submitted for the Innovation Learning Grants. Although original funding was \$250,000, Subject Area Coordinators and Mr. Mutch included contributions for a total of \$300,690 in grant funding.</p> <p>The District is working on a the development of a new brand – logo and website. Both will be released in December.</p> <p>Two schools are piloting a new Animation program, Bonar Law Memorial School and Miramichi Valley High School.</p> <p>After learning that 50% of ASD-N administrators will be retiring in the next 3-5 years, Mr. Mutch is taking initiative to prioritize Leadership Training.</p> <p>Schools are being updated with new security cameras as a response to the increase in child luring across New Brunswick.</p> <p>The updated Inclement Weather communication has been sent home to all parents. There is now the expectation that teachers/CUPE 2745 members report to work on days that schools are closed.</p>
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS</p> <p>Sheila Rogers’ report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rogers attended the recent PSSC meeting at BHS. Ms. Patti Furlotte reviewed the School Improvement Plan; discussed environment, culture and wellness. In 2026, BHS will be celebrating 100 years, they will be hoping for support from the DEC. Two new recreational vehicles have been purchased and will be in service for the upcoming volleyball season. EAL learners are struggling due to lack of understanding verbal and written English, Ms. Rogers inquired about available remote learning opportunities. The implementation of the new cell phone policy is still going well at the school. The PSSC is hoping to organize a panel discussion with other school to talk about drugs, social media concerns. • Ms. Rogers attended the Gala and performance of the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra on November 2nd. • The PSSC meeting for Parkwood Heights Elementary School is coming up on November 19th.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rogers will be attending the Council of DEC Chairs meeting on December 4th. <p>Carmel Hambrook's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the PSSC meeting for Max Aitken Academy, they discussed the outdoor basketball court and the busing situation, which was chaotic, but has smoothed out. It was discussed that PSSC members can volunteer at the school for various activities. • Ms. Hambrook advised that the Tabusintac Community School had written a letter to the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure about revisions to the school expansion plan. • There is an upcoming Curriculum and Assessment meeting on November 25, Ms. Hambrook is not able to attend, but offered the spot to another council member, if they wish to attend, but as an observer. <p>Ed Gilchrist's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gilchrist will be attending the PSSC meetings for NSER and NSEE on October 30th. • Mr. Gilchrist attended the remembrance day ceremony at Blackville School and he plans on attending the upcoming PSSC meeting for the school as well. <p>Gilbert Cyr's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Cyr attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at Sugarloaf Senior High School. He also attended the school's PSSC meeting, where he shared the pilot project of a four day school week, allowing one day a week to be dedicated to professional learning. • Mr. Cyr is going to contact the local MLA to discuss the revision of the new Campbellton K-8 school, and the need to increase capacity to meet the needs of the growing population in the area. <p>Paul Mourant's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mourant attended the PSSC at Eleanor W. Graham Middle School. They discussed the SIP. • Mr. Mourant will be attending Rexton Elementary School's PSSC meeting scheduled for December 5th. <p>Andy Flanagan's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Flanagan wanted to congratulate and recognize the sports teams at James M. Hill Memorial High School for bringing home three provincial banners.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held virtually on Monday, December 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., via Microsoft Teams.</p>

	The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/
District Education Council