

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
April 22, 2024
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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

Regrets: Ed Gilchrist
Andy Flanagan

AGENDA ITEMS	
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Petersen called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:39 p.m. 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 Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Mourant that the agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION Ms. Arianne Melara, Director of Operations, New Brunswick Multicultural Council</p> <p>Ms. Arianne Melara joined the meeting to discuss the role the New Brunswick Multicultural Association is playing to support refugee and newcomer students in New Brunswick.</p> <p>The New Brunswick Multicultural Council (NBMC) was founded in 1983 and is a provincially funded service to promote immigration and multiculturalism in NB. NBMC's Vision is to be a beacon in Canada for inclusivity, growth and prosperity.</p>

	<p>Their Mission is to enrich and grow communities to enhance life by enabling newcomers.</p> <p>Ms. Melara highlighted the three Pillars of NBMC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To be the voice for the collective settlement sector 2. To maintain provincial readiness and Sustainability 3. To maximize sector resources. <p>Ms. Melara also highlighted and gave a summary on the programs and initiatives NBMC has developed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Bridge Program -Rural Settlement Network -Headstart to Employment -Champions for Cultural Diversity -Settlement Sector Academy -Invisible NB <p>There is also a scholarship program for international students. Ms. Melara will pass this information along to District Office for distribution to schools in our district.</p> <p>Members asked Ms. Melara some questions about resources and how NBMC is coping with less staff as newcomers to this province continues to increase. Ms. Melara was happy to respond that staff and volunteers shoulder the workload with grace but admitted at times finding balance is difficult.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Melara for her time and informative presentation.</p>
D.	<p>PRESENTATION Ms. Shanna Frenette, Principal, Jacquet River School</p> <p>Ms. Frenette welcomed council members to Jacquet River School. JRS currently has 69 students, 9 teachers and 13 educational assistants. Ms. Frenette spoke to the strengths of the school, such as systematic planning, classroom sharing, the school being a hub for the community and the strong relationship the school has with the community.</p> <p>The school promotes student wellness with “Gotcha” awards- honoring students caught performing acts of kindness, and other forms of recognition such as Student of the Month and Tiger’s Pride.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to take part in school sports- basketball, volleyball and soccer.</p> <p>The School Improvement Plan has focused on literacy, numeracy, and a better understanding of Truth and Reconciliation.</p> <p>Community support plays a major role in many school activities. The Chaleur Regional Service commission delivers fresh fruit and vegetables to the school every two weeks. Local wood worker, Dale Smear, donated lumber supplies to the school for woodworking projects. Local artist and business owners of the Bored</p>

	<p>Whale have worked with students on many projects and activities, recently donating their passenger bus for a school trip, reducing the school's expense by approximately \$6000.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Ms. Frenette for her presentation and the wonderful work being done by herself and the staff at JRS.</p>
E.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Paul Maurant and seconded by Gilbert Cyr that the minutes of the March 18, 2024, meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
F.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>No business arising from minutes.</p>
G.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <p>(i) GP 1,2,3,5, 7 & 8 – Meeting Review Form</p> <p>(ii) E-2 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
H.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>(a) Mr. Petersen shared a letter from Honorable Minister Bill Hogan to Gilles LePage in response to Mr. LePage's letter the previous month.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Paul Maurant that the correspondence be moved to file. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
I.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Mr. Mutch provided an update on the Campbellton School build, the tender is currently out and closing at the end of April.</p> <p>(b) A list of nominees for the Celebrate the Spirit Awards was distributed and reviewed by council members.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Nancy McBain that seven nominees receive Celebrate the Spirit Awards. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

J.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Petersen visited Fredericton to take part in the Steering Committee reviewing the Long-Term Recommendations Questionnaire sent out to PSSCs last month. • While in Fredericton Mr. Petersen met with DEC Manager, Mr. Roland Collette, and Ms. Ardith Shirley of the NBTA. As a group they toured the NBTA offices. Mr. Petersen and Mr. Collette also visited with Lisa Laceniare and Chantal Ouelette of the Francophone Sector. • Mr. Petersen attended the virtual review of the latest ELPA results for our district. • On March 22nd, Mr. Petersen took part in a virtual interview with UNB, they are conducting a survey about inclusion in New Brunswick. • The Council of DEC Chairs is now holding monthly virtual meetings. • Mr. Petersen is scheduled to attend the upcoming Artificial Intelligence meeting to be held in Fredericton on April 24th.
K.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mutch informed members that the district will be in a deficit for the 2023/2024 school year. This was predicted and previously discussed with council members. Our Budget and Accounting Dept. anticipate having the year end closed off by early May. • The Multi-Year Capital Planning document will be ready and sent out to council members in the next two weeks. • Mr. Mutch indicated that districts have received preliminary numbers for staffing from EECD. Formulas for the 2024/2025 school year will revert to traditional norms (based on student enrollment). Mr. Mutch informed council members that with the newly extended day for K-2 students, the staffing formula changed from 1.1 FTE for K-5 to 1.2 FTE. Some schools will see an increase in the staffing allotment. • To date, Mr. Mutch has delivered 17 new "B" contracts. • EECD announced that they will continue to fund Academic Support Teachers. Our district will receive 14 additional FTE. School data will determine where these positions are needed. • Staff update: Ms. Krista Cabel will be our new Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Manon Vibert will be Acting Vice-Principal at Sugarloaf Senior High School and Jill Brophy is our new Human Resources Officer responsible for Pensions/Benefits/Retirements. Upcoming positions include: Vice-Principal at Max Aitken Academy, Subject Coordinator for EAL, Subject Coordinator for Literacy, and the Director of Education Support Services. • Mr. Mutch has created a new Lead position for Education Support Services. • To date there are 52 retirees (27 teachers, 25 support staff). The retirement banquets will be held on June 3rd (Miramichi) and June 5th (Bathurst). • Several Principals, Mr. Mutch and the Director of Schools will be attending the upcoming CAPSLE conference from April 28th- May 1st. • 395 students have registered for kindergarten, September 2024, typically this number will increase over the next few months.

L. DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTSCarmel Hambrook

- Ms. Hambrook attended the PSSC meeting for Gretna Green School where parents expressed concerns and discussed the upcoming change in dismissal time for K-2 students. Mr. Mutch assured Ms. Hambrook that this concern is district wide, and the Transportation Dept. is working towards a smooth transition.
- Tabusintac Community School had their 3rd meeting for the school expansion, increasing gymnasium space at this time is not being considered, but Ms. Hambrook said the representative from the Province was aware of the need.
- Ms. Hambrook was not able to attend the PSSC meeting at Miramichi Valley High School.
- May 22nd is the next Curriculum and Assessment Committee meeting, Ms. Hambrook plans on attending.
- Ms. Hambrook is still recovering from her knee surgery but joined us virtually. She thanked council members for the get well wishes, card, flowers, and gift.

Sheila Rogers

- Ms. Rogers attended the Inclusion Steering Committee on April 8th. Prior to the meeting the group was presented with updates on Ms. Kim Korotkov's new role within EECD, looking at the current agreement the Province has with APSEA, collaborating with early childhood inclusive support program and looking for key areas for growth in the child and youth teams. Inclusion NB has a new resource prepared titled "Moving On" developed for families transitioning their children in and out of the education system. Ms. Melara was there to discuss her sector's anti-racism toolkit that was designed for teenagers to empower and motivate. There was an update on the Long-Term Recommendations with the public release coming soon. The next meeting for the committee will be June 11, 2024.
- On April 10, Ms. Rogers attended the PSSC meeting at Bathurst High School. Discussed were improved attendance, school environment, Culture Group and wellness reports. The Culture Group created a "Newcomer Guide" to help new students orientate. BHS has a new school van on order. The Music Trip to Toronto will be from May 15-20, 2024, and the Juno Trip will be May 29-June 9, 2024.
- Ms. Rogers attended the musical production of "Godspell" on April 18. Performances were well received.
- Terry Fox Elementary School's production of Disney's Moana Jr. will run from April 26-28. 60 students have been rehearsing since November 2023.
- Janeville Elementary School scheduled their PSSC meeting the same night as the DEC meeting. Principal Lee will send the minutes to Ms. Rogers for review.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior Middle School held a clothing swap on April 12. Students from Grade 6 tested their science-engineered catapults. The school's play this year will be "The Young Sherlock Holmes". • Parkwood Heights Elementary School students will be performing Disney's Frozen Jr. at the end of May. The school has partnered with Eat Fresh Chaleur as a pick-up location. \$35 bags of produce can be ordered and picked up for \$15. • Ms. Rogers watched the full eclipse in Kouchibouquac with two of her sons and their families. <p><u>Nancy McBain</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. McBain received an invite to the Regional Enhancement meeting from our Director of First Nations, Mr. Matthew Sweezey. The meeting is on April 25 in Miramichi, Ms. McBain will be attending. <p><u>Paul Mourant</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mourant and the PSSC for Rexton Elementary School attended the grand opening of the school's outdoor classroom. The PSSC also reviewed the School Improvement Plan with the Principal. • Bonar Law Memorial School held their annual exhibition hockey game – Alumni vs. RCMP. This fundraiser is for mental health initiatives within the school. <p><u>Gilbert Cyr</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Cyr has PSSC meetings scheduled for next week. • Mr. Cyr noted some gains are being made in relations between the community of Listuguj and Sugarloaf Senior High School. • The Superintendent's Evaluation has concluded, and results will be discussed with Mr. Mutch once a meeting can be scheduled.
M.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held in person at Miramichi Valley High School on Monday, May 27, 2024.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m. on a motion by Joe Petersen.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC