

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
October 17, 2016
Tabusintac Community School**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair
Carmel Hambrook
Nancy McBain
Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen
Beth Stymiest, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Ron Ecker
Andy Flanagan

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 6:25 p.m. at Tabusintac Community School.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Joe Petersen that the Agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION: Beverly Graves, Principal, Tabusintac Community School</p> <p>Ms. Graves is the new Principal of Tabusintac Community School, and she welcomed the District Education Council members to Tabusintac. Tabusintac Community School is a K-8 school with 10 staff members and 40 students. Most of these students live in Tabusintac, but Ms. Graves noted that some students also live in St. Wilfred, the Esgenoopeetitj First Nation and the Francophone district.</p> <p>A breakfast program and a hot lunch program are available for students. The Home & School is very active at the school, and members provide help with the hot lunch program as well as other activities including school dances, the annual corn boil and field trips. The school receives generous community support as well, including a donation of books by a local company.</p> <p>Tabusintac Community School offers special activities for the students, including the cycling club, cooking club and singing club. The "Student of the</p>

	<p>Month” program recognizes student achievement. Events that are held during the year include the Remembrance Day Ceremony, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Grade 7-8 class trip, and the Grade 8 banquet. Ms. Graves noted that the students recently participated in “Orange Shirt Day” on September 30.</p> <p>As a token of appreciation for hosting the District Education Council meeting, Mr. Mortlock presented Ms. Graves with a book for the school library.</p>
D.	<p>PRESENTATION: Lori Murdock, District Occupational Health and Wellness Coordinator</p> <p>Mrs. Lori Murdock gave a presentation on the provincial program, “In Education, Every Day Counts”. She informed Council members that this program was launched on September 1, 2015. One of its main objectives was to address the number of sick days used by employees and to reduce preventable absences. Mrs. Murdock has given presentations on this program in every area of the school district.</p> <p>A PowerPoint presentation was used by Mrs. Murdock to review the program’s targets and statistical results. For the period of April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015, Anglophone North School District had 14.31 sick days per person. This was considerably higher than any other Anglophone district in the province. During the next fiscal year, however, it was reduced to 13.61 days. This was still higher than the national average of 9.3 sick days per person. Mrs. Murdock also stated that during the month of September, 2014, there was a cumulative total of 1,600 sick days used by employees in Anglophone North School District. In September, 2016, this number improved to 995 sick days. Economic challenges, especially in the areas that the Anglophone North School District covers, often result in stress among employees. This was seen as a possible contributing factor for some sick leave.</p> <p>Mrs. Murdock noted that excessive use of sick days translates into excessive replacement costs, inconsistency among replacement staff, especially those who work directly with students, and challenges in having enough casual staff available at any one time to replace permanent employees.</p> <p>Mrs. Murdock has been involved in implementing and promoting various wellness initiatives to help employees feel engaged and appreciated at work. A pamphlet, containing various resource material, was distributed to each Council member for their review. Mrs. Murdock explained the meaning of Mental Fitness and how it contributes to the employee’s wellness. She also reviewed the various support services that are available for employees through the inConfidence Employee & Family Assistance Program and through Manulife.</p> <p>District Education Council members were given an opportunity to ask questions and engage in further discussion about this program.</p>

E.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Nancy McBain and seconded by Carmel Hambrook that the minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
F.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) PSSC Cluster Meetings</p> <p>District Education Council members will be planning cluster meetings with the Parent School Support Committees in their subdistricts. Mrs. Hambrook noted that she will look into the possibility of coordinating a combined cluster meeting with Mr. Ecker's and Mr. Flanagan's PSSC groups.</p>
G.	<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-3, E-7 – In Compliance - See attached briefing notes <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Joe Petersen that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
H.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>All correspondence items were forwarded to the District Education Council members for their review prior to the meeting.</p>
I.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Student Leadership Conference – November 3-4, 2016</p> <p>Discussion was held concerning the Student Leadership Conference in Fredericton on November 3-4, 2016, and the possibility of the District Education Council funding one supply teacher day for each of the four teachers who will be chaperoning the students.</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Carmel Hambrook that the Anglophone North School District Education Council will cover the cost of one supply teacher day for each of the four participating schools - Bonar Law Memorial School, Miramichi Valley High School, James M. Hill Memorial High School and Blackville School – in order for teachers to accompany the student representatives. MOTION CARRIED.</p>

	<p>(b) Letter to Minister Re: Funding Gap</p> <p>Discussion was held concerning the funding cap that has been in place for educational assistants since 2013 and the ever increasing needs of students who are entering the schools in the district. IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Sheila Murphy that the District Education Council forward a letter to Hon. Brian Kenny, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, requesting his consideration in addressing the funding gap for educational assistants. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
J.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He attended his first Parent School Support Committee meeting for this school year at Sugarloaf Senior High School on October 3. He gave a brief report of this meeting. • He will be unable to attend the Policy Governance Training conference in Moncton on October 28-29 due to a pre-scheduled appointment. • As soon as provincial committees are struck by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Mr. Mortlock will be canvassing Council members for their interest in representing Anglophone North School District on these committees. • Mr. Mortlock had the opportunity to meet with Hon. Brian Kenny, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development during the Minister's recent visit to the Office of the Superintendent. Mr. Mortlock noted that the Minister also visited a local daycare center during his visit to Miramichi. • Anglophone North School District will continue with sustainability studies, beginning in the spring of 2017.
K.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest gave the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She received "Outstanding Volunteer" nominations for Eric Fontaine at Bonar Law Memorial School, Kevin Butler at Nelson Rural School, Nancy Hodnett at Janeville Elementary School, Melanie Collier at Rexton Elementary School, and Megan Martell at Superior Middle School. IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Nancy McBain that a Certificate of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to each of these volunteers. MOTION CARRIED.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each member of the Primary Team at St. Andrew's Elementary School recently received a "Starfish Award" for demonstrating a real care, concern and sense of urgency for their students. • The Priority Unit initiatives are moving forward in the province. • The "Math Improvement" project is being rolled out provincially and is moving forward in Anglophone North School District. Mr. Joey Savoy, Subject Coordinator for Numeracy and Science, will give a presentation on this project at the November meeting of the District Education Council. • Provincial principals' meetings are being held in Moncton on October 17-18 for schools with Grades 3-12, and on October 24-25 for schools with Grades K-2. • A meeting was held on October 4, 2016 for the principals of Anglophone North School District. During the morning session, a "Blanket Exercise" was held to commemorate First Nation history and culture, particularly residential schools. Mrs. Stymiest stated that this activity was very well received by the principals. During the afternoon session, principals participated in a wellness activity on "Mindfulness". • Mrs. Stymiest invited the District Education Council members to check the "Superintendent's Corner" section on the district website. This section contains Mrs. Stymiest's Professional Growth Goal. She noted that she surpassed her goal in visiting schools during the month of September. The "Superintendent's Corner" will also contain information on special events that occur within the district. • October was designated as "Communication" Month. Communication is one of the district's six core values. "Communication" stickers were distributed to every employee in the district. Further Information is included in the "Superintendent's Corner" section on the website. • Mrs. Stymiest reviewed the school district's budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year and provided Council members with an update on the district's current financial situation. She stated that \$104,000 was added to the regular teacher salary account. This amount represents the teacher FTE saving associated with the merger of Dalhousie Middle School and Dalhousie Regional High School. As well, the district is now showing savings in the Professional Services account as there are some positions that have not been filled. These positions may be filled prior to the end of the fiscal year. When the Expenditure Plan was developed, it was assumed that these positions would be filled for the entire year. There are also projected savings in bus transportation costs. Savings in these areas will help offset the projected deficit of \$400,000. Mrs. Stymiest also
--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>reviewed the areas that have had increased costs this year – educational assistants' salaries, EAL (English as Additional Language) support for Syrian families, electrical costs and custodial replacement costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Orange Shirt Day” was observed on September 30, 2016 to honor the survivors of residential schools. The district received an overwhelming response from schools, and she attributed this success to the district's First Nation team. • Frank Gallant, a leadership expert, will be working with Mrs. Stymiest to develop a working culture committee for principals, teachers and District Office staff to help build a culture of being one district. • Two physical education teachers from Anglophone North School District were recent award winners at the “Remember When Conference” organized by the New Brunswick Physical Education Society. Mike Soucey, from Dalhousie Regional High School, was recognized as the ASD-N Physical Education Teacher of the Year. Lynn Carney, from North & South Esk Regional School, received the Garth Wade Career Award. • Jennifer Sullivan, Principal of Harkins Middle School, and Denis Boudreau, a teacher at Lord Beaverbrook School, have been selected as recipients of the Minister's Excellence in Education Award. Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Boudreau will receive their awards at a special ceremony in Fredericton on November 19, 2016. • Mrs. Stymiest will be in Toronto from October 19-21, 2016 for Module 2 of the executive leadership program at Ivey. Mrs. Stymiest indicated that this is an opportunity to network with other leaders.
L.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p>Raymond Murphy requested that a presentation be made to Council members after the new year about the financial impact that the Grade 1 entry point for the French Immersion program will have in 2017-2018. During discussion, Mrs. Stymiest noted that the Subject Coordinator for French Second Language will require additional help and resources in order to implement the new Grade 1 entry point.</p> <p>Sheila Rogers reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathurst High School recently held its 12th annual Commencement Ceremony. The Grade 9 students were on hand and they were officially welcomed as the graduates of 2020.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Go!, an exhibition of artworks on tour to Anglophone schools, is on display at Bathurst High School for the month of October. • Janeville Elementary School has a new soccer field, which was totally funded by the Home & School Association. Mrs. Rogers noted that the local Fire Department also assisted by watering the field during the summer months. • Mrs. Rogers shared a flyer containing information about the 2017 At-Risk Youth National Forum to be held in February, 2017 in South Carolina. <p>Nancy McBain attended a Regional Enhancement Meeting in Bathurst on September 23, 2016. She acknowledged the work of the Superintendent and members of the First Nation Team. She also acknowledged Patti Hachey as a very good lead person and someone who will be able to assist teachers with First Nation issues and resource material.</p>
M.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held on November 21, 2016 at Gretna Green School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC