

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
January 19, 2026
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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

Regrets: Nancy McBain

AGENDA ITEMS	
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Petersen called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:23 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 Mr. Keith Comeau, Principal, Gretna Green School</p> <p>Mr. Comeau started his presentation with a brief introduction about himself. He is the principal at Gretna Green School and has been an educator for 30 years, 16 years as a school Principal. His long career span at Gretna Green School has allowed Mr. Comeau some continuity, structure and consistency.</p> <p>Previously a K-5 school, Gretna Green became a K-8 school in 2010 after restructuring. The school currently has 355 students, 26 full-time educators, 12</p>

	<p>educational assistants, 3.5 custodians, 3 educational support teachers- resource, one half-time academic support teacher and one half-time librarian.</p> <p>Mr. Comeau spoke about the School Improvement Plan, the first year in a 3-year plan, where the focus is on numeracy and literacy. Mr. Comeau likes to use the data from provincial assessments to open dialogue with his educators. They will contextualize the data to help build plans in and around students' needs. This includes the development of short-term intervention plans, learning activities (French café), and efforts to increase student comprehension across multiple subjects.</p> <p>Mr. Comeau and his staff have worked hard over the years to turn Gretna Green is a student-centered school. That means that students are involved in the conceptualization of learning activities and student initiatives -implemented and then led by students. This includes morning announcements, managing websites and YouTube channels, assemblies are also led and produced by students. Ms. Hambrook chimed in to mention Gator Designs. Mr. Comeau explained to the DEC members that all school merchandise- clothing, water bottles, hats, keychains, mugs, ornaments, and other gift type items are produced in the school by the students, who operate an online store of school merchandise for sale- all done by students.</p> <p>To finish his presentation, Mr. Comeau thanked the DEC for the opportunity to speak and opened the floor for questions.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen and the council members thanked Mr. Comeau for his presentation and for the wonderful job he and his staff does for the students at Gretna Green School.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Sheila Rogers that the minutes of the December 15, 2025, meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>No New Business arising from minutes.</p>
F.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <p>(i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7 and GP- 9 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>(ii) EL 1</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Paul Mourant that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>No correspondence.</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Budget Update (3rd Quarter)</p> <p>Mr. Mutch presented a summary of the 3rd quarter of the district budget. He showed the forecasted budget from the beginning of the fiscal year to the current budget and then the difference between the two. As of this current report, the Budget and Accounting department is predicting a balanced budget by the end of the year.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the 3rd Quarter Budget Report be moved to file. MOTION CARRIED</p> <p>(b) Appointment to Curriculum and Assessment Committee</p> <p>The position on the Curriculum and Assessment Committee is up for renewal. Ms. Carmel Hambrook held the position previously. By unanimous vote, Ms. Hambrook will continue to hold the seat on the committee.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Paul Mourant that Ms. Hambrook continue to hold the seat on the provincial Curriculum and Assessment Committee. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>(c) PSSC Appreciation Dinner 2026</p> <p>After a short discussion, it was decided that the PSSC Appreciation Dinners will continue to be individually scheduled and arranged by Principals with the help of their committees, with a designated spending limit. We will continue to have the annual Celebrate the Spirit Award nominations and presentations.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Ed Gilchrist and seconded by Sheila Rogers that funds be distributed to Principals to take their Parent School Support Committees out to dinner in place of the annual PSSC Appreciation Dinner. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
I.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 14th, Mr. Petersen attended the Executive Steering Committee meeting in Fredericton. The next meeting is scheduled for March 31st, 2026. • Ms. Petersen attended the Council of DEC Chair's meeting on January 13th, where they are working on a volume 2 of the PSSC Handbook, a new template for Superintendent Evaluation, and questions for the next Minister's Forum in February. February 10th is the next scheduled CDC meeting.

J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Mutch announced the following Starfish Award recipients: <u>Student Starfish Award Recipients</u> Jenna Grant – Student at MVHS, nominated by Micaela Hachey, BIM, MVHS <p><u>Staff Starfish Award Recipients</u> Adam Berube- Teacher, Tommies II- nominated by Michael Malley, Bus Driver Rob Lehnert- ICE Program- nominated by Michael Malley, Bus Driver Sheila Vautour- EA, BLMS- nominated by Carol Davis, Principal Millerton Home and School Association- Nominated by Teri Sharpe, EST-Resource, Millerton School Vicki Nash-Donovan Tracy Simpson Tina Tucker Shelbie Quinn Meghan Colepaugh Lacey Fiander Kelsey Manderville Julie Chambers Emily Derrah Cindy Sturgeon Chelsie Underhill Candace Arsenault-MacDonald Amber Matchett</p>
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p><u>Carmel Hambrook</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Hambrook could not attend the last PSSC meeting at Gretna Green School, however she did receive the minutes of the meeting. Max Aitken Academy's next PSSC meeting is January 28th, 2026 Tabusintac Community School's PSSC meeting was held tonight, January 19th. Ms. Hambrook will reach out to the principal for the minutes. Miramichi Valley High School's next PSSC meeting is scheduled for February. <p><u>Paul Mourant</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Mourant reported that the schools in his area had a storm day and then an early dismissal due to a power outage.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mourant has an upcoming meeting with designers and the province to develop plans for changes at Bonar Law Memorial High School • Mr. Mourant asked Mr. Mutch for an update on faster access to cameras at Eleanor W. Graham School. Mr. Mutch responded that he did not have an update at this time, but that he would continue to seek answers. <p><u>Gilbert Cyr</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Cyr said he has PSSC meetings to attend next week. • There is tremendous excitement around the new K-8 school. Mr. Cyr is working tirelessly with the committee for the playground fundraiser, as well as the committee responsible for naming the school. The next step will be to present the shortlist of names to the DEC for approval. <p><u>Ed Gilchrist</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PSSC meeting for Blackville School was cancelled and will be rescheduled. Mr. Gilchrist has nothing else to report. <p><u>Sheila Rogers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rogers attended the Council of DEC Chairs meeting with Mr. Petersen on January 13th. • The January PSSC meeting for Parkwood Heights Elementary School has been rescheduled for February 10th. • The Ministers Forum is coming up on February 18th.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held virtually on February 17, 2026.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m. on a motion by Joe Petersen.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC