

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
October 20, 2014
Croft Elementary School**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair
Mike Coster, Vice-Chair
Ron Ecker
Andy Flanagan
Nancy McBain
Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen
Sheila Rogers
Beth Stymiest, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:40 p.m. at Croft Elementary 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: Mark Donovan, Principal, Croft Elementary School</p> <p>Mark Donovan welcomed the members of the District Education Council. He began his presentation by indicating that there are currently 176 students who attend Croft Elementary School. Because of the French Immersion program, students attend from the Sunny Corner area to the French Fort Cove area. He noted that there are a high number of special needs students as well as a high number of achievers at his school. Teachers continuously attend in-service training to improve their teaching skills and to accommodate the needs of their students.</p> <p>Students have the opportunity to enjoy many programs and activities, including outside activities. The outdoor classroom is unique to the school and is used on a daily basis by the students. The outdoor skating rink it is in operation during the winter months and all students learn to skate. Approximately 50 Grade 5 students and 50 parents take part in the annual three-day camping trip to Mount Carleton. In addition to these activities, students also participate in the Science</p>

	<p>Fair, the after-school Mad-Science program, a geocaching activity at French Fort Cove, the annual Fish Friends program, and bass fishing. Croft has a very active school leadership team, comprised of Grade 4 and 5 students. These students prepare daily podcasts, emcee assemblies and plan special events. Mr. Donovan noted that the students recently raised \$860 for a child who was diagnosed with cancer. There is also a Breakfast Program which is used daily by 75-90% of the students.</p> <p>In addition to the many programs, Croft Elementary School supports fine arts, drama and music. Mr. Donovan noted that art supplies are funded by the school's Home & School Association. The school is able to enjoy a very comprehensive sports program because of the generous support and donation of equipment by various community members. The students also give back to their community by helping the local Food Bank, Miramichi Seniors, Rotary Club, Kent Building Supplies, SPCA, Kinsmen, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation.</p> <p>Mr. Donovan was commended by the Council members for the amount of involvement and time he personally devotes to the students and to life at Croft Elementary School. Mr. Mortlock thanked Mr. Donovan for his presentation and presented him with a book for the school library as a token of appreciation for hosting the meeting.</p>
D.	<p>PRESENTATION: Judson Waye, Science Lead, ASD-N</p> <p>Judson Waye thanked the members of Council for allowing him the opportunity to explain the district's exciting new movement in Science. He stated that the district previously had very little indication that there were deficiencies in the Science program until data became available. Until that time, Science planning was a reactive approach instead of being proactive. The new vision for Grades K-10 Science education in Anglophone North School District is to promote "scientific literacy". The focus is shifting from students simply taking notes from the board, to engaging and allowing students to reflect on their experiences. Mr. Waye stressed that it is important for students to be manipulating and practicing science in order to achieve a higher level of thinking.</p> <p>Mr. Waye reviewed some of the challenges that Science teachers have faced, especially with the use of curriculum documents and textbooks that are outdated and written at too high of a reading level for students. As well, textbooks often do not promote the "doing" of Science, just the reading of it. Mr. Waye outlined the four district improvement goals and initiatives for 2014-2015: the implementation of Science Lesson Guides, Science Process Skills Rubrics, Scientific Literacy Assessment and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Expo. Lesson Guides have been developed to support teachers in their teaching of Science. Mr. Waye reviewed a sample lesson plan with Council members. He explained that these guides include the outcomes for the lesson and formative assessment strategies for each outcome.</p>

	<p>Assessments have been aligned to measure the students' scientific skills. The district will assess students in Grades 4 and 8, and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will pilot an assessment for Grade 6 students. Mr. Wayne reviewed the 2013-2014 assessment results for Grade 4 and Grade 8. Although results are favorable, some areas have been identified as needing improvement. He also reviewed the Formative Assessment Rubrics that will be used to assess science skills.</p> <p>A STEM Expo will be held during the 2014-2015 school year. By preparing a STEM Expo project, students will have the opportunity to "do" science and the science that they "do", all promotes scientific literacy. Mr. Wayne noted that in the new curriculum, efforts are being made to integrate STEM into every area.</p> <p>Mr. Wayne stated that the district has identified Science champions who are available in the schools and trained to provide teachers with extra support. He indicated that on-going support and consultation will be possible for Science teachers through the use of Lync calls, staff meetings, as well as a session with Dr. Grant Williams in November. Mr. Wayne also makes himself available to provide extra support to teachers when it is needed.</p>
E.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the minutes of the September 15, 2014 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
F.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>There was no business arising from the minutes.</p>
G.	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>(a) 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>(b) New Educational Hirings</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
H.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>There were no correspondence items.</p>

I.**NEW BUSINESS****(a) District Health Advisory Committee Report**

Sheila Rogers, a member of the District Health Advisory Committee, reported on the meeting she attended on October 8, 2014 in Fredericton. She noted that during the meeting, the topic of energy drinks was discussed. Louise Collette-Bois, Dietician, expressed an interest in making a presentation to the District Education Council members for the purpose of considering a policy banning energy drinks in schools. Mrs. Rogers took part in a science experiment involving energy drinks, and she reported that there was an increase in the participants' blood pressures following consumption. Mrs. Stymiest will contact Ms. Collette-Bois to determine if she is available to make her presentation to Council members at the next meeting on November 17. She will advise Mr. Mortlock accordingly.

(b) Visitor Sign-In at Schools

As a result of an inquiry received from a school, Mrs. Stymiest asked if the District Education Council would consider a district policy regarding the signing-in of visitors at schools. Members agreed that because this is a day-to-day operation, a regulation would be more appropriate.

(c) PSSC Budgets for Schools

The Parent School Support Committee budgets for 2014-2015 were prepared by Tim Dunn, Director of Finance and Administration, and distributed to Council members for their approval. Mr. Mortlock indicated that the amounts were calculated at \$3.25 per student, based on the September, 2013 enrolments, with a minimum of \$500 for each school. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Raymond Murphy and seconded by Joe Petersen that the 2014-2015 PSSC Budget be approved as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(d) Edison Pinder Challenge Course

Mr. Mortlock indicated that following the District Education Council meeting on September 15, 2014, he received a proposal to rename the former District 16 Challenge Course, that is located at Miramichi Valley High School, to the "Edison Pinder Challenge Course". The purpose was to recognize Mr. Pinder's efforts in bringing the challenge course to the school and to announce the new name at the "Remember When Physical Education Conference" on October 10, 2014. In order for this to be approved, it was necessary to obtain a majority vote from Council members until it could be ratified at its next regular meeting. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the challenge course at Miramichi Valley High School be renamed as the "Edison Pinder Challenge Course", retroactive to September 22, 2014, the date that the majority vote was received. **MOTION CARRIED.**

	<p>(e) District Improvement Plan</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest reviewed the District Improvement Plan with Council members. She noted that the four Science goals are included in the Science section of the plan. There have also been some changes in names of staff within the plan to reflect changes in positions. IT WAS MOVED BY Mike Coster and seconded by Ron Ecker that the District Improvement Plan be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<p>J.</p>	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock reported that Raymond Murphy will chair the committee that will be evaluating the Superintendent's Performance. Mrs. Dunnnett was asked to send the evaluation forms to Council members.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock received a call from Hon. Serge Rousselle, the newly appointed Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. The Minister indicated that he is looking forward to working and meeting with the District Education Councils. Mr. Mortlock stated that he will have the opportunity to meet Hon. Rousselle at the Minister's Excellence in Teaching Awards to be held on November 15, 2014 in Fredericton.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock will be attending the New Brunswick Student Leadership Conference in Fredericton on November 6. One of the issues that will be discussed is student representation on District Education Councils. Mr. Mortlock is interested in hearing feedback from the student leaders in this regard.</p>
<p>K.</p>	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest reported that five nominations for "Outstanding Volunteers" were received – Curtis Bennett, Tracy Lyons, Brenda Faulkner, Marilyn Young, and Lenny Ross. IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Ron Ecker that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to each of these volunteers. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>The names of the Starfish Award recipients for October were presented – Kelly Jacques, Joel Nantel, Ryan MacDougall, Angela Young, Denis Theriault, Kim Gilks, Geraldine Goodwin, Melissa Flanagan, Sharon Gardiner, Monica Lockerbie, Brenda Fahey, Heather Smith, Amy Barrieau, Kim Beers, Jennifer Sullivan, and Ivy Ellis. Mr. Mortlock was pleased to announce that Mrs. Beth Stymiest was also nominated and received a Starfish Award.</p> <p>Kindergarten registrations were held during the week of October 14-17, 2014. At the time of the District Education Council meeting, there were no reports on the number of children who have been registered.</p>

	<p>Mrs. Stymiest reported on the ISD (Integrated Service Delivery) and UDL (Universal Design for Learning) programs. She noted that the ISD program provides a great deal of services for students and families and that an ISD team will be working with the Education Support Services Teams in the schools. The UDL program is designed to make learning more applicable for students. There will be a provincial UDL Conference on November 7 and 8, 2014 in Fredericton for administrators, school leaders, district staff and resource teachers.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest is very pleased with the work of the District Health Advisory Committee. She noted that this committee is comprised of a high functioning group of dieticians, public health nurses and school principals.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest attended the Pumpkin Fling recently held in Miramichi. Money raised during this event will be used to help support breakfast programs in the schools.</p> <p>The “Remember When Physical Education Conference” was held on October 10, 2014. Dr. Paula Keating was the guest speaker at this conference, and many Phys. Ed. instructors from across the province were in attendance.</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest has invited subject coordinators to submit proposals for projects to be funded by discretionary funds.</p> <p>The adjacency meetings for the new Miramichi K-8 school and the Gretna Green K-8 Renovation/Addition project have now been completed. The planning committee for the Miramichi K-8 school has now been disbanded.</p> <p>A group of parents from Napan Elementary School will be travelling to Fredericton in November to view and obtain as much information as possible on new school infrastructure.</p>
L.	<p>DEC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Coster voiced concern about the relocation of the tennis courts following the construction of the new Miramichi West K-8 school. He referred to the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting, during a review of the schematic design on October 9, 2014, which stated that the City of Miramichi would be approached about the construction of a new tennis court. His concern related to who should be covering the cost of moving the tennis courts. Further discussion was held in-camera following the District Education Council meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Murphy indicated that a Parent School Support Committee cluster meeting in the Rexton area will be held during the first part of November.</p> <p>Mr. Ecker and Mr. Coster will combine the Parent School Support Committees from their sub-districts and schedule a cluster meeting in November. They are hoping to have at least 100 parents in attendance at this meeting.</p>

	<p>Mrs. Rogers reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provincial Curriculum Advisory Committee will be meeting on November 4-5, 2014 and Mrs. Rogers will provide a report to District Education Council members at their next meeting. • A commencement ceremony for Grade 9 students at Bathurst High School was held on September 25, 2014. • Bathurst High School will undergo a School Review on November 12-15, 2014. This school also continues to support the “Free the Children” program, and their goal is to raise \$10,000 to build a school in a developing country. Bathurst High School’s attendance initiative continues to be monitored and has seen improvement since 2011. • Two teachers at Janeville Elementary School organized a Running Club for K-5 students leading up to the Run for the Cure, and over \$1,100 was raised. • Superior Middle School has adopted a new program called “Fish! For Schools”, which is part of its goal to maintain a positive environment. Posters with the four principles – Be There, Make Their Day, Choose Your Attitude, and Play – are hanging in each classroom. There are “Catches of the Month”, as opposed to “Students of the Month”. As well, there are 54 students currently working on Science Fair projects and 42 students working on Heritage Fair projects. • The VanGO! art exhibition will be transported to Terry Fox Elementary School in November. • Parkwood Heights Elementary School will be showcasing their new Library Learning Commons for the District Education Council members at their next meeting.
M.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting of the next District Education Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2014, at Parkwood Heights Elementary School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent