

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

**MINUTES  
November 17, 2025  
Microsoft Teams**

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

Regrets: Nancy McBain  
Andy Flanagan

	<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 5:30 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>B.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Paul Maurant to approve the agenda. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>C.</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATION: Kim Cripps, Director of Planning and Improvement Provincial Assessment Results 2024-2025</b></p> <p>Prior to the meeting Ms. Cripps sent out the most recent provincial assessment results for DEC members to review. The results from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development have been summarized to show the success rate in each grade and category tested.</p>

	<p>In Grade 4 English reading only 59% of the ASD-N students tested passed the assessment, compared to 60% of grade 4 students province-wide. Indicating a low success rate overall for the province.</p> <p>On a positive note, Grade 4 Science had a district success rate of 80.2%, compared to the province's 77.7%.</p> <p>The assessment included results from Grade 5 Numeracy and FI Reading, Grade 6 Reading English and Science, Grade 7 Numeracy and FSL Reading (Early FI), Grade 8 Science, Grade 9 English reading, and Grade 10 FSL Reading (Early FI) and FSL Reading (PIF).</p> <p>Ms. Cripps pointed out the strong points for our district were Grade 8 Science with 82.3% compared to the province's success rate of 78.1%. Also there have been increased success rates, since 2023-2024 by 5% or more in the following subjects: Grade 4 English Reading, Grade 7 FSL Reading (Early FI), Grade 10 FSL Reading (Early FI).</p> <p>Members had prepared and asked Ms. Cripps questions. Ms. Cabel, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, also elaborated on a few ways the district intends to address subjects that had low assessment scores.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Cripps for her time and her presentation.</p>
<b>D.</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATION: Krista Cabel, Director of Curriculum and Instruction ASD-N District Improvement Plan 2025-2028</b></p> <p>Ms. Cabel presented the new District Improvement Plan, which will be carried out over the next 3 years, 2025-2028. She described our district vision: Inspire Success. Every Learner. Every Step. This plan has been rooted in intentionality, consultation and collaboration.</p> <p>To help with the development of this new plan, stakeholders and rights-holders (educators, students, administrators, district leadership and First Nations communities) were surveyed on their values within the school, the results were unanimous in this order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commitment to Learner Success</li> <li>2. Equity</li> <li>3. Collaboration</li> <li>4. Engagement</li> </ol> <p>The survey also led to the development of four strategic priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Achievement</li> <li>-Collaboration</li> <li>-Equity</li> </ul>

	<p>-Safety and Well-Being</p> <p>Truth and Reconciliation encompassing these four priorities and will be the guiding principle for this work.</p> <p>From these 4 priorities- 26 goals, 162 strategies and 108 measures have been identified to help drive our district's educational improvement.</p> <p>This plan is available for review on our district website for the public to access, with the intention to update the plan on a regular basis.</p> <p>The plan online is detailed and provides a breakdown of each strategic priority and specifics on how the district intends to meet these priorities.</p> <p>Ms. Cabel also discussed how the district intends to measure progress, by setting goals and benchmarking achievements. Review of the plan will be continuous allowing for the pivoting of strategies as needed.</p> <p>On closure, Ms. Cabel took questions from DEC members. Mr. Mourant posed a good question regarding the previous District Improvement Plan- did the goals from the previous plan get shelved and never discussed again? Ms. Cabel responded that most goals from the previous plan were folded into the current plan.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen was very impressed and thanked Ms. Cabel for her time and presentation.</p>
	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Ed Gilchrist and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2025, meeting. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>F.</b>	<p><b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></p> <p>(a) Mr. Cyr spoke on the new Campbellton K-8 School Naming Committee. Members include Mr. Craig Caldwell, Director of Schools (Bathurst/Dalhousie/Campbellton), Ms. Meredith Caissie, Director of Communications, Mr. Cyr, DEC representative, and Ms. Amy-Jo Theriault, Parent/Teacher representative.</p> <p>The committee has developed a way to inspire participation in the naming process, information has been posted on the district website. Sugarloaf Senior High School, Campbellton Middle School, Lord Beaverbrook School, Alaqsite'w Gitpu School and the Director of Education for Listuguj First Nation have all been contacted to participate. As of November 7<sup>th</sup>, there were 3500 views on the website, showing the message is getting out.</p>

	<p>Mr. Cyr provided members with a visual timeline for the process of generating names for the new Campbellton K-8 School. He said they are currently on step 9 (reporting back to the DEC) and hope to have three name suggestions to provide to DEC by January 2026.</p>
<b>G.</b>	<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 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(ii) C/SR 4</li> <li>(iii) EL 1,7</li> <li>(iv) E-5, EL-4</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the Consent Agenda Items. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>G.</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>No correspondence.</p>
<b>H.</b>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p>(a) Budget Update- Mr. Mutch provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter district budget update for the members. As projected, the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is in deficit, but this is expected as it is impacted by the increase in salaries, in correspondence with the beginning on the new school year. The budget is projected to be back in alignment in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.</p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Ed Gilchrist to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter review of the budget as presented. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p>(b) Election of Chairperson for the Superintendent's Evaluation Committee. <b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve Mr. Joe Petersen as the new Chairperson for the Superintendent's Evaluation Committee. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p>(c) A motion is needed to purchase the annual poinsettias and greeting cards annually sent out to the school on behalf of the council members. <b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Ed Gilchrist and seconded by Gilbert Cyr to approve the purchase of poinsettias and greeting cards. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p>(d) Ms. McAllister had requested quotes from two locations regarding the 2026 DEC Retreat. These numbers will be emailed to DEC members for their review prior to December meeting.</p>
<b>I.</b>	<p><b>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Petersen attended the PSSC meeting for Dalhousie Regional High School on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>• November 4<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Petersen attended the executive steering committee meeting.</li> <li>• Mr. Petersen was contacted by a staff member at L.E. Reinsborough School, expressing concern over the capital projects list item which outlines the potential for DRHS becoming a K-12 school. Their primary concern is the future of LER staff. For clarification Mr. Petersen is going to attend a meeting at LER to explain what the capital projects list is, that these changes are not imminent and that a whole Policy 409 process would need to take place before any changes would happen.</li> </ul>
<b>J.</b>	<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</b></p> <p><b>October and November Starfish Award Recipients:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Chris Stewart, Custodian – Tabusintac Community School</li> <li>-Judy Gallagher, Educational Assistant- Janeville Elementary School</li> <li>-Tanya Geragthy, EST Resource- Lord Beaverbrook School</li> <li>-Nicholas Walsh, Teacher- Bonar Law Memorial School</li> <li>-Roxy Greenwood, Student Attendant – Miramichi Education Center</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After conducting interviews, Jocelyn St-Onge has been awarded the principal position for the new Campbellton K-8 School. The district will advertise the job for the school's vice-principal in the spring of 2026.</li> <li>• Mr. Mutch delivered 27 new "B" contracts over the past month.</li> <li>• A reminder about the staff dress code was recently sent out to all district staff.</li> <li>• Mr. Mutch also released the updated Inclement Weather statement for the 2025-2026 school year. There are changes from the previous year. Teachers and CUPE 2745 members are expected to report to work on days that schools are closed, but the district offices remain open. Should the district offices close, teachers and CUPE 2745 staff are not expected to report to work.</li> </ul>
<b>K.</b>	<p><b>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Ed Gilchrist's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Gilchrist attend the PSSC meeting for Blackville School and NSER, but missed NSEE's. He will be attending the PSSC meeting for Millerton School on November 19<sup>th</sup>. All schools are working on their school improvement plans. To be presented at their next PSSC meetings. The principal at NSEE has mentioned that they school has no split classes this year.</li> </ul> <p>Sheila Roger's report:</p>

- November 3rd was the PSSC meeting for Janeville Elementary School. They are working on their school improvement plan. Their student population has increased from 31 to 36 students.
- November the 4<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Rogers attended the PSSC meeting for Parkwood Heights Elementary School. They are in year two of their PBIS program.
- Ms. Rogers could not attend the PSSC meeting for Terry Fox Elementary School held on November 6<sup>th</sup>.
- November 12<sup>th</sup> was the PSSC meeting for Superior Middle School. They are a certified PBIS school. They are in year 1 of 3 of their school improvement plans, and they are trying to increase parent involvement within the school. The PSSC elected their chair and vice-chair at the recent meeting.
- All schools reported to be excited about their grant funding.
- November 19<sup>th</sup> there is a virtual Council of DEC Chairs meeting.
- On December 1<sup>st</sup>, Ms. Rogers will be attending the Minister's Forum.
- The next Inclusion Steering Committee meeting will be held virtually on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

There is a new hockey team in Bathurst called the Chaleur Lightning, who are available to volunteer at our schools. The Royal Bank has a program where an RBC employee can receive a \$1,500 grant through the RBC Communities Together Fund (CTF), which provides financial support to charities chosen and supported by employee-led volunteer teams.

#### Carmel Hambrooks's report:

- Ms. Hambrook attended the PSSC meeting for Max Aitken Academy. Discussed were the school improvement plan and the school's budget. Also discussed was the school doing to new PILOT school program and that it seems to be well received.
- Ms. Hambrook attended the November 17<sup>th</sup> Curriculum and Assessment Committee meeting in Fredericton. Ms. Hambrook said that she learned that parents could request their child not participate in provincial assessments.
- Ms. Hambrook could not attend the PSSC meetings for Gretna Green School or Miramichi Valley High School. She does not have a schedule for Tabusintac Community School yet.

#### Gilbert Cyr's report:

- Mr. Cyr reported that his PSSCs are getting up and running. SSHS is November 17<sup>th</sup>, CMS is next week.
- There is a committee formed to raise funds for the playground at the new K-8 school in Campbellton. Ms. Theriault and the PSSC are engaged in the helping raise funds.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Judson Wayne has consulted with Mr. Cyr to get some historical context on the Campbellton Learning center, as Mr. Wayne has been tasked with re-vamping the district's learning centers. Mr. Cyr was happy to help.</li> </ul> <p>Paul Mourant's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Mourant reported that his PSSCs are just getting up and running. He is waiting to hear from Harcourt School for their PSSC meeting dates. November 25<sup>th</sup> will be EWG's first PSSC meeting.</li> <li>Bonar Law Memorial School held their PSSC on November 6<sup>th</sup>. They are 1 of 3 school participating in composition action research. This reviews classroom composition and what can be done differently to maximize resources. The school currently has 510 students and remains over capacity. Mr. Mourant has rallied local MLAs, Hon. Mr. Pat Finnigan and Hon. Mr. Benoît Bourque, to tour the school and to lobby for the school to move up on the Department's Improvement list. This tour is being conducted on Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, at 11 am. Mr. Mourant extended the invite to Mr. Mutch.</li> </ul>
<b>L.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Tuesday, December 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., via Teams.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by Alexis McAllister*

Alexis McAllister  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/  
District Education Council