

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
August 21, 2017
Office of the Superintendent**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair
Ron Ecker
Andy Flanagan
Carmel Hambrook
Nancy McBain
Joe Petersen
Sheila Rogers
Mark Donovan, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Office of the Superintendent.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>Consensus was reached by the members to add “(b) Election of Vice-Chair” under New Business, due to the recent death of Mr. Raymond Murphy. IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Nancy McBain that the Agenda be approved with this addition. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>Presentation: Mr. Mark Donovan, Superintendent</p> <p><u>First Nations Report</u></p> <p>Mr. Donovan presented the ASD-N First Nation Education Report for 2016-2017, and he highlighted various sections of this report, which was prepared by Matthew Swezey, First Nations Subject Coordinator for Anglophone North School District.</p> <p>Mr. Donovan reviewed the Mission Statement pertaining to Anglophone North School District’s First Nation education initiative. He also reviewed the “Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action”, as well as the key areas of Objective 6 in the 10-Year Education Plan. These sections address the needs of First Nation learners and the importance of ensuring that provincial curriculum is reflective of First Nation history and culture.</p>

Mr. Donovan outlined many of the initiatives that have been implemented and the presentations that have been made within the district's schools to promote the legacy and awareness of First Nation culture. These initiatives include the annual Orange Shirt Day, K-5 First Nation literacy lessons, First Nation art lessons, the availability of First Nations books and resources in schools, delivering presentations about Mi'kmaq history, providing Mi'kmaq signage in schools, hosting the 100 Years of Loss exhibits, providing students with the opportunity to attend the first First Nations WE Day, raising the Mi'kmaq flag in a ceremony at Miramichi City Hall, as well as supporting and providing educators with professional learning opportunities about Mi'kmaq history and culture.

Mr. Donovan also reviewed the "Enhancement Agreement Report" which was prepared by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. This report was based on the compilation of 2016-2017 data that was provided by the schools in Anglophone North School District. Mr. Donovan noted that there were 776 on-reserve students recorded on the nominal rolls in February, 2017, an increase from 703 in June, 2016. He noted that 9.5% of the overall student population in Anglophone North School District is First Nation students. As Mr. Donovan reviewed the statistics in the report, he was encouraged that 95% of the First Nation students in Grade 12 expected to graduate in 2017, which was an increase from 90% in the previous year. Other statistics addressed attendance, course enrolments, and provincial assessment results among First Nation students.

Mr. Donovan indicated that building relations with First Nation communities and making transitions for First Nation students more seamless are certainly having an impact. More work is still needed, however, in achieving the district's goals in closing gaps that still currently exist. Mr. Donovan stated that greater gains can be made by working closely with the First Nation communities. He noted that Mr. Craig Caldwell, Director of Schools, will be responsible for overseeing the First Nation portfolio and working with the First Nation directors.

A copy of Mr. Matthew Swezey's report will be forwarded to each First Nation community, along with the Enhancement Agreement Report that is specific to each community.

Annual Report to the Public

Mr. Donovan presented the 2016-2017 Annual Report, which was prepared by Mrs. Beth Stymiest before she retired in June, 2017. Mrs. Stymiest's report contained the Mission Statement and the six Core Values for Anglophone North School District. Mrs. Stymiest also reported that the school district had 7,428 students in attendance during the 2016-2017 school year, 950 of whom were on and off-reserve First Nation students. The district's goals during the past school year included improving literacy and numeracy skills; meeting the needs of First Nation learners and ensuring that curriculum is reflective of First Nation history and culture; and ensuring that all learners develop the knowledge, skills and behaviors to continually adapt to, and thrive in, their environment. Mrs. Stymiest highlighted

	<p>the initiatives that were implemented to help meet these goals. She also outlined assessments results which indicated very good results by ASD-N students. However, more work is needed with regard to improving Grade 6 numeracy results.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest concluded her report with some of the challenges that arose during the 2016-2017 school year, including budget restraints, declining enrolments, the large number of storm days, the large geographic area, and aging technology. However, she acknowledged that these challenges also presented opportunities for staff to think creatively and innovatively.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Andy Flanagan that Mrs. Beth Stymiest's Annual Report be approved and forwarded to Hon. Brian Kenny, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook that the minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock reported that Tim Dunn, Director of Finance and Administration, received an email from Julie Mason, of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, concerning the projected deficit for Anglophone North School District. Mr. Mortlock informed Council members that following a discussion with Mr. Raymond Murphy, Vice-Chair, he forwarded a letter to Ms. Mason expressing his concern that this email should have been forwarded directly to the District Education Council, which had approved the Expenditure Plan.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock advised Council members that following a consultation, a meeting has been scheduled for August 31, 2017 at the Office of the Superintendent with Mr. Donovan, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Mortlock, and representatives of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to address the deficit issue. Mr. Mortlock also reiterated the District Education Council's intention to review the district's financial situation at the end of the third quarter.</p>
F.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>Policy Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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, E-11, CS/R-4, EL-3, EL-4, EL-9, EL-10, EL-13 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes. <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Ron Ecker and seconded by Nancy McBain that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Correspondence items were forwarded to the DEC members for their review prior to the meeting. Mr. Mortlock also forwarded the minutes from the recent meeting with the Council of DEC Chairs. In addition, he shared the following cards that he recently received:</p> <p>-A sympathy card from Anglophone West School District expressing their condolences about the recent passing of Mr. Raymond Murphy.</p> <p>-A card from Mrs. Beth Stymiest thanking the District Education Council for the beautiful piece of pottery she received as a retirement gift.</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Approval of Revised Policies</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Carmel Hambrook that the revised policies of the District Education Council be approved. There was a brief discussion about the significance of the new First Nation policy. Ms. McBain acknowledged Mr. Matthew Sweezey's passion in his work with the First Nations, and Council members acknowledged Ms. McBain's contribution in bringing First Nation initiatives to Anglophone North School District. Following this discussion, MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>(b) Election of Vice-Chair</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called for the nominations for Vice-Chair of the District Education Council for Anglophone North School District, as a result of the recent death of Mr. Raymond Murphy. Ron Ecker nominated Sheila Rogers. Carmel Hambrook nominated Joe Petersen. There being no further nominations, a vote was held by secret ballot. Joe Petersen was declared as the new Vice-Chair for the ASD-N District Education Council.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock informed members that the process will begin in the near future to fill the vacant position for the new District Education Council member in the Rexton and Harcourt areas. As soon as the names of potential candidates are received, they will be forwarded to the Minister for his decision. The new member will be appointed by the Minister to serve during the current term, which ends in 2020.</p>
I.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock stated that District Education Council members received information from the Council of DEC Chairs concerning the Spring Symposium, which will be held in Fredericton during the first weekend in May, 2018. Ms. McBain inquired as to whether there was any discussion on a collaboration of DEC and PSSC members. Mr. Mortlock confirmed that there was discussion in this regard.</p>

	<p>Mr. Mortlock indicated that the travel expenses for District Education Council members may become subject to a Right to Information request. A policy will be coming from the DEC Chairs with regard to travel expenses, and it will include an attachment and a check-off list about the type of business that was conducted by the DEC member.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock noted that the DEC Chairs are considering joining the Canadian School Boards Association if the province is agreeable to paying the fee.</p> <p>The DEC Chairs will be discussing the provincial DEC budget, which has not received an increase for the past five years.</p> <p>The Minister's Excellence in Education Awards will be held in Fredericton in November. Mr. Mortlock noted that the winners will soon be notified.</p> <p>Following a request by Ms. McBain, Mr. Mortlock agreed to look into the possibility of scheduling the regular October meeting of the District Education Council at Natoaganeg School in Eel Ground. He will send a letter to Chief George Ginnish and Mrs. Helen Ward, Principal, to inquire about this possibility.</p>
J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mark Donovan, Superintendent, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of the Superintendent has been restructured to include two Directors of Schools, as per the Plan of Establishment, and based on the need for one Director of Schools to be responsible for the First Nations portfolio. • The senior administration team will meet every Monday morning at the Office of the Superintendent for the purpose of staying on task with regard to the District Improvement Plan. • King Street Elementary School is still on track to open for students on September 5. The school's staff will be working in their new school during the week of August 28 to prepare for school opening. Inspections will take place on August 31. • The 10-Year Education Plan continues to focus on K-2 literacy and numeracy. The new Priority Unit Champion is now Gail Craswell. The former Priority Unit Champion, Judson Waye, has taken on the role as Acting Principal of Dr. Losier Middle School. • A Principals' Retreat will be held at the Rodd Miramichi on August 23-24, 2017. The Principals and Directors will meet on August 23, and the Principals, Vice-Principals, Directors, and Subject Coordinators will meet on August 24.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening meetings for teachers will be held starting on Monday, August 28, for teachers in Miramichi and Rexton; on Tuesday, August 29, for teachers in Bathurst, Dalhousie and Campbellton; and on Wednesday, August 30, for supply teachers. The focus for these three days will be “Innovation in the Classroom”. • Mr. Donovan is very excited about organizing a student trip to France for Juno 2019. Every high school in the school district will have the opportunity to send high school students on this trip to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The students will follow the path of the North Shore Regiment during their tour. He indicated that this also offers an opportunity for students to celebrate the lives of the veterans who served with the North Shore Regiment. • Mr. Donovan stressed the need for physical and mental health strategies. He noted that physical health has an impact on mental health. He would like to reinstate Field Day, track and field activities and other physical education activities for students. • Mr. Donovan noted the importance of recognizing support staff in the schools, such as bus drivers, custodians, administrative assistants and educational assistants. He is open to ideas in this regard. • As a means of promoting cultural awareness, Mr. Donovan plans to devote four days across the district to celebrate First Nation culture – one day in each of the four areas (Campbellton/Dalhousie, Bathurst, Miramichi and Rexton). • There will be a continued focus on the six Core Values. <i>Good communication builds trust, innovation creates excellence, and collaboration results in building capacity.</i> • Anglophone North School District now has two Directors of Schools. Mr. Craig Caldwell will be responsible for the schools in Bathurst, Dalhousie, Campbellton and Tabusintac. He will also be responsible for the First Nations portfolio. Mr. Dean Mutch will be responsible for the schools in Miramichi and Rexton.
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS</p> <p>Carmel Hambrook attended the graduation at Miramichi Valley High School. She brought greetings on behalf of the District Education Council, and challenged the graduates to follow their dreams and beliefs, and told them that it is never too late to learn. She plans to forward an email to the school principals to introduce herself. Mrs. Hambrook also attended Mr. Murphy’s funeral with other DEC members.</p> <p>Joe Petersen attended a late Parent School Support Committee at Jacquet River School in June. He noted the school’s fundraising project with Hatheway Ford,</p>

	<p>which raised \$6,000.00. Mr. Petersen also addressed the graduates of Dalhousie Regional High School.</p> <p>Sheila Rogers spoke at the Bathurst High School graduation before leaving for meetings in Fredericton. Ms. Rogers expressed her appreciation about Mr. Donovan's Juno 2019 project. Her father was a member of the North Shore Regiment, and he started the museum in Bathurst.</p> <p>Nancy McBain invited everyone to attend the PowWow at Heritage Gardens.</p> <p>Ron Ecker extended his greetings at the Blackville School graduation and spoke to the graduates about the analogy of the "iPad and codes".</p> <p>Mike Mortlock addressed the graduates at Campbellton Middle School and Sugarloaf Senior High School.</p>
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held on September 18, 2017 at Bonar Law Memorial School at 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. on a motion by Carmel Hambrook.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC