

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

**MINUTES
August 19, 2026
Office of the Superintendent**

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

Regrets: Gilbert Cyr

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	CALL TO ORDER Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. 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
B.	SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS 2026-2031 The following members were officially sworn for the 2026-2031 term, using a Solemn Affirmation by Commissioner of Oaths, Alexis McAllister: - Mr. Gilbert Cyr, Subdistrict 1 - Mr. Joseph Petersen, Subdistrict 2 - Ms. Sheila Rogers, Subdistrict 3 - Ms. Carmel Hambrook, Subdistrict 4 - Mr. Corey Chantler, Subdistrict 5 - Mr. Paul Maurant, Subdistrict 7 IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Maurant to nominate Joseph Petersen as the council Chairperson. MOTION CARRIED. IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Paul Maurant to nominate Sheila Rogers as the council Vice-Chairperson. MOTION CARRIED.

C.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Cyr requested to add an in-camera session with one item to the current agenda. IT WAS MOVED BY Paul Maurant and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the agenda, with the added in-camera session. MOTION CARRIED.
D.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the June 22, 2026, meeting minutes. MOTION CARRIED.
E.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES At the June meeting there was discussion regarding the location of the monthly council meetings. It was agreed that in-person meetings will be held at the three education centers and no longer in the schools, to relieve some responsibilities for Principals. During the Winter months meetings will be virtual. Principals will only be required to attend virtually to provide a school update.
F.	CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS Policy Monitoring (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-1, E-8, E-11, C/SR-4, EL-3, EL-4, EL-9, EL-13 – In Compliance IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the Consent Agenda Items. MOTION CARRIED.
G.	CORRESPONDANCE (a) Restigouche River School Update: EECD issued a written notice regarding the new Restigouche River School, the school will not be completed in time for the first day of school on September 8th. with no definite timeline for completion indicated. For now, all students will remain at the former Campbellton Middle School building but will be residing there under the name Restigouche River School. (b) In-camera discussion: An in-camera session was held for a matter involving a parent who had contacted the DEC Chairperson via email. The discussion was held in-camera to keep the name and circumstances of the situation private. It was agreed

	that a motion be made to document that this was discussed and a corrective course of action will be made by the Superintendent. IT WAS MOVED BY Paul Maurant and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to have the in-camera session documented in the minutes. MOTION CARRIED. (c) Letter from Minister Johnson, Re: PILOT Program Expansion In May 2026, Mr. Petersen sent a formal request to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development's office requesting the PILOT Program be expanded to include all schools in ASD-N. The Minister responded back on June 26, 2026, politely declining the request claiming that the validity of the evaluation process depends on the cohort remaining consistent for the full two-year process.
H.	NEW BUSINESS (a) DEC Meeting Dates and Locations 2026-2027 A review of the upcoming dates and locations for the 2026-2027 DEC Meetings was reviewed and discussed with council members. (b) Ed Gilchrist Nomination – Subdistrict 6 Mr. Gilchrist did not file his application in time for re-election; no other candidates were on the ballot for Subdistrict 6. Mr. Mutch contacted the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for the approval of Mr. Gilchrist to be appointed as the representative for Subdistrict 6. We will await their written approval. (c) First Nations Representative Nomination One written nomination was received from the community of Listuguj for Ms. Christie Caplan. Ms. Caplan serves as a councilor and works in the education department for the First Nation Community of Listuguj. IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to send Ms. Christie Caplan's name to the Minister as the selection for the Anglophone North School District Education Council's First Nation Representative. MOTION CARRIED. (d) Entering Expenses in Fusion As of July 2026, our budget and accounting, and payroll systems have converted to a new software called "Fusion". This means the green expense forms are no longer being used and members will now be responsible for entering their own travel expenses. We had a training session on how to use this new software.

I.	CHAIR'S COMMENTS Mr. Petersen reported as follows: • Mr. Peterson hoped everyone had a great month in July and was excited to be back. He issued a warm welcome to our new DEC member, Mr. Corey Chantler. Mr. Peterson thanked everyone for the nomination to remain the Chairperson and he looks forward to the upcoming school year.
J.	SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS Mr. Mutch's comments were as follows: • Enrollment numbers are lower than this time last year but we typically see an increase during the first official week of school. Mr. Mutch expects a slight change that will plateau in the coming weeks. • 27 Academic Support Teachers newly hired, an increase of 7 from 2025. • 5 English as an Additional Language Teachers have been provided by the province. Mr. Mutch has added 3.5 Educational Assistants, we will be short, but this is a huge help. • Mr. Judson Wayne has been seconded for another year to work on the development and improvement of our Alternative Learning Sites • Ms. Melissa Dedam, First Nations Subject Coordinator, is taking a two-year leave of absence. Her position will be posted soon. • We have hired new Leads: 2 for Numeracy, 2 for Virtual Learning, and 2 for Literacy. • We are launching a new School 360 program to support administrators in the development of their School Improvement Plans (SIPs) and implementing school-wide changes where necessary. • Mr. Mutch will be delivering the "Welcome Back" speech at both opening days for teachers next week. • The school lunch program will roll out in September; an update will be provided at the next meeting. • The School Mentor Program is happening to support newly hired teachers. • To help build up administrators, we will be holding principal and vice-principal meetings throughout the year, in addition to sending 7 principals to ULead. • Mr. Mutch will continue to provide discretionary budgets of \$10,000-\$20,000, depending on school's size, to use as they need. • Napan Elementary School is preparing to welcome their new kindergarten students. • Mr. Mutch announced that this will be his last year, he plans to retire on June 30, 2027.

K.	DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS Corey Chantler's report: • Mr. Chantler thanked everyone for the welcome and asked questions about fulfilling his duties as a DEC member. Mr. Chantler asked specifically what he is expected to do in this role? Mr. Mutch explained that he is required to attend PSSC meetings at all his schools, just as an observer, not a voting member. They might ask questions, and he can help fill them in. He then comes back and reports back to the DEC regarding PSSC discussions and concerns. • Earlier in the meeting, Mr. Chantler asked what areas the Napan School served. Mr. Mutch informed him it was Chatham, south towards St. Margarets, and Napan. Carmel Hambrook's report: • Ms. Hambrook attended the graduation at Miramichi Valley High School in June. • Attended the closing meeting for all school PSSCs. • Will be sending a "Welcome Back Message" to her subdistrict schools. • Ms. Hambrook has RSVP'd to the Symposium happening in Moncton in September. Paul Maurant's report: • Is patiently waiting to hear about the Bonar Law Memorial School expansion project. Gilbert Cyr's report: • Mr. Cyr remains excited about the new school but has nothing new to report currently. Sheila Rogers' report: • Ms. Rogers has signed up to attend the Symposium in September • Mr. Rogers will send a "Welcome Back" message to her principals for school start up.
L.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., at the Dalhousie Education Center. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/

District Education Council