

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

**MINUTES
January 17, 2022
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Joe Petersen, Chair, welcomed the District Education Council members and the public to this virtual meeting, and he acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on unceded territory. He called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>The following item was added to the agenda under New Business:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(b) DEC Budget</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Paul Maurant to approve the agenda with this addition. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION: Paula Haché, Principal-King Street Elementary School</p> <p>Mrs. Haché began her presentation by indicating that King Street Elementary School is in its fifth year of operation since it was newly built in 2017. There are currently 455 students, including 15 newcomers and 30 students who have transferred this year from other provinces. She also summarized the number of staff in each of the employee groups in her school.</p> <p>Mrs. Haché informed Council members that KSES's School Improvement Plan focuses on two main goals: (1) Diversity and Inclusion, to support the many diverse cultures and socio-economic children at this school, and (2) Leadership and Teaming, to promote academics and to close learning gaps. Mrs. Haché considered this as a goal for herself as well to try and promote more leadership</p>

	<p>in the building, and to allow more pedagogy within the teams so that they can deliver a strong curriculum to the students.</p> <p>King Street Elementary School enjoys community partnerships, including the Home and School Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Nature NB, Miramichi Bike Club, Miramichi Ski Club, Community Garden Club, and the City of Miramichi.</p> <p>Mrs. Haché highlighted some of the special projects happening at KSES. These include the completion of Phase One of the Mountain Biking Trail System, the purchase of six new bikes and helmets, new fencing around the playground, the KSE Forest Classroom, the North Star Room for students who experience emotional struggles, and Sistema. She noted that Sistema is expanding into a regional orchestra, and that two KSES students are now members of the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra. The school also applied for a “Road Safety: Walk and Wheel” grant to help encourage students to walk and bike to school.</p> <p>Mrs. Haché stated that King Street Elementary School has a very strong staff. She also noted that the students are faring well during the pandemic. Some students are currently attending school in person and are participating in interventions. The hope is that these supports will help to maintain some normalcy in these students’ lives.</p> <p>Mrs. Haché concluded by mentioning that although this has been a challenging school year, her staff feel very supported by Mr. Donovan and his lead teams.</p> <p>Council members were given the opportunity to ask questions about the school’s programs.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Mrs. Haché for her presentation. As a token of their appreciation, the District Education Council will donate books for the King Street Elementary School library.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the December 20, 2021 minutes. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>There was no business arising from the December minutes.</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-2 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the Consent Agenda Items. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>There were no correspondence items.</p>
H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) PSSC Appreciation Dinner</p> <p>A discussion was held about the possibility of holding the annual PSSC Appreciation Dinner in May. IT WAS MOVED BY Paul Maurant and seconded by Gilbert Cyr to table this item until the February 28, 2022 District Education Council meeting. A decision will be made based on the COVID-19 situation at that time. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>(b) DEC Budget</p> <p>At present, projections indicate a surplus of \$19,000 in the District Education Council's budget. Mr. Donovan suggested that these funds could be distributed to the schools to help cover photocopying and other costs associated with At-Home Learning. A short discussion followed about the best method of distributing these funds.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the \$19,000 be divided equally among the 29 schools, as opposed to basing the amount on each school's population. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
I.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Petersen attended numerous virtual meetings during the past month with the DEC Chairs, the Minister, Deputy Minister, and Assistant Deputy Minister concerning governance reform. Further consultations will be held on January 18, 19, and 20. Mr. Petersen is hopeful that there will be a good turnout at these meetings and that everyone's concerns will be heard.</p>

J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Donovan reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He acknowledged the many employees who received Starfish Awards in January. The following employees were recognized for their extra effort in making schools a great place for students to learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jacqueline Niewets-Lagendijk, Educational Assistant, Bonar Law Memorial School - Krista Harquail, Teacher, Dalhousie Regional High School - Jenn McGloin, Teacher, Dalhousie Regional High School - Jillian Girouard, Teacher, Gretna Green School - Haley Tozer, Teacher, Gretna Green School - Myrna Ainslie, Teacher, Sugarloaf Senior High School - Betty Martin and Lisa Murphy, Educational Assistants, Sugarloaf Senior High School - Lyndsey Johnstone, Educational Assistant, Terry Fox Elementary School - Regan Russell, Administrative Assistant, Terry Fox Elementary School <p>Mrs. Hambrook inquired into the possibility of posting the names of the recipients of Starfish Awards and Outstanding Volunteer Awards on public platforms. Mr. Donovan will pursue this further with the Director of Communications, and he will report back at the February meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Donovan forwarded to Council members the most up-to-date Health and Safety Winter Plans for K-8 and Grades 9-12. He also provided members with the link where they can access up-to-date COVID-19 protocols and guidelines for schools. • The Technology Team will be offering technical support to any teachers who may have questions during the period of online learning. • Mr. Donovan stated that At-Home Learning will continue until January 28. He noted that there is a real push for all students to return to in-person learning on January 31 and for schools to remain open going forward. He noted that a meeting is scheduled with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Education on January 18 to mitigate any concerns about staff capacity issues when staff test positive for COVID-19. • Mr. Donovan reviewed the results of the Teacher Perception Surveys. He believes that overall, Anglophone School District-North
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	<p>did well, although there are some areas that will require attention. Mr. Donovan invited Council members to review the results and raise any questions they may have at the February DEC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government is seeking nominations for outstanding teachers and educators for the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence and for Excellence in Early Childhood Education. The deadline for submissions is February 8, 2022. • Mr. Donovan announced that Liam Lavigne, a Grade 11 student at Bathurst High School, was selected by Atlantic Education International (AEI) to study in Germany during 2022-2023 school year. This opportunity is fully sponsored by AEI. Mr. Donovan noted that this will be a wonderful life experience for Liam, and he wished him all the best.
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p><u>Nancy McBain:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She noted that the questionnaire, which she planned to send to schools, is currently on hold due to the many demands already placed on administrators. • Matthew Sweezey, Subject Coordinator for First Nation Education, is Ms. McBain's new contact person. She will be looking to him for guidance, informing her about literature that is coming into the schools, and inviting her into schools to observe First Nation programs. • She is pleased that the smaller schools will benefit from the equal distribution of the District Education Council's surplus funds. • Ms. McBain plans to highlight schools at future meetings to recognize and celebrate First Nation education that is occurring at schools. • She noted that larger schools often have more opportunities for special programs to prepare students for graduation and post-secondary learning. She noted the mechanics workshop at Sugarloaf Senior High School and how programs such as this are important, not only for larger schools but for smaller schools as well. • She stated that the recent discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children has raised awareness in Canada about residential schools. She is pleased with the efforts that ASD-N schools are making in educating students about the residential schools.

- She acknowledged the challenges and protocols involved with raising the Mi'kmaq Grand Council flag. She also emphasized how important it is for First Nations to be represented in the communities.
- Ms. McBain acknowledged the many programs available for students, such as Jordan's Principle, FNEI (First Nation Education Initiatives Inc.), etc., and she feels that these resources could help smaller schools improve their students' exposure to First Nation culture.

Paul Maurant:

- He volunteered and helped to serve Christmas Dinner in December to staff and students at Bonar Law Memorial School.
- On a very sad note, Mr. Maurant informed members of a tragic automobile accident that claimed the life of a young student from Rexton Elementary School.

Gilbert Cyr:

- Mr. Cyr has Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) meetings scheduled during the week of January 24.

Carmel Hambrook:

- Mrs. Hambrook reported that she has a PSSC meeting scheduled at Miramichi Valley High School on January 24, that the December PSSC meeting at Max Aitken Academy was cancelled, and that she plans to follow up with the PSSC members at Tabusintac Community School and provide them with updates from the DEC meetings.

Rev. Albertine LeBlanc:

- She has a PSSC meeting scheduled with Blackville School on January 18. The next PSSC meeting at North & South Esk Elementary School is scheduled for February.
- She will be registering for the online consultation sessions that are available for District Education Council members.

Sheila Rogers:

- She reminded Council members to forward their Superintendent's Evaluation Forms to her before the District Education Council meeting on February 28.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PSSC meeting for Janeville Elementary School is scheduled for January 24. • She received an email from the Rick Hansen Foundation about online resources and activities that are available to teachers, and that focus on equity, diversity, and inclusion. • On another interesting note, Ms. Rogers shared her experience in finding her grandmother's graduation certificate, which was issued in June 1914 by the State of New York and gave her grandmother permission to teach any K-6 class in that state for life.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., via Microsoft Teams.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. on a motion by Carmel Hambrook.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC