

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

**MINUTES
March 9, 2010
Beaverbrook Kin Center**

Present: Patricia Lee, Chair
Jody Holmes, Vice-Chair
Raymond Murphy
Levi Sock
Lisa Watters

Andrew Donovan
LeRoy Silliker
Bev Hubbard
Mitchell Donohue

Laurie Keoughan, Superintendent
Sheila Bowie, Executive Assistant

Absent: Nora Wilson
Luc Dubé

Quentin Smallwood

	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mrs. Lee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.</p>	
B.	<p>SWEARING IN CEREMONY</p> <p>Ms. Pamela Beers-Sturgeon, a commissioner of oaths, officiated over the swearing in of Lisa Watters (Sub-district 10) as a member of the District 16 Education Council.</p>	
C.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>By consensus, the agenda was approved.</p>	
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>By consensus, the minutes of the February 2 and February 9, 2010 meetings were approved.</p>	
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">i) DEC Vacancies</p> <p>Mrs. Lee indicated that Lisa Watters has been appointed to fill the DEC vacancy in Sub-district 10. With regard to the vacancy in Sub-district 3, she reported that three individuals have been identified as possible candidates. Council went in to a brief in camera session to review the list of candidates. Upon their return to regular session, IT WAS MOVED BY</p>	

	<p>Raymond Murphy, seconded by Lisa Watters, that the three names be submitted to the Minister of Education for an appointment in Sub-district 3. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>ii) Premier's Awards of Excellence in Education</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan indicated that February 26th was the deadline for the electronic submission of nominations for Premier's Awards of Excellence in Education to the provincial portal. He noted that after the nominations are sent back to the district, he will activate the District Selection Committee to choose the candidate for the District award. Once this process is completed, Mr. Keoughan will e-mail council members with the name. The deadline date for submission to the Provincial Awards Committee is March 26th.</p>	<p>Mrs. Lee</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan</p> <p>Mrs. Lee</p>
F.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Mrs. Lee circulated the correspondence which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to Patricia Lee, Chair, from the Hon. Roland Haché, Minister of Education, confirming Lisa Watters' appointment to the District 16 Education Council. • Copy of a letter to Lisa Watters from the Hon. Roland Haché, Minister, confirming her appointment to the DEC. • Thank You card to the DEC from the Allain family. 	
G.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>i) Minister's Forum Update</p> <p>Mr. Holmes reported on the Minister's Forum held on February 20th. He indicated that a round table discussion took place on priorities. Some of the highlights included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The definition of inclusion has been finalized, and the Minister will issue a policy statement shortly. • Everything is prepared for the Integrated Service Delivery Model. • Shortfalls in student services funding continues to be an issue. Funding for this budget category will remain the same as last year. • Lack of perceived equality exists between the Anglophone and Francophone budgets. Numbers related to same will be provided at the next Minister's Forum. • An update was provided on the new payroll system, which will be implemented within the next two years. • Discussion took place on pupil transportation issues. Three topics were identified for future discussion: the funding formula, obligation/responsibility vs choice/incentive driven, and what should be done with any savings. Mrs. Lee proposed that this item 	

	<p>be placed on a future agenda, either April or May.</p> <p>Mrs. Lee noted that John Kershaw, Deputy Minister, was slated to attend this meeting to discuss the Multi-Year Infrastructure Plan, but had to cancel at the last minute. She advised that Mr. Kershaw and Liz Abraham will attend the April DEC meeting which will be held at Miramichi Valley High School. She requested that the informal session begin at 6:00 p.m. to provide ample time for discussion on this topic prior to the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan presented council members with a book entitled, 21st Century Skills, Learning for Life in our Times. He noted that it provides good coverage in the area of 21st century skills and 21st century learning.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on how to spend the remaining uncommitted funds in the DEC budget. IT WAS MOVED BY Bev Hubbard, seconded by Jody Holmes, that an additional \$350.00 be added to the DEC/PSSC Dinner prizes. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Mrs. Lee advised that District 16 will launch the Big Crunch Challenge by having the 120 participants at tonight's dinner take part in the event. Peter Gadd will be available to take a photo of everyone eating an apple. Mrs. Lee will forward the picture to the National Big Crunch Center.</p> <p>ii) FSL Update</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan reported that two FSL information meetings were held in February, one in the Rexton area and one in the Miramichi area. The education program options to support French learning for the 2010-11 school year were outlined as well as the option of English Prime. Both meetings were well attended. Mr. Keoughan noted that the registration deadline for French Immersion, in either Grade 3 or 6, was February 26th. He is currently in the process of reviewing registration numbers. In addition to the traditional French Immersion sites, he is looking at the sustainability of a couple of other possible sites. Mr. Keoughan advised that parents from the North & South Esk Elementary area have requested a meeting to seek clarification on the sustainability issue. One has been arranged for March 15th at 6:00 p.m. He noted that he will try to offer the program in existing sites and will make a decision on possible new sites by the end of April, at which time parents will be advised.</p>	<p>Future Agenda</p> <p>DEC</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan</p> <p>Mrs. Lee</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan</p>
H.	<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>Mrs. Lee advised that these policies 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 through the DEC/PSSC dinner and the District Education Council Communication Update. She noted that one more DEC Communication Update will be send out this school year, and asked council members to e-mail her with any suggestions that they would like to have included.</p> <p>v) Policy 2.2 – Council Job Description</p> <p>Mrs. Lee reviewed the “DEC Governance Basics” card.</p> <p>vi) Policy 2.7 – Communication Protocols</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan reported the established communication protocols with respect to staff, schools, Parent School Support Committees, individuals or groups, and the media are being followed.</p> <p>vii) Policy 4.3 – Financial Condition</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan circulated the financial report as of March 5, 2010. He noted that this policy was revised last month to reflect a change in the monitoring periods. He indicated that there are deficits in those areas previously identified and also in employee benefits. The deficit in the latter is due to the pay out of retirement allowances which will be reimbursed by the Department.</p> <p>vii) Policy 1.2 – Outstanding Volunteers</p> <p>No nominations for outstanding volunteers were reported.</p>	DEC
I.	<p>BRAG SESSION</p> <p>Mrs. Hubbard advised that Miramichi Rural School has captured the Boys and Girls District Championship Basketball titles. Both the Boys and Girls Sharks basketball teams have won gold and their leagues’ championship. She noted that the school is very proud of the amazing season and results by both teams.</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan reported that due to the cancellation of schools in the Rexton area on February 17th, the CUTE Awards had to be rescheduled to the 18th. He noted that it was a very impressive ceremony. Mrs. Lee indicated that she was a presenter at the event, and commended the district staff on a job well done. It was noted that the Commitment to Technology Award was renamed to the Marjorie Sinclair Commitment to Technology Award.</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan indicated that the Dr. Losier Middle School Varsity Boys’</p>	

	<p>Basketball team has won both the North Shore League and the Basketball New Brunswick championships.</p> <p>Mr. Keoughan advised that he attended the closing ceremony for the Croft Olympics on Monday morning. Minister Foran made a presentation to the principal on behalf of the Premier. Mr. Keoughan also thanked the press for their coverage of this event.</p> <p>The meeting portion of the agenda adjourned at 5:40 p.m.</p>	
J.	<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>	
K.	<p>DEC/PSSC DINNER & INFORMATION ITEMS (to be covered during the dinner)</p> <p>Mrs. Lee welcomed everyone to the ninth annual DEC/PSSC dinner. There were two presentations made during the course of the evening, one by Ruth Wilson, E-Learning Specialist from the Department of Education, on 21st Century Learning, and one by Mr. Keoughan on 21st Century Initiatives in District 16.</p> <p>Prior to the end of the evening, all participants took part in the 3rd Annual Big Crunch Challenge. Approximately 120 people gathered for a group photo of everyone crunching on an apple. It was a great way to kick off this event.</p>	
L.	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>The dinner portion of the evening ended at 8:45 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bowie
Executive Assistant

Patricia Lee, Chair
District 16 Education Council