

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

**MINUTES
March 31, 2008
Beaverbrook Kin Center**

Present: Patricia Lee, Chair
Winnie Wilson, Vice-Chair
Judy Breau
Jennifer Doucet
Pamela Beers-Sturgeon

Edgar Mahoney
Jody Holmes
Nora Wilson
Bev Hubbard
Levi Sock

Laurie Keoughan, Superintendent
Sheila Bowie, Administrative Assistant

	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
A.	CALL TO ORDER Mrs. Lee called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. She noted that this is a big night for council with the DEC/PSSC Dinner being held later in the evening.	
B.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA By consensus, the agenda was approved.	
C.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES By consensus, the minutes of the February 11, 2008 meeting were approved.	
D.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES i) Minister's Forum Update Council went into a brief in-camera session. Upon the return to regular session, Mrs. Lee highlighted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council is interested in bringing Rob Laurie to the district to do a presentation on PISA.• Small Schools in Rural New Brunswick – awaiting direction from the Department of Education.• Infrastructure and Multi-Year Planning – awaiting direction from the Department of Education.	Mrs. Lee/ Mr. Keoughan

	<p>ii) Premier's Awards of Excellence in Education</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan advised that the awards ceremony will take place on June 3rd at the Playhouse in Fredericton. The deadline for nominations has been extended to April 1st and the deadline for District Education Councils to submit their selections to the Provincial Awards Committee has been extended to April 14th. Mr. Keoughan will set up a meeting with the selection committee, and will communicate the committee's choices to council by e-mail prior to sending them to the Provincial Awards Committee.</p>	Mr. Keoughan
E.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Mrs. Lee circulated the correspondence which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to Kora Hayward, Learning Specialist, from Patricia Lee, Chair, thanking her and the District 16 Crisis Team for the service they provided to the students, staff and families affected by the tragedy in Bathurst. • Letter to the District 16 Education Council from Hal Somers, District Education Council Member, resigning as a DEC member, effective immediately. Council requested that Mrs. Lee send a formal response accepting his resignation with regret and thanking him for his commitment to the District Education Council. • Letter to Patricia Lee, Chair, from the Honorable Kelly Lamrock, Minister of Education, regarding District 16 Education Council's acceptance of the educational specifications for the new Eleanor W. Graham Middle School. • Thank you note to Patricia Lee, Chair, from Michael Mortlock, District 15 Education Council Chair and John McLaughlin, District 15 Superintendent, for the support and assistance during the tragedy in Bathurst. • Summary Statistics 2007-08. <p>Mrs. Lee also provided each council member with a copy of "A Benchmark Report on the Targets of When Kids Come First – 2007".</p>	Mrs. Lee
F.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>i) French Second Language Review</p> <p>Mrs. Lee and Mr. Keoughan entertained discussion from council members on the French Second Language Review. They asked if members were getting calls, and wanted to update them on the plans for the district in terms of staffing, transfers, redeployment, enrolment issues, etc.</p>	

	<p>Mr. Keoughan advised that there has not been a lot of local feedback. He provided an update on the status of Intensive French in District 16 schools. He noted that the Department of Education has directed that, within three years, all French Second Language programming will begin at Grade 5 with mandatory Intensive French. Mr. Keoughan met with affected teachers in the Miramichi area, and will be visiting the Rexton area next Wednesday. He gave the Minister's assurance that every effort will be made to place all those teachers affected by the change in the district. He indicated that if the principals want a public information session, it will be arranged. Council members were directed to contact Mrs. Lee or Mr. Keoughan if they had any other questions.</p> <p>Mrs. Lee advised that DEC Chairs were invited to the legislature to show their support for the FSL changes, and Mrs. W. Wilson represented District 16. Mrs. Wilson noted that they were taken in as guests of the Minister of Education, and it was a very interesting experience.</p>	DEC
G.	<p>ANNUAL COUNCIL PLANNING CYCLE MONTHLY REVIEW</p> <p>i) Policy 2.1 – Leadership Style ii) Policy 2.4 – Chair's Role iii) Policy 2.6 – Council Members' Code of Conduct</p> <p>Policies 2.1, 2.4, and 2.6 are covered on the DEC checklist.</p> <p>iv) Policy 1.1 – Community Communication</p> <p>Mrs. Lee advised that council is communicating with the community by hosting the information session and dinner for the Parent School Support Committees.</p> <p>v) Policy 2.2 – Council Job Description</p> <p>Mrs. Lee asked if council members were still happy with their job description. A question arose with regard to DEC members being recognized as representing a school. Mrs. Lee informed the group that if they are asked to participate in a function (i.e. ribbon cutting ceremony, Remembrance Day ceremony), it is certainly acceptable. Mr. Keoughan will speak to the principals and encourage them to include DEC members so they are more visible in the school community.</p> <p>vi) Policy 2.7 – Communication Protocols</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan reported that he has had a number of</p>	Mr. Keoughan

	<p>communications with DEC members, and he welcomes those calls. He also noted that he has had quite a few calls from the press.</p> <p>vii) Policy 1.2 – Outstanding Volunteers</p> <p>No nominations for outstanding volunteers were reported. Mr. Keoughan reported that the principals have indicated that the regular volunteers have already been recognized through school nominations.</p>	
H.	<p>“Brag” Session</p> <p>Ms. N. Wilson reported that the students of Eleanor W. Graham Middle School raised \$1,300.00 for cancer research.</p> <p>Mrs. Lee advised that the Nelson Rural School basketball team won the provincials.</p> <p>This portion of the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.</p>	
I.	<p>“MEET & GREET” THE PARENT SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEES</p> <p>Council members greeted members of the Parent School Support Committees at 6:30 p.m.</p>	
J.	<p>DEC/PSSC DINNER & INFORMATION ITEMS (to be covered during the dinner)</p> <p>Mrs. Lee welcomed everyone to the seventh annual DEC/PSSC dinner. She gave a presentation on Parents In/Students Win. Mr. Keoughan spoke on “E” – Not Only For Education.</p>	
K.	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>The dinner ended at 8:05 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bowie
Administrative Assistant