DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES November 16, 2015 Lord Beaverbrook School

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair

Mike Coster
Ron Ecker
Andy Flanagan
Nancy McBain
Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen
Sheila Rogers

Beth Stymiest, Superintendent

Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at Lord Beaverbrook School. He welcomed the community members who were joining the meeting via live-streaming from Janeville Elementary School and North & South Esk Regional School.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Presentation: Lori Henderson, Principal – Lord Beaverbrook School

Ms. Henderson welcomed the District Education Council members to Lord Beaverbook School. She informed members that this school was designated as a "community school" in 2008-2009. She noted that some of the initiatives that were established at that time are still in place and are working quite well. As part of a literacy initiative, Rotarians continue to visit the school and read books to the students. Students are then given these books to take home to create their own library. The Free School House, which is located at the front of the school, offers another way of getting literacy out into the community.

Ms. Henderson explained the Food Drive project. Students, staff and community members form a human link and pass donated food items hand to hand until the items reach the local food bank. The school sees this as an

opportunity for students to give back to their community. Ms. Henderson noted that the parents and community are very supportive and involved in the work of the school. She showed a video which highlighted some of the many other activities that occur during the course of the school year. These include the Terry Fox Run, Purple Pinkie Campaign to help eradicate Polio around the world, Remembrance Day Ceremony, Christmas Concert, yoga sessions, the Superstore Healthy Fruit Program, Autism Awareness Day, the Character Counts Program, Jump Rope for Heart, the YMCA Youth Tutor Program, and the Field Day.

Ms. Henderson noted that Lord Beaverbook School is among only a few schools in the province that have a daycare facility within their school building. Children often enter the daycare program as young as two years old. By the time these children reach Kindergarten age, they are already familiar with the school environment.

Ms. Henderson concluded her presentation by stating that Lord Beaverbrook School makes a difference in the community. She believes that it is a model community school, and she is proud of the work that has been done.

As a token of appreciation for hosting the District Education Council, Mr. Mortlock presented Ms. Henderson with a book for the school library.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Sheila Rogers that the minutes of the October 26, 2015 meeting be approved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(a) Sustainability Study Recommendations – Janeville Elementary School and North & South Esk Elementary School/North & South Esk Regional School

Mr. Mortlock read the Sustainability Study Final Report for Janeville Elementary School. The report addressed the eight criteria that were considered during this study.

IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Joe Petersen that, based on the results of the sustainability study conducted for Janeville Elementary School, which focused on the eight criteria as required by Policy 409, the District Education Council will recommend to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development that Janeville Elementary School be given a four-year exemption from further studies. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Mortlock proceeded to read the Sustainability Study Final Report for North & South Esk Elementary School and North & South Esk Regional School.

This report also addressed the eight criteria that were considered during the process.

Prior to the members voting on the recommendation for this particular study, Raymond Murphy excluded himself from the vote as he was unable to attend the second public meeting held at North & South Esk Regional School on November 4, 2015.

IT WAS MOVED BY Ron Ecker and seconded by Mike Coster that, based on the results of the sustainability study conducted for North & South Esk Elementary School and North & South Esk Regional School, which focused on the eight criteria as required by Policy 409, the District Education Council will recommend to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development that both North & South Esk Elementary School and North & South Esk Regional School be given four-year exemptions from further studies. MOTION CARRIED.

F. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Policy Monitoring

- (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-5, EL-4 In Compliance See Attached Briefing Notes

(b) New Educational Hirings

IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Raymond Murphy that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. **MOTION CARRIED.**

G. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence items were forwarded to Council members for their review prior to the meeting.

H. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Bathurst High School Theatre Agreement

Mrs. Stymiest informed Council members that an agreement was signed in 1976 with the Province of New Brunswick, Board of School Trustees and the City of Bathurst for the theatre located at Bathurst High School. At that time, a committee was established to oversee the theatre and its finances. Mrs. Stymiest stated that this committee is no longer in existence and there is a need to re-address the financial aspect of the theatre. During discussion, Council members suggested the need to review other theatre agreements as well in order to ensure consistency.

IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Sheila Rogers that Mr. Tim Dunn, Director of Finance and Administration, be permitted to proceed with re-establishing the committee for the Bathurst High School Theatre as well as a review of other existing theatre agreements. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Tim Dunn will be asked to report back to the District Education Council in the new fiscal year.

(b) Financial Report

Mrs. Stymiest presented the Financial Report. Originally, the district anticipated a deficit of \$184,900. However, as of September 30, 2015, the projected deficit is now \$133,759. The projected deficit has been reduced by \$51,141. Mrs. Stymiest explained that the contributing factors include the price of fuel which has resulted in a decrease in the bus operations forecast, a reduction in the benefit/wages ratio forecast due to supply days being filled by previous Contract D teachers whose CPP and EI contributions have exceeded the maximum, and the receipt of additional funding for High School SPR Resource positions.

IT WAS MOVED BY Ron Ecker and carried by Joe Petersen that the September 30, 2015 Financial Report be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

(c) Superintendent's Evaluation Committee

Mr. Mortlock indicated the need to establish a Superintendent's Evaluation Committee for 2015. Mr. Mike Coster was appointed as Chair of this committee. He will coordinate the distribution and collection of the required evaluation forms by February 28, 2016, and he will prepare a report for the District Education Council meeting on March 21, 2016.

(d) Christmas Vegetable Trays

IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Sheila Rogers that the District Education Council purchase Christmas vegetable trays for the staff at each school in the district. These trays will be distributed during the week of December 14, 2015. **MOTION CARRIED.**

I. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mortlock reported on the following:

 He expressed his appreciation to the District Education Council members for their commitment to the sustainability studies.

- He attended the Minister's Forum on November 14, 2015. He will distribute to the District Education Council members various information items that he received at the meetings. One of the items included the "Guidelines for Recommendation Document to Minister", which have been followed by the District Education Council.
- Mr. Mortlock indicated that one of the highlights of the year is the presentation of the Minister's Excellence in Teaching Awards. On November 14, 2015, he had the pleasure of presenting awards to Mr. John Mann, a teacher at Superior Middle School, and to Mrs. Vivian Kierstead, Principal of Dr. Losier Middle School.
- Mr. Mortlock released the official name of "Dalhousie Regional High School" to the parents on the Naming Committee for the amalgamated Dalhousie Middle and Regional High schools. He also informed The Tribune as well. Mrs. Stymiest confirmed that she notified Ms. Janet Cooper, Principal of Dalhousie Regional High School.

J. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Stymiest acknowledged the nominations she received for "Outstanding Volunteers" – Roy Silliker of North & South Esk Regional School, as well as Debbie Branch, Sabrina Van der Pluijm and Tracey Gover of Superior Middle School. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Raymond Murphy and seconded by Ron Ecker that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to these volunteers. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A Starfish Award was recently presented to Emily Lagace of Jacquet River School.

Mrs. Stymiest also reported on the following:

 She and Mr. Mortlock attended the Student Leadership Conference in Fredericton on November 5. All high schools in Anglophone North School District were represented with the exception of two schools. This conference gave student leaders an opportunity to discuss challenges that students often encounter.

Mrs. Stymiest and Mr. Mortlock plan to schedule a one-day student leadership conference for Anglophone North School District's student leaders. A member suggested the possibility of having a student leader attend a District Education Council meeting to discuss student concerns. Council members agreed that it is important to have a student voice at District Education Council meetings. However, it was noted that the district's large geographical area poses a challenge in terms of student travel.

- Mrs. Stymiest and Mr. Ecker attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Blackville School on November 10. Mrs. Stymiest acknowledged the efforts of the music teachers who lead the choir and band in an outstanding performance during this ceremony.
- Mrs. Stymiest continues to be involved in negotiations at the provincial level.
- The principal's position for the new Miramichi West school has recently been posted. This position will be filled before Christmas in order for the principal to be involved in decision-making during the school's construction.

K. DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Petersen and Ms. Rogers expressed their appreciation in attending the "Introduction to Policy Governance" workshop in Halifax. They shared their highlights from the workshop.

Ms. Rogers attended the public engagement session in Bathurst on October 6. This was one of four sessions that were held across the district to engage community members in the development of the 10-Year Education Plan. Fifteen people attended the Bathurst session. Mrs. Rogers also reported that she will be attending a District Health Advisory Committee meeting and a Provincial Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting in the near future. She reported on activities at Terry Fox Elementary School including the Pumpkin Drop, Remembrance Day Ceremony, the Christmas Auction and "Elf: The Musical".

Mr. Murphy reported that the public engagement session in Rexton on October 7 had a good turnout of community members. He stated that this was one of the most positive events that was ever held, as it gave the community members an opportunity to be involved in the discussion of educational issues. He suggested the possibility of holding a similar meeting every year or every second year.

Mr. Ecker attended the public engagement session in Miramichi on October 29. The twenty people who attended this meeting enjoyed their experience.

Mr. Coster was pleased to announce that Miramichi Valley High School won the NBIAA "AAA" Senior Girls' Soccer Championship. Mr. Ecker also indicated that Blackville School recently won the NBIAA Senior Boys "A" Provincial Soccer Championship. The District Education Council will send letters congratulating these schools on their outstanding achievements.

Andy Flanagan reported that Mr. Craig Caldwell, Director of Schools, did an excellent job in leading the public engagement session in Miramichi on October

27. Mr. Flanagan also enjoyed the "Introduction to Policy Governance" workshop in Halifax.

Mr. Mortlock attended the public engagement session in Dalhousie on October 20. Approximately 17 people attended and they engaged in an excellent dialogue on educational issues. Mr. Mortlock was also very pleased with the First Nations' representation at this meeting. Mrs. Stymiest confirmed that the feedback from all four public engagement sessions held across the district was submitted to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Mr. Mortlock attended a Remembrance Day Ceremony at Sugarloaf Senior High School and laid a wreath on behalf of the District Education Council.

Mr. Mortlock congratulated Mrs. Stymiest for the fantastic job she is doing as Superintendent, and for her work on the District Education Council.

L. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The District Education Council members agreed to change the location of the next regular meeting on December 14, 2015 to Dr. Losier Middle School.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC