

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

**MINUTES  
August 25, 2025  
Office of the Superintendent**

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

Regrets: Gilbert Cyr

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>A.</b>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 5:23 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>B.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Andy Flanagan and seconded by Ed Gilchrist to approve the agenda. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>C.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the June 23, 2025, meeting minutes. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>D.</b>	<p><b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></p> <p>No business arising from the minutes.</p>

E.	<p><b>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</b></p> <p><b>Policy Monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7, GP – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(ii) C/SR 4 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(iii) EL 1, 7 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(iv) E-1, E-8, E-11, C/SR-4, EL-3, EL-4, EL-9, EL-13 – In Compliance</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Andy Flanagan and seconded by Ed Gilchrist to approve the Consent Agenda Items. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
F.	<p><b>CORRESPONDANCE</b></p> <p>No correspondence to report.</p>
G.	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>(a) DEC Meeting Dates and Locations 2025-2026</b></p> <p>A review of the upcoming dates and locations for the 2025-2026 DEC Meetings was reviewed and discussed with council members. <b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Andy Flanagan and seconded by Ed Gilchrist to accept the current schedule. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
H.	<p><b>CHAIR’S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Petersen reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Mr. Petersen will be travelling to Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom, to attend the ARC Conference with other members from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.</li> <li>• Mr. Petersen will also be attending the Council of DEC Chairs meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Recently, Mr. Petersen attended EECD’s announcement at Dalhousie’s Aboriginal Garden about the public consultations for the Department’s incoming 2026 Education Plan.</li> </ul>
I.	<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Mutch’s comments were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrollment numbers are up, but we will not see concrete numbers until the September meeting.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing is near completion. The district has hired 20 Academic Support Teachers (an increase of 6 from 2024). These leads work in schools doing small group interventions based on academic needs.</li> </ul> <p>We currently have 94 “D” contract and 30.5 “C” contracts positions. The province has provided 5 EAL (English as an Additional Language), the district added 2 for a total of 7 positions.</p> <p>Mr. Mark Donovan will continue to be our liaison between the district and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.</p> <p>Our district has a new Elder in Residence – Jeannie Bartibogue.</p> <p>Currently, we have been funded for 412 Educational Assistants. Have an approximate 440 on staff.</p> <p>Judson Wayne, principal of Dr. Losier Middle School, has been seconded to district to revamp our district Alternative Learning Sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our new District Improvement Plan (DIP) will be presented by our Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Krista Cabel, in an upcoming meeting.</li> <li>• Mr. Mutch will be delivering the opening welcome at this week’s Opening Days for teachers.</li> <li>• The Pilot School Calendar has been released for the 10 schools that will be participating.</li> <li>• As a district we will continue to focus on absenteeism, classroom composition, and our middle level learners.</li> <li>• We have a new “School Mentor Program” in place to orientate and support new teachers. For this we have hired 6 retired teachers.</li> <li>• The province will be implementing school breakfast programs in all schools.</li> <li>• We continue to build our school administration, having principal and vice-principal meetings regularly throughout the year.</li> <li>• Innovation Learning Grants is a program the district will be moving away from this school year.</li> </ul>
<b>J.</b>	<p><b>DEC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Sheila Roger’s report:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Rogers will be attending the Council of DEC Chairs meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• The Inclusion Steering committee will also meet by Teams in mid-September.</li> <li>• Premier’s Council on Disabilities is set to meet towards the end of September.</li> </ul> <p>Andy Flanagan’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report, but he is happy to be back after summer.</li> </ul> <p>Ed Gilchrist’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report, glad to return after summer.</li> </ul> <p>Paul Mourant’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report.</li> </ul> <p>Nancy McBain’s Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. McBain attended the province’s announcement, along with Mr. Petersen, at Dalhousie’s Aboriginal Garden, for the public consultation on the 2026 Education Plan.</li> </ul> <p>Carmel Hambrook’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Hambrook will be sending out messages to principals in her sub-districts to welcome them back after the summer.</li> <li>• Ms. Hambrook shared information from the Assessment and Curriculum committee via email this morning, to all DEC members.</li> <li>• Ms. Hambrook inquired about training for PSSC chair training.</li> </ul>
<b>K.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., at Sugarloaf Senior High School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by Alexis McAllister*

Alexis McAllister  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/  
District Education Council