DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL SCHOOL DISTRICT 16

MINUTES September 20, 2010

Present: Patricia Lee, Chair Jody Holmes, Vice-Chair Marilyn Underhill Levi Sock Quentin Smallwood Andrew Donovan LeRoy Silliker Bev Hubbard Raymond Murphy Logan Pugh

Laurie Keoughan, Superintendent Sheila Bowie, Executive Assistant

Absent: Lisa Watters

Luc Dubé

	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
Α.	CALL TO ORDER	
	Mrs. Lee called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced Logan Pugh, the student DEC member.	
В.	SWEARING IN CEREMONY	
	This item was tabled until the commissioner of oaths arrived to swear in Logan Pugh.	
С.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
	One item was added to the agenda under H) New Business, v) Portal for DEC Members. By consensus, the agenda was approved as amended.	
	Mrs. Lee acknowledged the passing of Nora Wilson, a valuable member of our District Education Council. She noted that some of us were able to attend the wake. Mrs. Lee indicated that Nora was very passionate about her role on the DEC, and she will be missed.	
D.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	
	By consensus, the minutes of the June 7 and June 28, 2010 meetings were approved.	
Ε.	INFORMATION ITEMS	
	i) 9/10 High School Project	
	Ms. Peggy Gorman-Mitchell gave a presentation on the 9/10 High School	

	project which is being piloted in School District 16. She briefly went over the typical schedule for each of the five high schools. Specific focus was given to local applications of credit recovery, time on task, the effects of the 9/10 program features on student attendance, the flex period (i.e. study block, independent study, learning together time), and program problem areas. Mrs. Lee thanked Ms. Gorman-Mitchell for her presentation.	
	ii) Policies to be Reviewed	
	Mrs. Lee advised that it is once again time to review the DEC policies to see if any changes are required to ensure the results are being captured by the superintendent. After a review of all the policies, the following changes were made:	
	 Policy 2.7 – Communication Protocols – the section on DEC Liaison with PSSC will be revised for clarity purposes. Mr. Keoughan will look after making the change, and bring a draft back to the next meeting. 	Mr. Keoughan Agenda
	 Policy 4.3 – Financial Condition – IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy, seconded by LeRoy Silliker, that the September monitoring period be changed to October. MOTION CARRIED. 	
	It was requested that Policy 1.3 – Smoke Free Environment be added to the agenda for the next meeting.	Agenda
	At this time, Pamela Beers-Sturgeon, a commissioner of oaths, officiated over the swearing in of Logan Pugh as the student member of the District Education Council.	
F.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	
	i) Premier's Awards of Excellence in Education	
	Mrs. Lee advised that Patrick Lange was the District Award recipient of the Premier's Awards of Excellence in Education. She noted that the announcement could not be made sooner because of the timing of the June DEC meeting and the Premier's Gala.	
	ii) District Improvement Plan	
	Mr. Keoughan presented the District Implementation Plan for 2010-11 portion of the District Improvement Plan. He noted that the assessment results are still under embargo, so that section of the plan will be revised as soon as the results are released. He indicated that the strategies have been put in place to obtain the results that are wanted in the district.	
	Mr. Keoughan advised that three DEC members were able to attend the June planning meeting. He noted that a few principals were able to	

participate as well. He indicated that he may look at having the planning meeting in May, rather than June, so that principal participation at all grade levels would be possible.	Mr. Keoughan
Mrs. Lee suggested that the District Implementation Plan be used as part of the process for evaluating the superintendent as there is a timeline for meeting these strategies. She indicated that council will look forward to updates during the year.	
iii) Parent Symposium	
Mrs. Lee advised that council discussed the possibility of hosting a parent symposium on 21 st Century Learning in November, and agreed that this would be a good opportunity to inform parents on the changes that are taking place. She noted that the next paper on 21 st Century Learning will be coming out soon. It will be circulated to parents for discussion in order to get their feedback. She noted that the forum could also seek public input on other topics, i.e. graduation requirements, Smoke Free Environment Policy.	
Council agreed that this was a good way to educate the parents and to get feedback. IT WAS MOVED BY Bev Hubbard, seconded by Jody Holmes, that a PSSC Symposium be held on November 9 th . MOTION CARRIED. Mrs. Lee will ensure that the arrangements are made, and invitations sent out.	Mrs. Lee
iv) DEC Budget	
Mr. Keoughan provided council members with a printout of the DEC budget. He indicated that the budget period is from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. The document listed the expenditures to date and provided a current balance. Council reviewed the document, and had an opportunity to ask questions.	
v) Extra and Co-Curricular Regulations	
Mr. Keoughan reported that the draft District Regulation 501- Student Activity Vehicles has not been finalized. He would like to consult one more time with the committee. He explained why the committee wanted to keep the reference to -40° Celsius in the document. Not all council members were in agreement on whether it should stay or go, and felt that "extreme cold" might be an alternative. Mr. Keoughan was asked to bring it back to the committee. This item was tabled to the October meeting.	Mr. Keoughan Agenda
vi) DEC Code of Conduct	
Mrs. Lee requested that council members review the draft document on DEC Code of Conduct. She noted that the document is still in draft form pending legal review and advice on enforcement procedures. The final	DEC

	version will be brought back to the table, and equipple members will have	
	version will be brought back to the table, and council members will have an opportunity to vote on whether to implement it as a policy.	
G.	CORRESPONDENCE	
	Mrs. Lee circulated the correspondence which included:	
	 Memorandum to the Parent School Support Committees from Patricia Lee, Chair, regarding the PSSC budget. Letter to the Rotary Club of Chatham from Patricia Lee, Chair, thanking the Rotarians for their support of the School District 16 Turnaround Achievement Awards. Letter to Laurie Keoughan, Superintendent, from Patricia Lee, Chair, regarding his performance review. Letter to Ron White, Educational Facilities and Pupil Transportation Branch of the Department of Education, from Laurie Keoughan regarding District 16's priority list under the Capital Construction Program for 2011-12. Copy of a letter to the Hon. Roland Haché, Minister of Education, from Michelle Cameron, Chair of the Salem Elementary PSSC, regarding the provincial standardized testing results. Letter to the Hon. Roland Haché, Minister, from Patricia Lee, Chair, regarding the new P3 school in Rexton. Letter to Delalene Harris Foran, President of CUPE Local 1253, from Patricia Lee, Chair, advising her that a letter will be sent to the Minister of Education to the senter of the sente	
	 Minister of Education regarding the concerns raised about P3 schools. An "In Appreciation" note to the District 16 Education Council from Winnie, Fred, Dan and all the Wilson family. Sympathy Card to the District 16 Education Council from the District 17 District Education Council on the passing of Nora Wilson. Education Outline – June 2010. 	
	 Letter to Laurie Keoughan, Superintendent, from the Hon. Roland Haché, regarding the major capital infrastructure projects identified by the DEC. After a brief discussion, IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy, seconded by LeRoy Silliker, that the District Education Council send a letter to the Minister of Education expressing their thoughts with regard to his letter. MOTION CARRIED. 	Mrs. Lee
Н.	NEW BUSINESS	
	i) Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	
	Mrs. Lee vacated the chair position, and Mr. Keoughan assumed the role to conduct the election of the chair and vice-chair for the 2010-11 school year.	

Mr. Keoughan asked for nominations for the position of chair. Mrs. Hubbard nominated Patricia Lee, and she agreed to let her name stand. Mr. Keoughan asked if there were any other nominations, and none were put forth. Mrs. Lee was declared chair by acclamation.

Mr. Keoughan asked for nominations for the position of vice-chair. Mrs. Hubbard nominated Jody Holmes, and he agreed to let his name stand. Mr. Keoughan asked for other nominations. Since none were put forth, Mr. Holmes was declared vice-chair by acclamation.

Mrs. Lee assumed the chair role. She thanked everyone for their continued support.

ii) Vacancy in Zone A

Mrs. Lee indicated that, due to the passing of Nora Wilson, there is a vacancy in Zone A. She noted that one possible candidate has already been identified from the list of names generated for the last vacancy in this area. Council requested that the normal procedure be followed, and requested that the principals and the Parent School Support Committees in Zone A be contacted to seek their help in finding two more candidates. If no other names are put forth within a reasonable time frame, then the one name will be submitted to the Minister for appointment.

iii) Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Lee advised council of the Department of Education's interest in public input on the topic of graduation requirements. A lengthy discussion ensued providing all participants with an opportunity to voice their opinion(s) on topics and values that new graduation requirements should embrace. Mrs. Lee noted that this is the type of discussion that council will want to have with parents.

iv) School Start-Up

Mr. Keoughan advised that the school start up went very smoothly. The teachers came in the week before for four days. On the second day, Dr. Donna Tileston gave a presentation on 21st Century Learners & Building Relationships with Students. He noted that the new Eleanor W. Graham Middle School opened for student on September 8th. The Grade 3 Immersion Program is being offered in five schools, and is going well. There were no major bussing problems. Mr. Keoughan indicated that in a couple of high schools, class size is at the maximum so he is looking at those situations. He noted that there were a number of administrative appointments, and he hopes to have their pictures and write-ups on the district web site. As well, all of the D contract teachers will be employed.

Mrs. Lee/

Mr. Keoughan

-		
	v) Portal for DEC Members	
	Mrs. Lee indicated that the Department of Education will be setting up a portal for all DEC members. She requested that the council members' NBED e-mail addresses be forwarded to the Department, so access can be obtained.	Mrs. Bowie
Ι.	ANNUAL COUNCIL PLANNING CYCLE MONTHLY REVIEW	
	i) Policy 2.1 – Leadership Style ii) Policy 2.4 – Chair's Role iii) Policy 2.6 – Council Members' Code of Conduct	
	These policies are covered on the DEC checklist.	
	iv) Policy 2.2 – Council Job Description	
	Mrs. Lee reviewed the "DEC Governance Basics" card.	
	v) Policy 4.3 – Financial Condition	
	Mr. Keoughan noted that the monitoring of this policy has been changed from September to October. He will provide a written report at the next meeting.	Agenda
	vi) Policy 4.4 – Emergency Superintendent Succession	
	Mr. Keoughan reported that this policy is already in operation. He noted that when he is away from the district, each of the directors assume the responsibility for their area.	
	vii) Policy 4.7 – Complaints	
	Mr. Keoughan reported that during the summer, he handled one Policy 701 complaint, an appeal from a parent whose child failed, and several complaints from parents with regard to placement.	
	viii) Policy 1.2 – Outstanding Volunteers	
	There were no nominations for outstanding volunteers.	
J.	BRAG SESSION	
	Mr. Murphy advised that the breakfast program at Rexton Elementary School will be off and running at the end of this week. He noted that some new people have been recruited, and predicts that it will be a booming success.	

	Mr. Silliker indicated that North & South Esk Elementary Home & School sponsored a Meet the Teacher Night. He reported the biggest turnout ever. It was a family affair with a barbecue.	
	Mrs. Underhill made reference to a documentary film called "Waiting for Superman" that will be coming out at the end of October. The film analyzes what is happening in the American public education system.	
	Mr. Keoughan indicated that he attended the official opening of the Nelson Youth Initiative on Sunday. The community, along with the help of the government, created a community area for kids to play, which included a new walking trail. Enjoyable day!	
	Mr. Keoughan noted that the district received a donation of school supplies from the Miramichi Senior Citizens Home and Bell Aliant Pioneers, which have been distributed to the schools. As well, the Rotary Club of Chatham has donated \$1,000 to be used for kids who are in need in our school system.	
	Mr. Holmes announced that the Grand Opening of the new playground at Tabusintac School was held on September 15 th , followed by an invitation to Meet the Teacher. The playground project was spearheaded by the Home & School Association who raised funds over the past couple of years. He noted that it was quite an achievement.	
	Mrs. Lee hoped that Logan Pugh's introduction to the District Education Council has been positive. She noted that the next meeting will be held on October 19 th .	Next Meeting
Κ.	ADJOURNMENT	
	The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Bowie Executive Assistant

Patricia Lee, Chair District 16 Education Council