DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE SCHOOL DISTRICT-NORTH

MINUTES October 17, 2022 Dalhousie Regional High School

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair

Sheila Rogers, Vice-Chair Rev. Albertine LeBlanc

Andy Flanagan Nancy McBain Paul Mourant Gilbert Cyr

Carmel Hambrook (via Teams)
Dean Mutch, Acting Superintendent
Alexis McAllister, Executive Assistant

AGENDA ITEMS CALL TO ORDER Α. Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Mr. Petersen acknowledged that the land on which the District Education Council was meeting is located on traditional unceded and unsurrendered territory. This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship, which the Mi'kmaq peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but, in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. APPROVAL OF AGENDA B. IT WAS MOVED BY Rev. Albertine LeBlanc and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED. C. (a) PRESENTATION: Lori Johnson, Principal, Dalhousie Regional High School Ms. Johnson gave a short presentation updating District Education Council Members on the current programs and events happening at Dalhousie Regional High School. The presentation included enrollment information, student lead initiatives and achievements, upcoming projects and photos of past projects by students.

Mr. Petersen and the Council members expressed thanks to Ms. Johnson for her presentation.

(b) PRESENTATION: Gail Craswell, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, District Improvement Plan 2022-2025

Ms. Craswell presented the District Improvement Plan 2022-2025 to Council members. The plan focuses on implementing strategies and continually verifying results over a three-year period. Learning, engagement, and mental fitness were identified as priority areas.

Goals have been identified for each of the following areas- I iteracy, numeracy, French second language literacy, First Nations education and social studies, science, and technology/innovation and experiential learning.

Using multiple sources of data, teams were asked to identify one or two critical areas for improvement. By tackling fewer, but critical targets, Ms. Craswell believes efforts will be more impactful. Goals will be monitored regularly to help meet these targets.

Mr. Petersen and the Council members expressed thanks to Ms. Craswell for her presentation

(c) SPECIAL GUEST: Mr. Guy Arsenault, Liberal MLA Campbellton/Dalhousie

Mr. Arsenault expressed his gratitude for the invitation and took a moment to speak about the schools in his riding. This included encouragement to DEC Members to support the development of the new K-8 school in the Campbellton area.

Mr. Peterson welcomed and thanked Mr. Arsenault for attending the meeting.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan to approve the August 15, 2022 minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

F. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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-3, E-7 In Compliance
- (iv) E-4, E-4a, C/SR-4, El-2, EL-8

IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Paul Mourant to approve the Consent Agenda Items. MOTION CARRIED.

G. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cyr would like to revisit, in an upcoming meeting, the work that was done with Stacey Brown to simplify and reorganize the District Education Council Policies. He felt this would help the DEC moving forward.

I. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Petersen reviewed two letters from the Council of DEC Chairs, one addressed to (recently resigned) Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Mr. Dominic Cardy. The second addressed to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Mr. Craig Caldwell. A response was received from Mr. Caldwell.

Regarding governance reform, Mr. Petersen as the President of the Council of DEC Chairs, expressed frustration with the lack of information coming from the department. To prevent the ball from dropping, Mr. Petersen revised and sent a request to the new Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Hon. Minister Bill Hogan requesting an in-person meeting.

The Spring DEC Symposium that was cancelled has been rescheduled for November 25-27, 2022.

Mr. Peterson asked Mr. Arsenault about contacting Susan Holt, Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party, to set up an in-person meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mutch thanked Ms. Johnson and Ms. Craswell for their attendance and presentations to Council members.

A question was posed to Mr. Mutch- about where we are with First Nation Enhancement Agreements. Currently, only the 1-year extension agreements have been signed, the 5-year agreements are still being prepared.

Mr. Mutch spoke about the start-up of the school year being intensely busy, acknowledging the hard work and effort of district employees to help keep schools mobilized.

Student enrollments have increased by approximately 700 kids in the past two years. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has recognized this growth and is providing support.

In the meeting package, Mr. Mutch included updates from subject coordinators, Members can review at their own leisure.

Interviews for the First Nation Liaison position will be conducted in the coming week. Mr. Mutch also expressed his plans and support for creating the position of Director of First Nations Education for ASD-N.

Mr. Mutch brought with him two new suggested district regulations and asked for the support of Council Members.

Mr. Peterson made the motion to pursue the completion of the Policy for Student Placement and Promotion IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Sheila Rogers MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Petersen made the motion to support the development of the Parent Code of Conduct. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Nancy McBain and seconded by Andy Flanagan **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Mutch wanted to remind Members of the upcoming NB Leadership Conference, November 3-5, 2022. Rev. LeBlanc, Ms. Rogers and Mr. Petersen plan on attending this event.

Mr. Mutch would like to have Kim Cripps, Data & Accountability/ Powerschool Supervisor and Melanie Cortes, Regional Director of Early Childhood Education, as guests at a future meeting to answer questions from the DEC Members.

K. DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Nancy McBain:

- Ms. McBain thanked the individuals who sent her to the World Indigenous People's Conference on Education in Adelaide, Australia. She described the conference as an enriched event that she wished every one of the Council members could experience. Ms. McBain said presenters from New Brunswick did a wonderful job. She was pleased to have conversations with attendees from our district and have them express their own enlightenment while at the conference.
- Invited Members to come to Listuguj to visit the teaching lodge and see the skills the kids are learning in the community.

Rev. Albertine LeBlanc:

- Rev. LeBlanc has reached out to her schools and get on track with their PSSC meetings and post their schedules.
- Plans to attend a Remembrance Day Ceremony at one of her schools.

Sheila Rogers:

- Ms. Rogers met with Connie Daley, Director of Educational Support Services on September 22nd to get ready for the Inclusion Steering Committee meeting. Ms. Rogers said Ms. Daley was informative and answered her questions.
- Attended the Council of DEC Chairs meeting September 23rd. Preparing for a possible meeting with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- Ms. Rogers attended the Anglophone Sector Inclusion Education Steering Committee meeting in Fredericton, October 7th. Next meeting is in January 2023.
- Terry Fox Elementary School's first PSSC meeting is next week.
- Superior Middle School grade 8 students had a presentation from the Principal of Bathurst High School regarding life in high school and a future trip to Juno Beach.

Andy Flanagan:

- All schools in Mr. Flanagan's subdistrict participated in the Terry Fox Walk. He was pleased to see activities like this taking place post Covid.
- James M. Hill Memorial football team is planning a breast cancer fundraiser November 5th when the school is hosting a playoff game.
- All schools are participating in regular Fall activities, which Mr. Flanagan is happy to see returning to our schools.

Paul Mourant:

- Mr. Mourant mentioned the higher enrollments schools in his subdistrict are experiencing. Staff shortages have created issues.
- Bonar Law Memorial High School is having their first PSSC meeting Wednesday October 19th. The other 3 schools in his district are trying to get their PSSCs set up.

Gilbert Cyr:

 Mr. Cyr stated his schools are beginning their PSSC meetings, his first meeting will be on October 18th.

- Mr. Cyr spoke with the Principal of Sugarloaf Senior High School; they spoke about reorganizing for capacity and working on the shops (classrooms) with the district for improvements. He is continuing to lobby for the K-8 school.
- Mr. Cyr is continually working with the Chief in Listuguj to bridge gaps on behalf of kids in our communities.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held virtually, Monday November 21st, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC