## DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

# MINUTES **January 21, 2013** Office of the Superintendent

Joe Petersen

Sheila Rogers

Present: Mike Mortlock, Chair

Mike Coster, Vice-Chair

Raymond Murphy

Nancy Boucher, Superintendent

Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Andy Flanagan

### AGENDA ITEM

#### **CALL TO ORDER** Α.

Mr. Mortlock called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. at the Office of the Superintendent.

#### B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Mortlock indicated that because Darren Oakes was unable to attend the meeting to present the Anti-Bullying website, this item will be removed from the agenda. IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Raymond Murphy that the agenda be approved with this deletion. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** C.

IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Mike Coster that the minutes of the December 17, 2012 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES** D.

### (a) District Health Advisory Committee

Sheila Rogers attended the first meeting of the newly amalgamated District Health Advisory Committee held on January 11, 2013. She indicated that the committee included public health nurses, dieticians, several school principals, community representatives, and the Superintendent. She noted that each member has a great deal to offer to this committee. She also reported that the terms of reference and plan of operation were discussed. The next meetings will be held in March and in April. Mr. Mortlock thanked Mrs. Rogers for attending and representing the District Education Council at this meeting.

## (b) District Regulations

Ms. Boucher distributed the district regulations from the former School Districts 15 and 16 to each of the members for their review. She reminded members that this item had been tabled from the September 17, 2012 DEC meeting. Ms. Boucher indicated that some of the regulations are more complex and require extensive review by district education personnel. However, she reviewed the draft regulations that are ready for approval by the District Education Council. These regulations included District Regulations 101, 102, 201, 202, 203, 204, Volunteers' Package, 301, 303, 307, Community Use of School Facilities, 401, 601, 602, 605, 606, and 608. There was consensus among the members to pull District Regulation 606, "Advertising and Distribution of Advertising Material", as it requires further review and discussion.

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Raymond Murphy and seconded by Sheila Rogers that the regulations that were presented by Ms. Boucher, with the exception of Regulation 606, be approved. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

## (c) Logo Competition

Mr. Murphy reported on the selection process that took place in judging the many submissions from students of all ages as a result of the recent Logo Competition. He noted that the committee, which also included several members of the district's technology team, reviewed all of the entries and narrowed them down to three. The committee members made their final recommendation, and Ms. Boucher was requested to have the student's artwork taken to a graphic designer for some refinements. The district's technology team will be working with the graphic designer as well. When the district receives a suitable logo, a meeting will be held with the student who created it and a formal announcement of the winner will be made.

Mr. Murphy concluded his report by indicating that all of the entries were very well done, and that it was a very interesting process. Mr. Mortlock thanked Mr. Murphy for representing the District Education Council during this selection process.

## (d) School Safety

Ms. Boucher indicated that she has received calls from parents inquiring about school safety following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. She noted that as part of the agendas for each of the upcoming administrative meetings, a half day will be devoted to discussing school safety. She stated that this topic is also included on the agenda for the Superintendents' meetings scheduled for January 24 and 25. Ms. Boucher indicated that although she feels district schools are safe, there can always be extra measures taken to ensure school safety. She noted that the Bathurst and Dalhousie Education Centers, as well as the Office of the Superintendent, have now implemented a program which requires visitors to sign in and wear visitor tags. A visitor is considered anyone who is not an employee in these buildings.

#### E. | CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

## (a) Policy Monitoring

- (i) GP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Meeting Review Form
- (ii) C/SR 1,2,3,4,5 Meeting Review Form
- (iii) EL 1,7 Meeting Review Form
- (iv) E2, GP8 In Compliance See Attached Briefing Notes

## (b) New Educational Hirings

**IT WAS MOVED BY** Sheila Rogers and seconded by Joe Petersen that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. **MOTION CARRIED.** 

### F. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence items were circulated to Council members for their review.

#### G. NEW BUSINESS

## (a) Positions Transferring to Education

Ms. Boucher distributed a list of social workers, speech language pathologists, rehabilitation assistants, administrative support staff, and clinical psychologists who will be transferring their positions from Social Development and the Regional Health Authority to the Anglophone North School District effective January 28. Two meetings have already been held with these employees, and work is underway in moving them to their new locations within the school district. Ms. Boucher indicated that decisions will soon be made with regard to providing services to students in the Rexton area, since Rexton was previously serviced by agencies in Moncton.

She also announced that Heidi Sturgeon has been hired as the Director for Regional Early Childhood Services, and that she will also fall under the auspices of the school district. Ms. Boucher will be co-managing this position with the Executive Director of Early Childhood Development in Fredericton.

Ms. Boucher noted that there are currently vacancies within this group and that these positions will be posted after January 28. She stated that the transfer of these employees to Education and Early Childhood Development is a wonderful and momentous occasion. She applauded Minister Carr for his work done in this regard, noting that it will result in a seamless transition of services for children from birth to the age of 18.

### H. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mortlock indicated that he will be participating in a video conference with the Deputy Minister on January 25. He expects that "textbooks" will be discussed during this meeting.

Mr. Mortlock advised Council that he received an email informing him that Miramichi is the proposed location for the annual Spring Symposium. Discussion followed in which members expressed concern about planning for this event, particularly noting that the District Education Council is in its inaugural year and that a lot of time has already been devoted to the organization of the new district. It was agreed that more focus must be placed on students for the remainder of the year. The members also felt it would be too demanding for the Miramichi area DEC members to plan such an event. IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Mike Coster that Mr. Mortlock should advise Stacey Brown that the Anglophone North District Education Council is not able to host the Spring Symposium this year. MOTION CARRIED. Mr. Mortlock indicated that he will forward this message in writing to Ms. Brown.

Mr. Mortlock informed Council that following the January 22, 2013 PSSC Cluster Meeting in Sub-district 6, he will obtain names of candidates who are interested in running for the vacant DEC member seat. He will submit these names to the Council members before forwarding them to Minister Carr. Mr. Mortlock has assumed the responsibilities in this sub-district until a new member is appointed. Andy Flanagan and Mike Coster agreed to attend PSSC meetings in the event Mr. Mortlock is unavailable.

Mr. Mortlock indicated that he gave Mr. Flanagan permission to speak to the media with regard to the presentation made to Minister Carr by the *Building a Future for Our Children Committee*. He noted that he was pleased with the article. He reminded Council that in the event he is approached about a news item pertinent to a particular area, he will direct the reporter to the appropriate DEC member.

Discussion was held concerning possible items to be discussed at the second PSSC cluster meetings. Mr. Mortlock noted items such as achievement results, District Improvement Plan, and the transfer of staff to the district. He expects that after assessment results are received and the plan of action is established, the district will be in a position to identify areas of assessments that require improvement and to take the steps needed to raise the achievement levels.

#### I. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Ms. Boucher reported that she, along with Darren Oakes, Subject Coordinator for Guidance/Positive Learning Environment, and Audrey Ronalds, Community Engagement Coordinator, recently participated in a taping with Rogers Cable concerning the new anti-bullying website. This is expected to be aired repeatedly on the Rogers channel.

Ms. Boucher indicated that the district recently committed to its involvement in the Drag Racing Competition being held during the Victoria Day weekend in Miramichi. She noted that in the past, several high schools within the Anglophone North School District have competed with high schools from all over the province. Audrey Ronalds is also looking into the possibility of having other Anglophone North schools participate in this event. Ms. Boucher indicated that North & South Esk Regional School is currently the defending champion. A suggestion was raised about the possibility of changing the name of the event to "Performance, Testing and Evaluation", as it was felt that the process involves more than drag racing. It involves other components such as the construction of the vehicle itself, rigorous safety checks, light challenge, burn-out, etc. Ms. Boucher indicated that she will begin using this term.

Ms. Boucher reported that one nomination for Outstanding Volunteer was received from Ian Baillie Primary School – Candace Campbell. She was also pleased to announce that Ben Gaudet, an Outstanding Volunteer recipient in October, was recently awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award. Ms. Boucher noted that she sent a letter of congratulations to Mr. Gaudet.

#### J. | DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Murphy indicated that he has scheduled a second PSSC cluster meeting in the Rexton area for February 19 and that a third meeting will be scheduled for May. He will consider the possibility of inviting one of the subject coordinators to these meetings to inform parents on relevant issues such as anti-bullying, Math initiatives, etc.

#### K. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next District Education Council meeting will be held on February 18, 2013 at the Office of the Superintendent.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent