

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL  
ANGLOPHONE SCHOOL DISTRICT-NORTH**

**MINUTES  
December 20, 2021  
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair  
Sheila Rogers, Vice-Chair  
Gilbert Cyr  
Andy Flanagan  
Carmel Hambrook  
Rev. Albertine LeBlanc  
Nancy McBain  
Paul Mourant  
Mark Donovan, Superintendent  
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

	<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>
<b>A.</b>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>Joe Petersen, Chair, welcomed District Education Council members and the public to the meeting, and he acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on unceded territory. He called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.</p>
<b>B.</b>	<p><b>AFFIRMATION CEREMONY – NANCY MCBAIN</b></p> <p>Brenda Dunnett, Commissioner of Oaths, officiated over the affirmation of Nancy McBain on Friday, December 17, 2021, at the Office of the Superintendent. Ms. McBain was recently reappointed as the First Nation Representative to the District Education Council. The members welcomed Ms. McBain back to the Council.</p>
<b>C.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the agenda. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>D.</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATION: Jocelyn St.Onge, Principal – Lord Beaverbrook School</b></p> <p>Mrs. Jocelyn St.Onge, Principal, welcomed Council members and thanked them for the opportunity to give her presentation. She indicated that Lord Beaverbrook School was built in 1959, making it one of the older buildings in Anglophone School District-North. It is a K-4 school with a population of 190 students. Since the school is situated close to the Quebec border, it also serves students from the Listuguj First Nation. The English and French Immersion</p>

	<p>programs are both offered at LBS. Mrs. St.Onge reviewed her school's Vision, Mission, Values, as well as the school staff allotment.</p> <p>Mrs. St.Onge noted that the 2020-2021 school year and the current school year have presented challenges, especially with intermittent school closures due to COVID-19 positive cases, exposures, and the CUPE strike. She stated that staff shortages have been a concern at her school and noted that it is often short 2-3 staff each day. Other concerns are the mental health of staff and students and building resiliency with students. Mrs. St.Onge, however, noted that challenges are often met with celebrations, and she acknowledged the support she receives from Mr. Donovan and his team in finding solutions to issues that arise in the Campbellton schools. Mrs. St.Onge also identified the areas that focus on closing learning gaps for her students.</p> <p>Mrs. St.Onge informed Council members that Campbellton has the highest percentage of poverty in the province, and she noted that food security is a huge issue among her students. She is pleased that the district has implemented literacy and numeracy interventions to help those students who are often impacted by poverty. Mrs. St.Onge noted that half of her student population take advantage of the school's breakfast program.</p> <p>Lord Beaverbrook School strives to connect with the community and receives tremendous support for various programs, such as the breakfast program, the Terry Fox Walk, Orange Shirt Day, Santa's Workshop, Campbellton Rotary Club's "For the Love of Reading" program, and the local food banks.</p> <p>A discussion followed concerning First Nation Education and the initiatives that are available to schools to help address the TRC's Calls to Action and the 10-Year Education Plan.</p> <p>Mrs. St.Onge closed her presentation with a quote from Dr. Jody Carrington, "We are all just walking each other home". Mr. Petersen and the DEC members expressed their appreciation and their support to Mrs. St.Onge. The District Education Council will be sending books to Mrs. St.Onge's school library as a token of their appreciation for her presentation.</p>
E.	<p><b>PRESENTATION: François Godin, Senior Project Manager, Educational Facilities and Pupil Transportation, EECD – Major Capital Projects</b></p> <p>Mr. Godin introduced himself and reviewed the four topics that would be discussed during his presentation. He stated that the goal of his presentation is to provide the DEC members with information and answer any questions they may have about capital projects.</p> <p>During Mr. Godin's presentation, he informed Council members about the current state of infrastructure in New Brunswick, the strategies and challenges</p>

	<p>in capital planning, the different budget components, and the QBL (Quadruple Bottom Line) Multi-Criteria Analysis.</p> <p>Mr. Godin informed members that the QBL is a tool to assess the impact of potential projects, that are submitted by District Education Councils, against key objectives. The submissions are weighed and scored. A list of projects is then created to assist the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) in completing its list of priorities. The planning model is such that from the time a project is submitted and approved by EECD, the project will usually start five years after it is submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Godin noted that barring any unforeseen circumstances, the new K-8 Campbellton school, which would replace Lord Beaverbrook School and Campbellton Middle School, is expected to be Number 3 on the 2022-2023 list of priority projects.</p> <p>Discussion followed Mr. Godin's presentation. Mr. Gilbert Cyr expressed concerns, on behalf of the residents in the Campbellton region, that other projects that were ranked lower than the new Campbellton school project, rose to the top of the list. Mr. Godin explained that this would have resulted from slight changes in the QBL. He expects that the new school would be the priority for next year, and that it could possibly open in September 2025.</p> <p>Tim Dunn, Director of Finance and Administration, noted that the new Campbellton school is currently the only project on EECD's list of Capital Projects. He suggested that DEC members consider other long-term needs, i.e. school mid-life upgrades, providing better optimization of schools, etc., and add those projects to the 2022 list in an effort to properly maintain ASD-N's infrastructure.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Mr. Godin for making his presentation to the District Education Council. Mr. Godin indicated that he would be pleased to return for another presentation if Council members require further information.</p>
<p><b>F.</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the November 15, 2021 minutes. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<p><b>G.</b></p>	<p><b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>(a) Need for School Psychologists</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan provided a follow-up to the need for more school psychologists in school districts. He stated that action is being taken by the province to provide higher salaries for school psychologists. Other options, such as covering expenses for course work, are also being considered. Mr. Donovan assured Council members that this issue is raised by Superintendents and Education</p>

	Support Services staff on a regular basis. Connie Daley, Director of Education Support Services, will be invited to a future District Education Council meeting to provide more information in this regard.
<b>H.</b>	<p><b>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</b></p> <p><b>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, E-11, C/SR-2, EL-11, EL-12 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Andy Flanagan and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the Consent Agenda Items. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>I.</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>Mr. Petersen distributed a copy of a letter sent by His Worship Ian Comeau, Mayor of the City of Campbellton, to Hon. Dominic Cardy on December 17, 2021. In his letter, Mayor Comeau encouraged the Minister to move forward with the new K-5 Campbellton school project, and he extended an invitation to the Minister for a face-to-face meeting. The District Education Council members will await the Minister’s response to Mr. Comeau’s letter.</p>
<b>J.</b>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p>There was no new business for this meeting.</p>
<b>K.</b>	<p><b>CHAIR’S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Petersen reported that he, Sheila Rogers, and Mark Donovan attended several virtual meetings with the Minister, Deputy Minister, Assistant Deputy Minister, and Ashley Counsell, Director of Organizational Development at EECD. These meetings evolved from the proposed changes to the education governance model. The Council of DEC Chairs and District Education Councils were assured that they would be involved in the consultation meetings that are planned for January 2022. Mr. Petersen will continue to update Council members about those meetings.</p>
<b>L.</b>	<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EECD released Winter Plans for early childhood centers, K-8 schools, and high schools. Schools were tasked with incorporating these plans into their current Operational Plans in time for school opening on January 10, 2022. There will be some return to hard bubbles and an</li> </ul>

attempt to restrict movement among large numbers of students. The Winter Plans are available on the GNB website.

- A total of 189 applications were received from teachers for the district-sponsored “Innovation in Teaching Grants”. These grants, which range from \$500-\$1,500 each, will directly support classroom learning and will help to close the learning gaps created by the pandemic. The number of applications equates to one-third of the teaching staff, which speaks loudly to the commitment of teachers. These grants, totalling approximately \$200,000, resulted from savings incurred during COVID shutdowns and the CUPE strike. The grant applications will be vetted by the district’s curriculum team.
- Many positive comments were received from schools about the Christmas Poinsettias that were sent to them by the District Education Council.
- Due to new COVID-19 restrictions, Nancy McBain’s Affirmation Ceremony was held at the Office of the Superintendent on December 17, 2021. Ms. McBain made her oath to Mrs. Dunnett using the Eagle Feather. Elder Joseph Ward and his wife, of Natoaganeg First Nation, along with Matthew Sweezey, Subject Coordinator for French Second Language, were also in attendance.
- The Student Leadership Conference was held virtually on Thursday, December 16 and 17. Several Directors and DEC members had the opportunity to meet with five of the eight high schools. Mr. Donovan noted that it was a pleasure to talk to the students and hear their concerns and ideas.
- Atlantic Education International (AEI) selected an ASD-N high school student to participate in a one-year study program in Germany for the 2022-2023 school year. As soon as the name of this student is released, Mr. Donovan will share it with the District Education Council members.
- Glen Johnston, Technician II, recently received the Superintendent’s Merit Award for administering the Heimlich maneuver on two staff members, on different occasions. This award was implemented in 2018 to recognize extraordinary feats of human spirit.
- Mr. Donovan distributed and reviewed ASD-N’s assessment results with Council members. He noted that some results were concerning but overall, he indicated that Anglophone School District-North is doing well.

M.	<p><b>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</b></p> <p><u>Paul Mourant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He acknowledged the work of three teachers - Meaghan Wilbur, Julie Hudson, and Rohanne Foubert - who helped to organize “Santa’s Helpers” in the Rexton area. This event helped to provide 140 families in need with Christmas gifts, clothing, and other personal items for their children.</li> <li>• Bonar Law Memorial School will be serving a free Christmas dinner to its students and staff on December 21.</li> <li>• Mr. Mourant attended a PSSC meeting at Harcourt School on December 16. Some parents expressed concern that their children do not have access to the Grade 6 Late French Immersion Program when they move to the middle school in Rexton. This is due to the small number of students at Harcourt. These parents would like to explore possible options for their children.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Donovan stated that there are 13 different pilot projects happening in the province to address French Immersion issues associated with smaller schools. Four of these projects are already underway in ASD-N. Mr. Donovan felt that there may be some possibilities for the next school year. He suggested that Linda Dickson, Subject Coordinator for French Second Language, could provide more information about the 13 projects and how they could be tailor-made for the situation in Rexton.</p> <p><u>Gilbert Cyr:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He acknowledged the work that Mr. Donovan is doing with the Parent Code of Conduct Policy. He is anxiously awaiting further developments on this project. Mr. Donovan noted that the credit for this policy should be given to ASD-N’s Director of Communications, Meredith Caissie, and her colleagues across the province for taking the lead on this matter.</li> <li>• Mr. Cyr is pleased to hear that Mr. Petersen is working hard on the education governance reform. He is hopeful that there will be some consultations and the opportunity for DEC Chairs to be prepared for the consultations, considering that there is a very short window. Council members suggested arranging an in-camera meeting prior to January 17, 2022 to prepare them for the meetings with EECD.</li> <li>• Mr. Cyr disclosed that he will continue to campaign for the new K-8 Campbellton school project and be a voice for the residents in Campbellton. He asked for the members’ support as he keeps his role</li> </ul>
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as a DEC member separate from his community efforts regarding the new school project.

- Mr. Cyr reported on the PSSC meetings he attended for the three schools in the Campbellton region.
  - There was a desire by all three schools to have PLC's established among the three communities, and bring K-12 together to share ideas and have discussions about aligning curriculum.
  - He noted a concern that K-4 schools do not have the same opportunities as other schools that have international funding. Mr. Donovan noted that the "Innovation in Education Grants" can provide a new avenue of funding for the K-4 schools.

Sheila Rogers:

- She acknowledged Rev. Albertine LeBlanc for bringing the need for more school psychologists to the District Education Council for discussion.
- Ms. Rogers attended several meetings with the Council of DEC Chairs. Ms. Rogers asked Ashley Counsell for sample questions or topics so that DEC members could be more prepared for the consultation meetings on government reform. Ms. Rogers also asked Ms. Counsell to consider making accommodations for people who work. Ms. Rogers is hopeful that this information will be available to Council members before the next meeting.
- She attended the PSSC meeting for Parkwood Heights Elementary School.
  - There are 245 students enrolled at that school, an increase from 180-190 students in previous years.
  - The school is doing well with following COVID-19 protocols, and it does not anticipate any problems with the January Winter Plans.
  - A team of teachers is working on issues that their students encounter with literacy and numeracy. An individual has been hired by the district to go into the school for 25 weeks to do pullouts for students who need the extra help.
- Several teachers at Terry Fox Elementary School won Climate Action and ArtsSmarts Grants. This school also had its virtual Christmas Concert.

- Ms. Rogers reported that Bathurst High School won an award for the “Let’s Talk Careers” project. It won \$1,000 for being Canada’s most informed school. Provincial bursaries were also awarded to five students for the same program.

#### Nancy McBain

- She commended Mr. Donovan on always being on top of issues within ASD-N and around the province, and for always pushing forward with First Nation Education.
- She recently spoke to Lori Johnson, Principal of Dalhousie Regional High School, and was impressed with how well Ms. Johnson embraced her position as Principal and how she is ensuring that there are activities for First Nation students. Ms. Johnson sent Ms. McBain a full agenda of inclusion activities and programs that will be occurring at DRHS. Ms. Johnson is incorporating ways of bringing language into the school, and she noted some of her other objectives.
- Tiffanie LaBillois, Director of Education for Eel River Bar First Nation, sent a survey to the seven First Nation communities, that are part of the North Shore MicMac District Council, to determine how students and staff are dealing with the impacts of COVID-19, i.e. depression, mental health issues, protocols, etc. The survey results will be analyzed and used to provide students with psychological and academic supports.
- Students at Dalhousie Regional High School and L.E. Reinsborough School enjoy participating in the outdoor classroom at Heritage Gardens.
- She acknowledged Bonar Law Memorial School’s webpage and the fun activities that are happening there.
- She plans to send out generic questions to the principals and the First Nation communities before the next meeting.
- Ms. McBain will provide Mr. Petersen with a paragraph on how to acknowledge that meetings are taking place on unceded territory.
- Ms. McBain would like to determine how First Nation students are performing in school, and whether their assessment data could be compared to the district and to the province. Mr. Donovan suggested that this issue could be raised at future enhancement meetings.

#### Rev. Albertine LeBlanc:

- She recently attended a Zoom meeting with Blackville School’s PSSC, and she has another PSSC meeting before the Christmas Break.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She appreciated Mr. Godin’s presentation during this meeting, and she looks forward to other presentations.</li> <li>• She acknowledged and thanked Mr. Donovan and Mrs. Dunnett for their hard work.</li> </ul> <p><u>Carmel Hambrook:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She attended a PSSC meeting, via phone, for Miramichi Valley High School. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students were happy to be back to school after the strike. They expressed concern about learning virtually and preparing for university. Although not a concern in ASD-N’s schools, there was concern expressed about damages being done to school washrooms in other areas.</li> <li>○ As part of cultural awareness at the school, students are preparing special presentations and projects to welcome the international and immigrant students.</li> <li>○ The school is working on Grade 9 and 10 Math outcomes. Students will be screened before entering Grade 9 to determine their learning level. This information will help determine trades and academics for Grades 11 and 12 students.</li> <li>○ Mental health is a concern at the school, as well as social media concerns. Mrs. Hambrook informed the PSSC members that the District Education Council is addressing these issues.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The PSSC meeting at Max Aitken Academy was cancelled.</li> <li>• Mrs. Hambrook reported on her first meeting with the Provincial Curriculum and Evaluation Advisory Committee (PCEAC), which was held virtually on November 25, 2021. The next meeting will be held in April 2022.</li> </ul>
<b>N.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, January 17, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., via Microsoft Teams.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on a motion by Gilbert Cyr.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by Brenda Dunnett*

Brenda Dunnett  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC