

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL  
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES  
December 14, 2015  
Dr. Losier Middle School**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair  
Mike Coster  
Ron Ecker  
Andy Flanagan  
Raymond Murphy  
Sheila Rogers  
Beth Stymiest, Superintendent  
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Nancy McBain  
Joe Petersen

	<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>
<b>A.</b>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 6:05 p.m. at Dr. Losier Middle School.</p>
<b>B.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Ron Ecker that the Agenda be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>C.</b>	<p><b>Presentation: David Cripps, Vice-Principal – Dr. Losier Middle School</b></p> <p>Mr. Cripps took the District Education Council members on a tour of the Dr. Losier Middle School building for his presentation. As a token of appreciation for hosting the District Education Council meeting, Mr. Mortlock presented Mr. Cripps with a book for the school's library.</p>
<b>D.</b>	<p><b>Presentation: Joan MacMillan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction – Provincial Assessment Data</b></p> <p>As Ms. MacMillan commenced her presentation, she stated that the primary purpose of assessments is to improve student learning. She noted that there are three main types of assessments – Formative, Benchmark and Large Scale Assessments. She also referred to a triangle which showed the three points</p>

that are key to ensuring that assessment results are valid and reliable for students – conversations, products and observations.

Ms. MacMillan reviewed several assessment projects that are currently underway and that focus on closing the gaps in student learning. The Math K-1 project, for example, will ensure that students are successful in meeting curriculum outcomes early in their education before they advance to the next grade level. She noted that pilot projects are also being considered for other grade levels to help determine how students, who have fallen behind, can catch up and move forward.

Assessment results were reviewed for the English Language Proficiency Assessments (ELPA) in Reading and Writing. Ms. MacMillan noted that Writing will no longer be part of the ELPA.

The French Second Language provincial results were reviewed and showed lower results than the targets that were set. Ms. MacMillan noted that in Anglophone North School District, Mrs. Michelle Tobin-Forgrave, Subject Coordinator for French Second Language, has been providing teachers with sessions on “Look-For’s” and opportunities to discuss best practices for students. Anglophone North School District was very successful in the 2013 French Immersion provincial reading assessments. Ms. MacMillan explained that the district’s French Leads continue to work hard to maintain these good results by assessing students three times each year. Extra support has also been provided to schools that have experienced lower results.

Ms. MacMillan informed Council members that the proceeds that were raised at the Pumpkin Fling, which was held in Miramichi in September, have been given to the school district. These funds have been used to help provide middle and high school teachers with professional development on the STEM and STEAM programs. Ms. MacMillan explained that the STEAM program includes the Arts aspect in addition to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. She reviewed the various STEM/STEAM projects and noted that students are very engaged in learning while working on these projects. The district’s goal is to raise the female student participation rate in these projects to 30%.

The new report cards will be implemented in September, 2016. Ms. MacMillan informed Council members that principals attended a half-day session on report cards, and that teachers will also be participating in several professional development opportunities in this regard. A Council member shared some of the concerns and apprehension that parents have with regard to the new report cards. Ms. MacMillan stated that she would be willing to attend Parent School Support Committee cluster meetings to help educate parents on this matter.

E.	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Raymond Murphy and seconded by Sheila Rogers that the minutes of the November 16, 2015 meeting be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
F.	<p><b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></p> <p>There was no business arising from the minutes.</p>
G.	<p><b>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</b></p> <p><b>(a) Policy Monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,7 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(ii) C/SR 4 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(iii) EL 1,7 – Meeting Review Form</li> <li>(iv) E-10, C/SR-2, EL-11, EL-12 – In Compliance - See Attached Briefing Notes</li> </ul> <p><b>(b) New Educational Hirings</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Andy Flanagan and seconded by Raymond Murphy that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
H.	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>All correspondence items were forwarded to Council members for their review prior to the meeting. In addition to these items, Mr. Mortlock presented a letter from Honorable Serge Rousselle, dated December 4, 2015, in response to the District Education Council's motion concerning North &amp; South Esk Elementary School and North &amp; South Esk Regional School. Mr. Mortlock confirmed that these two schools, along with Janeville Elementary School, will receive the four-year exemption from further sustainability studies as recommended by the District Education Council.</p>
I.	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p>There was no new business to discuss.</p>
J.	<p><b>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Mortlock thanked the members for an enjoyable year, and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.</p>

K.	<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest acknowledged the nominations she received for “Outstanding Volunteers” – Betty McLaughlin and Flavien Babineau at Bonar Law Memorial School, Carrie Mainville at Superior Middle School, as well as Rosemary Pitre, Karen Couture, Stacie Pitre, Cindy Leith and Dawn Thibodeau at Terry Fox Elementary School. <b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to these volunteers. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p>Starfish Awards were recently presented to Kelly Jacques at the Bathurst Education Center, Melissa Dedam at Harcourt School, David Gopee and Tyson Theriault at James M. Hill Memorial High School, and Ellen Lee at Janeville Elementary School.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest informed members that a principal’s meeting was held on December 8, 2015. During this meeting, principals were brought up to date on the Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) model. The ISD program allows for close collaboration of services among the various departments and agencies.</p> <p>Mrs. Jill Flanagan, Human Resources Officer, will be retiring on December 31, 2015. Mrs. Stymiest stated that Mrs. Flanagan was an integral part of the Human Resources team and that she will be missed. Mr. Elwyn Peters has been hired temporarily until September, 2016.</p> <p>Interviews will be held on December 10, 2015 for the position of principal for the new school in Miramichi West. Although the principal’s position will not become effective until next fall, the principal will be involved in consultations and making important decisions during the school’s construction.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest concluded her comments by reporting on the conference she recently attended in Toronto.</p>
L.	<p><b>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Murphy acknowledged the efforts of three retired teachers – Anne Robichaud, Connie Barter and Linda Arseneault – as well as other community members who have shopped for gifts to make Christmas a little happier for disadvantaged students and their families in the Rexton area. Approximately 30 volunteers will take part in two days of wrapping the gifts, and the three retired teachers will also help coordinate that activity.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock expressed his appreciation, on behalf of the Restigouche County Volunteer Action Association, for the use of the Sugarloaf Senior High School facilities in order to host the Christmas/Soup Kitchen Telethon.</p>

Mrs. Rogers reported on the Provincial Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting she attended on December 8, 2015, and on the District Health Advisory Committee meeting she attended on December 11, 2015. Her minutes of these two meetings will be forwarded to the District Education Council members.

Mrs. Rogers highlighted some of the events that are occurring in the schools in her subdistrict:

- Students at Superior Middle School are spreading the Christmas spirit to the school's adopted seniors' home, the Robert L. Knowles Veterans' Unit, by making Christmas cards. These cards will be delivered to the residents of this home on December 16.
- Bathurst High School recently held a Christmas Concert, with all proceeds going to the downtown fire victims. Over \$1,300 was raised for this cause.
- Bathurst High School recently held a dinner theatre for two nights. In addition, forty Bathurst High School students travelled to We Day in Halifax on November 27 and enjoyed an amazing experience. Students at BHS are also taking part in the Spirit of Christmas campaign, which delivers special care packages to Bathurst seniors who are in need. As well, BHS received a large donation of an outdoor electronic sign, which is attached to the school and displays the BHS events for the whole community to read.
- Terry Fox Elementary School recently won a Microsoft Award for the use of technology in their school. The school was treated to pizza and cake, and it received a new Keurig machine, coffee, and a \$1,000 Staples gift certificate. The school will also be holding an after-school session before the end of the school year for any staff who would be interested in learning about Microsoft products and what this company can offer.

Mr. Ecker shared a concern among some schools that there could be a potential loss of support staff as a result of the Integrated Service Delivery model. Mrs. Stymiest stated that she would look into this. However, she assured members that ISD will allow schools to have a much broader network of services, and that any changes will not be noticed at the school level.

Mr. Coster requested an update on plans to re-build the tennis courts that were removed as a result of the new school construction in Miramichi West. Mrs. Stymiest will address this with Tim Dunn, Director of Finance and Administration. It was also noted that construction on the school is progressing favorably.

The District Education Council members expressed their wishes to one another for a very Merry Christmas.

<b>M.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>  The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held on January 18, 2016 at St. Andrew's Elementary School.  The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.
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Respectfully submitted,

*Original Signed by Brenda Dunnett*

Brenda Dunnett  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC