# DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE SCHOOL DISTRICT-NORTH

# MINUTES September 25, 2023 L. E. Reinsborough School

Present: Joe Petersen, Chair

Sheila Rogers, Vice-Chair

Gilbert Cyr

Carmel Hambrook Nancy McBain Paul Mourant

Dean Mutch, Superintendent

Alexis McAllister, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Andy Flanagan

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	CALL TO ORDER
	Mr. Joe Petersen, Chair, called the District Education Council meeting to order at 5:42 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.
B.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA
	IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.
C.	PRESENTATION: Reggie Cyr, Principal, Lisa Pelletier, Vice-Principal, and Jasmine LaBillois, First Nation Community School Development Officer- L. E. Reinsborough School
	Principal, Mr. Cyr, gave an informative presentation about the K-5 school, which has a population of 185 students. Currently staff includes the following: 10 Teaching staff, 1 EST-Guidance, 1 EST- Resource, 1 Embedded Lead, 19 Educational Assistants, 9 Jordan's Principal workers, 2 First Nation Support workers, 1 First Nation Community School Development Officer, 1 Behavior

Mentor, 1 Cafeteria staff, 4 Custodians, as well as the Principal, Vice-Principal, Administrative Assistant, and a Library Assistant.

Vice-Principal, Ms. Lisa Pelletier, played a video showcasing the school and some of the schools programs. Social Art is a program that is proving to be successful with students. This program helps students achieve the "3 Cs"-which means students- Contribute. Connect and feel Confident.

Mr. Cyr spoke to a new math program which is being piloted to help boost math comprehension within the school. The embedded lead has been tasked with helping implement this program. The school is hoping this program will prove successful.

The school has an outdoor learning space that is used for classrooms, student and staff activities, celebrations, and has been a wonderful addition to the school.

The school is continuing to improve their two outdoor play areas. They recently had old cement planters removed and new pavement in the bussing area.

Ms. Jasmine LaBillois, the First Nation Community Development Officer, highlighted some of the programs being offered to students and the new learning space they are building. The Msit No'kmaq Forest and Nature School has been operating since Fall 2022. Through indigenous land-based education, initiatives are aiming to capture what it is to be indigenous, to help indigenous culture resurge, and help kids unlearn beliefs that are racist. The program aims to empower and create a welcoming sense of community for all students.

District Education Council members acknowledged the eagerness of school staff who work hard to engage and inspire students. They also thanked Mr. Cyr, Ms. Pelletier and Ms. LaBillois for their presentation.

### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Sheila Rogers and seconded by Carmel Hambrook to approve the August 28, 2023, minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

### E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

### (a) Policy 713

Members reviewed and discussed moving forward with a draft to update DEC policy E-4, and will call an emergency meeting in a couple weeks to review these changes.

IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Nancy McBain to approve the draft changes to District Education Council Policy E-4. MOTION CARRIED.

# 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) C/SR-4, EL-2, EL-5, EL-8 In Compliance See Attached Briefing Notes

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Sheila Rogers to approve the Consent Agenda Items. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

#### G. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Letter from Minister- Re: Review of Subdistrict Boundaries

IT WAS MOVED BY Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Nancy McBain to file this correspondence. MOTION CARRIED.

### H. NEW BUSINESS

### (a) Review District Travel Policy (Regulation 611)

Mr. Mutch indicated that this policy has been in the works since 2018, in collaboration with other districts. Mr. Cyr suggested our new Director of First Nations Education – Matthew Sweezey seek a solution to our Listuguj issue through our Travel Policy. In response, Mr. Mutch stated there will be an amendment to ensure ease of travel between Campbellton and Listuguj First Nation. Schools will not be required to complete an Out of ProvinceTravel Request form when travelling between communities.

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Gilbert Cyr and seconded by Nancy McBain that an amendment be made and brought forward for approval at the October meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

# (b) Provincial Curriculum Education Advisory Committee – Appointment

It was discussed among the members and decided that Ms. Hambrook would continue in this role, as she previously held it.

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Sheila Rogers and seconded by Paul Mourant that Ms. Hambrook resume the position on the Provincial Curriculum Education Advisory Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

### I. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Petersen reported as follows:

- On September 9<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Petersen attended a meeting with Child and Youth Advocate, Kelly Lamrock, with Anglophone School District – West. Mr. Lamrock answered questions about his report and offered advice regarding Policy 713.
- Mr. Petersen attended a steering committee meeting at the NBTA building. He was able to spend time with the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister and ask questions about the return of Bill 46. He also asked for an update on the DEC Symposium, the Assistant Deputy Minister referred Mr. Petersen to speak with Mr. Jeffrey LeBlanc. Mr. Petersen also asked, once again, about the DEC manager, and felt that his concerns were heard this this time.

### J. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mutch's comments were as follows:

- Enrolments have increased by approximately 200 students since September 2022. The district currently has 7931 students.
- Upcoming initiatives include:
  - Orange Shirt Day- September 29<sup>th</sup>
     All schools will be participating in activities to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>).
  - Flag Raising Ceremony- Miramichi Valley High School September 28<sup>th</sup>
    This is part of ongoing efforts to support the National Day for
  - Truth and Reconciliation.
    Dalhousie Regional High School Knowledge Garden Grand Opening- October 10- 1:00- 3:00 pm. Traditional dance, music
  - and regalia will be part of this day.
  - Innovation Learning Grants
     Applications are being accepted until October 24<sup>th</sup>, maximum of \$1500.
- Upcoming Conferences/Meetings:
  - Lead Conference- Annual Principal's Meeting- October 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Education Research Development & Innovation Conference –
    October 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. A group of 40 Superintendents from across
    Canada join to engage in conversation around education.

### **K.** DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

# Paul Mourant's report:

- Waiting to hear from schools for their PSSC meeting schedules.
- Rexton Elementary School recently built their outdoor classroom using funds they received from grants. They also have a new parking lot.
- Groundwork is happening at Bonar Law Memorial School to install new portable classrooms to help house the increasing student population. This work is expected to be completed in December 2023.

# Carmel Hambrook's report:

- Still waiting for the PSSC schedule.
- Virtual meeting with Curriculum and Assessment Team has been postponed until November.

# Sheila Rogers' report:

- Ms. Rogers' five schools are participating in Terry Fox walks between September 21<sup>st</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Rogers will be attending the Inclusion Steering Committee meeting in Fredericton on September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Rogers' also wanted to share with members that they Student Leadership report she spoke about at the August meeting, is now on the ASD-W website and is worth the read.

### Gilbert Cyr's report:

- Mr. Cyr wanted to acknowledge the work that the Chair, Mr. Petersen, and Vice-Chair, Ms. Rogers, have been doing on the long pressing issues that have been affecting our districts and students. He expressed his thanks to them.
- Waiting to hear about a date for breaking ground on the new K-8 school in Campbellton.
- He is waiting to hear about the potential resolve for the long-standing transportation issue for students between our communities of Campbellton and Listuguj.
- Mr. Cyr is waiting to hear from schools for the PSSC meeting schedules.

### Nancy McBain's report:

- Ms. McBain said she was waiting to see how Mr. Sweezey will fulfill his new role as Director of First Nations Education.
- Ms. McBain also requested permission from the Chair to take a day and travel to Miramichi to check-in and review policy with the Directors of Education from the First Nation Communities.

# L. DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next regular meeting of the District Education Council will take place on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at Bonar Law Memorial High School. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by Alexis McAllister

Alexis McAllister Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/ District Education Council