DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES August 15, 2016 Office of the Superintendent

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair

Ron Ecker
Andy Flanagan
Carmel Hambrook
Nancy McBain
Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen

Beth Stymiest, Superintendent

Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Sheila Rogers

| | AGENDA ITEMS |
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| A. | CALL TO ORDER |
| | Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Superintendent. |
| B. | ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY |
| | Mrs. Stymiest held a meeting to elect the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of the new District Education Council. Micheal Mortlock was nominated for the position of Chair. There being no further nominations, Mr. Mortlock was declared as the Chair of the District Education Council. Joe Petersen and Raymond Murphy were both nominated for the position of Vice-Chair. There were no further nominations. As a result of a secret ballot, Raymond Murphy was named as Vice-Chair. Brenda Dunnett was appointed as Secretary. |
| C. | SWEARING-IN CEREMONY |
| | Mrs. Brenda Dunnett, Commissioner of Oaths, officiated over the swearing in of Nancy McBain, who was re-appointed as the First Nation representative for the District Education Council, and Carmel Hambrook who was appointed as the new District Education Council member for Subdistrict 4. Council members were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to Mrs. Hambrook. |

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

E. PRESENTATION: Mrs. Beth Stymiest, Superintendent

Annual Report to the District Education Council

Mrs. Stymiest began her review of the Annual Report to the District Education Council by indicating that engagement, achievement and equity are essential for all students in Anglophone North School District.

Due to the expiration of the current District Improvement Plan and the implementation of the provincial 10-Year Education Plan, Mrs. Stymiest stated that a new district plan will be developed in the near future.

There were 7,644 students enrolled in the district during the 2015-2016 school year, a decrease of 200 students from the previous year. First Nation students represent 10% of the total student population.

Mrs. Stymiest stated that the district's goals are to continue achievement in literacy, numeracy, and science, and to develop inclusive and positive learning environments. She stated that a tremendous amount of work is being done in the schools to achieve success in these areas. Mrs. Stymiest reviewed 2015 district literacy and numeracy results, and she noted that at certain grade levels, Anglophone North School District's results were higher than provincial results in the "Appropriate or Above" category. District staff and teachers will continue to work on new projects and initiatives to help students experience continued improvement in assessment results.

A high absenteeism rate among high school students was addressed in Mrs. Stymiest's report, as well as the impact this has on student achievement. After the implementation of the new attendance management plan in 2015-2016, data revealed an absentee rate of 28.5% at the end of the first semester, a decrease from the previous year's rate of 36%. However, the rate increased to 36.8% at the end of 2015-2016's second semester. District staff will be meeting with principals to identify factors that may have contributed to this increase. The attendance management plan will be expanded to the middle school level during the 2016-2017 school year.

Mrs. Stymiest continued with the review of her report. She noted that Anglophone North has a very successful international program with the largest population of international students attending schools in this district. She also explained various strategies that are being used to nurture ongoing communication within the schools and their communities. Mrs. Stymiest concluded her report by noting various challenges that district staff often face, and also how these challenges can present opportunities for creativity and innovation.

IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Nancy McBain that the Annual Report to the District Education Council be approved as presented by Mrs. Beth Stymiest, Superintendent. MOTION CARRIED. A copy of the entire report will be forwarded to Hon. Brian Kenny, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. It will also be posted on the district's website.

First Nation Education Year-End Report

Mrs. Stymiest presented her First Nation Education Year-End Report for 2015-2016. She explained that there are nine First Nation communities within Anglophone North School District, and they extend from Bouctouche to Listuguj, Quebec. She mentioned some of the challenges that are often encountered in meeting the educational needs of First Nation students and finding consistency in services across such a large geographical area.

Mrs. Stymiest explained that the district partnered with First Nation communities in 2015 to negotiate five-year enhancement agreements. She noted that the district has just completed Year One of these agreements. Mrs. Stymiest reviewed the goals of these agreements, and she also explained the First Nation Global Budget. She stated that a total of \$506,000 is allocated to the district by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to provide extra support and resources for the First Nation students. These funds are over and above those which are already provided through the enhancement agreements.

Mrs. Stymiest recognized the tireless efforts that the district's First Nation team devotes to communicating and collaborating with the First Nation communities. She also noted that a meeting will be held in the near future to assess the effectiveness of the various First Nation interventions and strategies that have been implemented.

IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Nancy McBain that the First Nation Education Year-End Report for 2015-2016 be approved as presented by Mrs. Beth Stymiest. **MOTION CARRIED.** A copy of the entire report will be forwarded to each First Nation community, and it will also be posted on the district's website.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Joe Petersen that the minutes of the June 13, 2016 meeting be approved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

G. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

H. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Policy Monitoring

- (i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7 Meeting Review Form
- (ii) C/SR 4 Meeting Review Form
- (iii) EL 1,7 Meeting Review Form
- (iv) E-1, E-8, CS/R-4, EL-3, EL-4, EL-9, EL-10, EL-13 In Compliance See attached briefing notes

(b) New Educational Hirings

IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Ron Ecker that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence items were forwarded to the District Education Council members for their review prior to the meeting. Mr. Mortlock referred to the recent letter received from Hon. Kenny confirming the appointment of Nancy McBain as the First Nation representative to the District Education Council. Mr. Mortlock stated that Ms. McBain will no longer represent a school, as she will take on a greater role with First Nations. Mr. Mortlock will meet with Ms. McBain in the near future to discuss First Nation perspectives.

J. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Expenditure Plan

Mrs. Stymiest reviewed the Expenditure Plan for 2016-2017. She explained various challenges that the district is facing with this year's budget, including the amount allocated for Educational Assistants' salaries. Bus transportation costs are also a concern. Significant savings were made in transportation costs during the last fiscal year, but these adjustments have already been made to 2016-2017 budget. Mrs. Stymiest also noted that custodians were not funded this year for shift premiums. As she concluded her review of the plan, Mrs. Stymiest informed Council members that Anglophone North School District is forecasting a deficit in the amount of \$405,938 for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. She indicated that the district will continue to look for efficiencies in the budget.

IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Expenditure Plan for 2016-2017 be approved without prejudice. Following discussion among Council members, the **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mrs. Stymiest requested Council's permission to access \$150,000 from the special purposes account for support initiatives, professional development, principals' meetings, etc. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Raymond Murphy and seconded by Ron Ecker that Mrs. Stymiest be permitted to access \$150,000 from the special purposes account. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(b) PSSC Budget – 2016-2017

Mrs. Stymiest presented the Parent School Support Committee budget for 2016-2017. She explained that the budget is based on \$3.09 per student, or a minimum of \$425 per school. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Andy Flanagan and seconded by Joe Petersen that the PSSC Budget for 2016-2017 be approved as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

K. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mortlock reported on the following:

- He has not yet received notification from Hon. Kenny about the new school building in Campbellton or about its location.
- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has appointed Nancy Boucher as the Priority Unit Leader for the 10-Year Education Plan. Mr. Chris Treadwell has been appointed as the new Assistant Deputy Minister.
- DEC members will have the opportunity to attend training sessions on policy governance in October and in November.
- The dates for PSSC meetings will be forwarded to the DEC members as soon as they are scheduled.
- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development agreed to reimburse the District Education Councils for 50% of the expenses incurred by members who attended the June symposium in Fredericton.

L. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Stymiest received a nomination for "Outstanding Volunteer" for Gail Bernatchez of Lord Beaverbrook School. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Nancy McBain and seconded by Raymond Murphy that a Certificate of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to Ms. Bernatchez. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mrs. Stymiest stated that she is excited about this coming year, especially with the roll-out of the new 10-Year Education Plan. She has already met with Judson Waye, Priority Unit Champion for Anglophone North School District. She noted that the district has some of the most qualified staff working in the priority units, and these members are feeling very positive about their roles.

Mrs. Stymiest also reported on various other initiatives currently underway in the district, including the K-1 math program, the Power School program, and the new K-8 report card. The district is also working with teachers on formative assessments.

Principals, vice-principals, subject coordinators and senior staff will be meeting on August 23 and 24 at James M. Hill and Bathurst High School respectively.

Mrs. Stymiest concluded by stating that it has been a very busy summer and one that has been difficult for senior staff to take vacation.

M. DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. McBain stated that she is very happy to be back as a member of the new District Education Council.

Mrs. Hambrook is also thrilled to be a DEC member. Mr. Mortlock indicated that he will schedule a meeting with Mrs. Hambrook at the Office of the Superintendent to discuss DEC matters and procedures.

N. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held on September 19, 2016 at Eleanor W. Graham Middle School.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC