

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

**MINUTES  
March 21, 2022  
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

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

Regrets: Nancy McBain

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>A.</b>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>Mr. 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 5:30 p.m.</p>
<b>B.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p>The following items were added to the agenda under New Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(d) DEC Symposium</li> <li>(e) Meeting with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Re: Governance Reform</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Rev. Albertine LeBlanc to approve the agenda with these additions. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>C.</b>	<p><b>PRESENTATION: Mr. David Cripps, Principal, North &amp; South Esk Regional School</b></p> <p>Mr. Cripps expressed his appreciation to the District Education Council members for the opportunity to showcase North &amp; South Esk Regional School, a Grade 7-12 school. N.S.E.R. has a population of 174 students, 41 of whom reside in the First Nations communities of Metepenagiag and Natoaganeg. He provided a breakdown of the number of staff in each of the employee groups</p>

	<p>in his school. He took an opportunity to acknowledge the excellent work that the custodial staff does in keeping the school so clean.</p> <p>Mr. Cripps noted N.S.E.R.'s First Nation Enhancement Agreement. This agreement makes funding available to support various educational initiatives for First Nation students at N.S.E.R., including the implementation of a cultural room. Students use this room to participate in drumming and other cultural activities. Other First Nation programs at the school include Mik'maq Language classes for Grades 7-10 and Grade 110 students. In addition, Mr. Cripps stated that the annual PowWow is scheduled for May 15, 2022, and it is open to all students in the community.</p> <p>N.S.E.R. students can also participate in special programs, such as Experiential Learning, Best Buddies, the Essential Skills Program, the ICE Program, a She-Shed Fundraiser to help offset sports fees, the community gardens, and drag racing.</p> <p>Mr. Cripps concluded his presentation by showing a video that was developed by the Grade 12 Digital class. The video made it possible for the DEC members to take a virtual tour of the school with staff and students explaining the many programs and activities in place at N.S.E.R. Mr. Cripps is hopeful that with the increase of student activities, there will be an improvement in attendance, which was impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>Mr. Petersen thanked Mr. Cripps for his presentation, and he indicated that the District Education Council will be sending a book to N.S.E.R.'s library as a token of their appreciation.</p>
<b>D.</b>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES.</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Paul Mourant and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the February 28, 2022 minutes. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>E.</b>	<p><b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan stated that he will continue to keep District Education Council members up to date regarding the hiring of the new Executive Assistant.</p>
<b>F.</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) EL-6, GP-8, EL-2 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the Consent Agenda Items. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p>

<b>G.</b>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>There were no new correspondence items.</p>
<b>H.</b>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p><b>(a) DEC Retreat to Review Policies</b></p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Rev. Albertine LeBlanc to hold the DEC Retreat at the Hotel Beausejour in Moncton on April 22-23, 2022. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b> Mrs. Brenda Dunnett will make the necessary arrangements for the DEC members and their guests.</p> <p><b>(b) Superintendent’s Annual Performance Review</b></p> <p>Mr. Petersen and Ms. Rogers met virtually with Mr. Donovan on March 16, 2022 to review, what they described as being, a very positive report. They thanked Council members for their input into the report.</p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to accept the report of the 2021 Superintendent’s Annual Performance Review. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p>Mr. Cyr acknowledged Mr. Donovan’s excellent reviews during the past five years. As a result, the following motion was made:</p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Council renew the contract for Mr. Mark Donovan as Superintendent of Anglophone School District-North for an additional five years, in accordance with Section 47(13) of the Education Act. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b> Mr. Donovan expressed his appreciation to the DEC members for his reappointment.</p> <p><b>(c) Location of April-June DEC Meetings</b></p> <p>There was discussion about the meeting platforms and dates for the April, May, and June DEC meetings.</p> <p><b>IT WAS MOVED BY</b> Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve in-person meetings for April, May, and June, and that the June meeting be changed from June 20 to June 27. <b>MOTION CARRIED.</b></p> <p><b>(d) DEC Symposium</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan noted that the DEC Symposium will be held at the Delta Fredericton Hotel on May 13-15. He also noted that “First Nations” is one of the topics that will be presented at the Symposium.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>(e) Meeting with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Re: Governance Reform</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan confirmed that EECD will be holding follow-up meetings with ASD-N on March 31, 2022. The meeting with the Senior Admin Team will take place at 1:00-3:00 p.m. on that day, and the meeting with the District Education Council members will follow at 5:00-7:00 p.m. There is an option for members to join the meetings virtually if they are unable to meet in-person at the Office of the Superintendent.</p>
<p><b>I.</b></p>	<p><b>SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS</b></p> <p>Mr. Donovan began his report by indicating that ASD-N is experiencing an overall tone of positivity since the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. He noted, however, that the school district shares common struggles with other districts in covering teachers’ absences. He stated that ASD-N will continue to move forward and enjoy a much better spring this year than the previous two years.</p> <p>Mr. Donovan continued his report as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 21-24 is NB Science Week. Hundreds of New Brunswick classrooms will be joining in virtually for the many special activities that are planned for that week. Mr. Steve Spangler, an American television personality, will be the guest speaker on Thursday, March 24.</li> <li>• Congratulations to Bristol Peat Moss, a business located in Galloway, NB, for receiving an Outstanding Volunteer Award.</li> <li>• Congratulations to Janson Hachey, Educational Assistant at Terry Fox Elementary School, for receiving a Starfish Award.</li> <li>• Mr. Donovan reviewed the changes now in effect since the lifting of the Mandatory Order.</li> <li>• “COVID-19” was added to the list of New Brunswick’s School Exclusion Guidelines. It states that a symptomatic child will be excluded until symptoms have improved and the child has not had a fever for 24 hours.</li> <li>• Meaghan Wilbur, Math Lead, has created podcasts and has been working with innovative educators in New Brunswick to engage students in inspiring ways.</li> <li>• Congratulations to Richard Gallacher, Teacher at Bathurst High School, who will be the recipient of the 2022 Inclusive Education Award for New Brunswick. Mr. Donovan noted that ASD-N is very proud of Mr. Gallacher’s accomplishments in winning this award.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations for the Minister’s Excellence in Education Awards will be accepted until April 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Donovan provided the District Education Council members with the link to the nomination form.</li> <li>• Mr. Donovan will be sharing details about the World Indigenous People’s Conference on Education (WIPCE) at an upcoming Regional Enhancement Meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>J.</b></p>	<p><b>DEC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS</b></p> <p><u>Andy Flanagan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Flanagan is looking forward to attending Parent School Support Committee meetings in April, and he is hoping that these will return to in-person meetings.</li> </ul> <p><u>Gilbert Cyr:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At a recent PSSC meeting at Sugarloaf Senior High School, Mr. Cyr was excited to attend as a retired principal of that school. He reported that there is a lot of new insight into the students’ needs, and that a lot of efforts were made in the School Improvement Plan to welcome back the Listuguj First Nation students, who were attending school at an Alternate Hub in Listuguj during the pandemic.</li> <li>• He is looking forward to face-to-face meetings and a renewed vigor in moving the district forward in addressing student needs and any shortcomings that occurred as a result of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Mr. Cyr stated that the staff of Sugarloaf Senior High School was very appreciative of the school district’s efforts in appointing a second vice-principal for that school.</li> </ul> <p><u>Paul Mourant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Mourant stated that Mrs. Carol Davis, Principal of Bonar Law Memorial School, contacted him and expressed her appreciation for receiving a second vice-principal for her school.</li> <li>• BLMS recently held its first pep rally and activity week since the start of the pandemic.</li> <li>• Mr. Mourant will be attending a PSSC meeting at Rexton Elementary School on March 22.</li> <li>• It was necessary for Harcourt School to postpone its PSSC meeting several times because of COVID-19.</li> </ul>

Carmel Hambrook:

- She attended a virtual PSSC meeting with Gretna Green School on March 1. She reported that assessment results were reviewed and discussed, the School Improvement Plan is on target, and that the members were informed about the date of the PSSC Appreciation Dinner.
- Mrs. Hambrook offered to provide PSSC training for new members at Tabusintac Community School.
- She was unable to attend the PSSC meeting at Miramichi Valley High School as it conflicted with the DEC meeting, and she is awaiting a new date to be scheduled in April for Max Aitken Academy's PSSC meeting.

Sheila Rogers:

- Ms. Rogers attended the Council of DEC Chairs' meeting and Minister's Forum in Fredericton.
- She and Mr. Petersen met with Mr. Donovan and reviewed the Superintendent's Annual Performance Review.
- She shared several comments that Grade 5 students at Terry Fox Elementary School included in their essays entitled, "The End of Restrictions". Some students embraced their freedom with not having to wear masks, and some students were hesitant and feeling unsafe. Council members noted that the students' comments provided a good snapshot of how everyone is feeling. Mr. Donovan also noted that mental health issues could be heard in the students' comments, and he stated that the school district will continue to address those concerns.

Rev. Albertine LeBlanc:

- She missed the PSSC meeting at North & South Esk Regional School due to a conflict in dates.
- She registered for the DEC Symposium in Fredericton.
- She is looking forward to seeing everyone in-person at the DEC Retreat and will await further information on accommodations for that event.
- Rev. LeBlanc inquired into the announcement that was made about the staff who will be returning to their positions in the school district. Mr. Donovan confirmed that there are fourteen staff members who were on leave without pay because of the vaccination mandate. He stated that these employees, who represent all different employee groups,

	<p>received a memo from the Deputy Minister informing them that they would be returning to work on March 28.</p> <p>Mr. Donovan noted that ASD-N directors and managers have already contacted those fourteen staff members to welcome them back to their positions. He expects that most of employees will be returning. The replacements, who covered for these employees, will remain with the school district until the end of the school year.</p>
<b>K.</b>	<p><b>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Petersen attended the Minister's Forum in Fredericton.</li> <li>• He is looking forward to an in-person PSSC meeting at Dalhousie Regional High School on March 24.</li> </ul>
<b>L.</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, April 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., at Superior Middle School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m. on a motion by Gilbert Cyr.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by Brenda Dunnett*

Brenda Dunnett  
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC