

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
October 21, 2019
Miramichi Rural School**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair
Joe Petersen, Vice-Chair
Andy Flanagan
Carmel Hambrook
Rev. Albertine LeBlanc
Nancy McBain
Mark Donovan, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Sheila Rogers

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 6:55 p.m. at Miramichi Rural School.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION: Ms. Zoella Vienneau, Principal – Miramichi Rural School</p> <p>Ms. Vienneau introduced herself, stating that she is in her ninth year as Principal of Miramichi Rural School. This is a K-8 school with all 76 students enrolled in the English Prime program.</p> <p>Ms. Vienneau introduced Ms. Guimond, French teacher, and Devon MacDonald-Dignam, a Grade 8 student, who shared their experiences with the Flora Program, which was implemented during the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Guimond explained that the Flora Program is designed to enhance French-learning opportunities for students in smaller rural schools, and she noted that the program also falls in line with personalization. Devon was one of the Grade 7 students at Miramichi Rural School who participated in this project during 2018-2019.</p> <p>Ms. Guimond and Devon explained that a robot unit was part of the project, and that the school was able to purchase robots with the help of grant money. Students chose the design of their robot, and they were responsible for wiring and programming it, communicating with one another in French during the project, and</p>

	<p>preparing a French script for a robot commercial. Ms. Guimond and Devon showed a video of one of the commercials that students produced.</p> <p>Devon stated that this project made it more enjoyable for students to learn French, and Ms. Guimond noted that the teacher was as invested in this program as the students were. Ms. Vienneau and Ms. Guimond appreciated the support that they received from ASD-N administrative staff in allowing teachers to explore new teaching strategies, and they acknowledged the assistance they received during the project from the French Leads, Adam Hayward and Craig Duplessie.</p> <p>As a token of appreciation for hosting the District Education Council meeting, Mr. Mortlock presented Ms. Vienneau with a book for her school library.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Carmel Hambrook and seconded by Joe Petersen that the minutes of the September 16, 2019 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) DEC Retreat</p> <p>A copy of the DEC Retreat agenda was distributed to each of the District Education Council members. The retreat will take place on October 25-26, 2019 at the Richibucto River Resort.</p>
F.	<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 Andy Flanagan and seconded by Nancy McBain that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
G.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>District Education Council members received all correspondence items prior to this meeting.</p>

H.	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Resignation of Beatrice LeBlanc, Subdistrict 7</p> <p>There was consensus among Council members to table this item until the next meeting on November 18, 2019.</p>
I.	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock shared some highlights from the Education Summit he attended on October 16-18. He noted that there was discussion about the Green Paper and the implications it may have regarding the structure of school districts, District Education Councils, inclusion, etc. Mr. Mortlock stated, however, that there is only speculation at this point. He also noted that the Canadian School Board Association has already forwarded letters to various political stakeholders expressing the need for District Education Councils.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock stated that the presenters at the Education Summit were amazing.</p> <p>Rev. LeBlanc thanked the members of Council for giving her the opportunity to attend the summit. She enjoyed listening to the panel of students, and she appreciated the refreshing presentation made by Mr. John McLaughlin, Deputy Minister. Rev. LeBlanc also reported briefly on some of the other speakers.</p> <p>At the summit, Jason O'Hearn, a student at Sugarloaf Senior High School, mentioned that the Grand Council Flag was raised at his school. Mr. Donovan noted that Rexton Elementary School has also since raised a Grand Council Flag.</p>
J.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Donovan reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John McLaughlin, Deputy Minister, announced his plans to retire in December. • The names of the two recipients of the Minister's Excellence In Education Award, for Anglophone North School District, have been announced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lesley Stewart, Teacher, Max Aitken Academy - Angela Young, Principal, Campbellton Middle School • Nominations for "Outstanding Volunteers" were received for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kelsey MacDonald, Bonar Law Memorial School - Lois Estey, North & South Esk Elementary School

Members unanimously agreed that Certificates of Appreciation be prepared and forwarded to each of these volunteers.

- Starfish Awards were presented to:
 - Ashley Hallihan and Jennifer Hallihan, Teachers, Blackville School
 - Renee Besette, Educational Assistant, Parkwood Heights Elementary School
- It was with sadness that Mr. Donovan informed Council members about the passing of Mr. Bradley Chamberlain, a young and respected teacher at Bathurst High School. Mr. Chamberlain's wake and funeral will be held on October 23 and 24. District staff members will be in Bathurst to offer their support as needed.
- The school district is currently forecasting a deficit of \$91,000 due to an increase of Educational Assistants. However, a number of variables, ie. storm days, employee replacement costs, etc., may have a positive impact on this amount during the next few months.
- A storm day mitigation plan is being proposed with three options:
 - Use professional learning days as teaching days
 - Implement delayed bus runs
 - Use school websites and teacher pages to support learning

A memo will be sent to parents before the November storm season begins.

- Mr. Donovan distributed a spreadsheet to Council members summarizing the 2018-2019 Provincial Assessment Results. During his review, Mr. Donovan stated that Anglophone North School District students led the province in Grade 6 literacy, numeracy, science, and French Second Language Reading in Post Intensive French. There is concern, however, about the Grade 4 results. District staff will continue to review the assessment results and implement strategies to improve results.
- Council members received a copy of the brochure entitled, "Anglophone North School District – Professional Development Week Workshop Offerings". This brochure will be sent to Nunavut to offer professional learning opportunities to teachers in that area. Mr. Donovan noted that there is a lot of expertise in ASD-N that can be shared with the north.
- The school district has not yet received any confirmation on the student cultural exchange trip to Inuvik.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 158 applications for Personalized Learning Grants were received from all ASD-N schools. District staff hopes to be able to process all grant applications by October 25, and that it can support as many applications as possible. • Mr. Donovan informed District Education Council members that, as a result of changes to the NB Occupational Health and Safety Act, all Part I, II, and III employees in the province will be required to complete provincial training modules and generate certificates upon completion of the modules. The modules relate to the Substance Use in the Workplace Policy, the Respectful Workplace Policy, and the Prevention of Violence in the Workplace Policy. Mr. Donovan will provide the DEC members with the link to the modules.
K.	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Andy Flanagan expressed his appreciation to Mr. Donovan, Mr. Tim Dunn and Mr. Ron Lavigne for their efforts in having the field posts moved at the James M. Hill Memorial High School field so that it could be brought up to regulation for football and rugby. The shop students also built bleachers for the spectators. After four years of football, the players were very excited to play a game recently on their own field in front of a huge crowd. <p>Dr. Losier Middle School had a "Zombie Walk" on October 20. Mrs. Krista Hutchison, Teacher, and many volunteers worked very hard in planning this event.</p> <p>Mr. Flanagan will be attending the Parent School Support Committee meeting at Dr. Losier Middle School on October 23, as well as the DEC Retreat on October 25-26.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev. Albertine LeBlanc attended the Pumpkin Fling catapult contest held at Waterford Green on September 28, and she enjoyed watching ASD-N students compete. <p>She attended the PSSC meeting at North & South Esk Elementary School where there was a lot of good discussion. She will be attending the PSSC meeting at Blackville School on October 22, as well as the PSSC meeting at North & South Esk Regional School on October 28. Rev. LeBlanc will also be attending the Remembrance Day ceremonies at N.S.E.R. and N.S.E.E.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Joe Petersen will be attending the PSSC meeting at Dalhousie Regional High School on Thursday, October 24.

- Mrs. Carmel Hambrook reported on the PSSC meetings she attended at Max Aitken Academy and Gretna Green School.
 - Middle school students at Max Aitken Academy have the option of staying at school after the 2:00 dismissal time to participate in blocks of activities, such as music, cooking, and entrepreneurship.
 - Students at Gretna Green School participated in a project on animal care. Students submitted stories and made presentations in this regard. The SPCA visited the school and was presented with many blankets and other items for the shelter.
 - Mrs. Hambrook will be attending the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Gretna Green School.
 - Both Max Aitken Academy and Gretna Green School inquired about the possibility of utilizing PSSC funds to purchase cell phones for field trips, etc. This item will be reviewed at the DEC Retreat on October 25-26.

Mrs. Hambrook will be attending an upcoming PSSC meeting at Tabusintac Community School.

- Ms. Nancy McBain was very proud to attend the raising of the Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag at Sugarloaf Senior High School on September 30, the same day as Orange Shirt Day. The veterans were in attendance, and she was very impressed with the students who were very engaged at that event. She noted the respectful relationships that have developed with the Mi'kmaq community.

Ms. McBain visited L. E. Reinsborough School and enjoyed learning about the programs and initiatives underway at that school. She noted that all students at that school participate in First Nation drumming and dancing.

Ms. McBain is very pleased with what is happening in Anglophone North School District. Mr. Donovan stated that a proposal was made provincially for every school to fly the Grand Council Flag. He noted that Millerton School and Nelson Rural School have already made plans to fly this flag, even though they do not have any First Nation students enrolled.

- Mr. Mike Mortlock also attended and enjoyed the flag-raising ceremony at Sugarloaf Senior High School. He will also be attending two upcoming PSSC meetings in his subdistrict.
- Ms. Sheila Rogers was unable to attend this DEC meeting; however, she submitted a written report about activities and events in her subdistrict, as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 26-minute Terry Fox Walk was held at Terry Fox Elementary School on September 26. Families were also invited to participate. - Her granddaughter attends Grade 5 French Immersion at Terry Fox Elementary School. She has been recounting her Social Studies classes after learning about residential schools and reconciliation. Ms. Rogers believes awareness is making an impact. - Bathurst High School had a lockdown practice on September 25, and it celebrated its Commencement Exercise on October 1 with a ceremony and an Open House. - The PSSC meeting at Parkwood Heights Elementary School was postponed until the following week. Ms. Rogers will also be attending the PSSC meeting at Janeville Elementary School on October 30. - The next meeting of the PCEAC (Provincial Curriculum Evaluation and Assessment Committee) will be held in Fredericton on November 27-28. Ms. Rogers' report on this meeting will follow.
L.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will be held on November 18, 2019 at Jacquet River School.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on a motion by Rev. Albertine LeBlanc.</p>

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Brenda Dunnett

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/DEC