

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
September 15, 2014
Dalhousie Middle School**

Present: Micheal Mortlock, Chair
Andy Flanagan
Nancy McBain
Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen
Sheila Rogers
Beth Stymiest, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Mike Coster
Ron Ecker

	AGENDA ITEMS
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting of the District Education Council to order at 5:30 p.m. at Dalhousie Middle School.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>Presentation: Joan Barry, Principal, Dalhousie Middle School</p> <p>Ms. Joan Barry, Principal, extended a warm welcome to the District Education Council members. With the use of a PowerPoint presentation, she reviewed some of the highlights about her school. She outlined the staff composition at Dalhousie Middle School – five full-time teachers, a .5 Phys. Ed. teacher and a .5 Music teacher, one educational assistant, one school intervention worker, one administrative assistant, and one custodian. The librarian and guidance counsellor are shared with Dalhousie Regional High School. Ms. Barry noted that Dalhousie Middle School is housed in the same building as Dalhousie Regional High School. Her school's total enrolment is 97 (61-English; 36-French Immersion), which is down three students from last year. Within this enrolment are 31 First Nations students and two Columbian students.</p> <p>Ms. Barry acknowledged the support that her school receives from the district, especially in the areas of literacy, numeracy, science, positive learning environment and technology. She also explained some of the programs and special activities at her school:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students have daily access to the Breakfast Program. • The morning announcements are streamed to each classroom's SmartBoard. • The website is expected to be completed soon. It will provide an avenue to promote school activities and inform families about specific classroom information. • The science room has been revamped and equipped with desks and laptops. The school is hoping to receive new science equipment as well. • The Middle School common area has been freshly painted and provides an attractive location for students to be brought together. • The school is participating in the "Free the Children/Adopt a Village" program. The school's goal is to raise \$10,000 to build a new school in Africa. To date, \$6,000 has been raised from bake sales, Hat Day, packing groceries and donations received from local businesses. • Ms. Barry is hopeful that her school can become involved with Brilliant Labs this year, and she will be applying for a grant to help fund a Brilliant Labs project. The submission of an innovative teaching idea is part of this application process. <p>The Council members thanked Ms. Barry for her presentation. As a token of appreciation for hosting the District Education Council meeting, Mr. Mortlock presented Ms. Barry with a book for her school's library.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and seconded by Joe Petersen that the minutes of the August 18, 2014 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) Ian Baillie Primary School Repairs</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest reported that the work to repair Ian Baillie Primary School progressed very well during the summer. As part of this project, new windows have been installed and the installation of the new gym floor is expected soon. Mrs. Stymiest noted that it was necessary for the district to purchase curtains in the amount of \$10,000. She confirmed that the school opened on time for staff and students.</p>
F.	<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-4, E-4a, EL-2, EL-5, EL-8 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes

	<p>(b) New Educational Hirings</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<p>G.</p>	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>All correspondence items were forwarded to Council members for their review prior to the meeting. Mr. Mortlock noted the letter he forwarded to Council members outlining the Council of DEC Chairs' position in the election. A short discussion followed concerning a discrepancy between the printed letter and the media's press release involving the use of the word "rural".</p>
<p>H.</p>	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Alternative Sites in Rexton-Miramichi</p> <p>Mr. Murphy expressed his concern that the Alternative Sites in Miramichi and Rexton were moved into schools in September, 2013 and that the Alternative Sites in Bathurst, Dalhousie and Campbellton have continued to operate off-site. He felt that the policy governing the location of these sites should be the same across the district. Mrs. Stymiest explained that the Miramichi and Rexton Alternative Sites were moved as a result of a directive from the government in 2013 and the loss of financial partners. The provincial Alternative Site Policy is currently in the process of being reviewed. As soon as it is finalized, the district will review the policy to determine if the Miramichi and Rexton centers can be moved offsite for the next school year. The availability of funding will also be a factor to be taken into consideration.</p>
<p>I.</p>	<p>CHAIR'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He attended the site announcement for the new school in Miramichi West on August 18th. • The Minister's Excellence in Teaching Awards will be held in Fredericton on November 15, 2014. • The Spring Symposium will be held during the last weekend in May, 2015 in Moncton. • St. John Ambulance has approached the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development with a proposal to teach first aid, free of charge, to twenty students in each school in the province. • There will be no literacy assessments for Grade 7 this year. The Grade 12 French Immersion students will be tested in oral proficiency. Some work is also being done on curriculum content to add more courses at the high school level. • The title of the Senior Education Officer has been changed to "Director of Schools". This change is effective immediately.

<p>J.</p>	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mrs. Stymiest reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Starfish Award was presented to Denis Jean, a custodian at the Bathurst Education Center. • Meetings were held with the <i>Building a Future for Our Children Committee</i>, Andy Flanagan, Tony Weber, Tim Dunn and Ron Lavigne to consider options for Miramichi East. A meeting will be scheduled with Barb Hondas, Principal, and the Parent School Support Committee of Napan Elementary School as soon as the new committee is formed. • Fifty-one students have transferred to Anglophone North School District from the Francophone districts. This has presented challenges, especially in classes that were already full. This has resulted in the addition of 2.5 teachers. • The goal of the Senior Admin Team is to work on organization. Mrs. Stymiest also plans to meet and work closely with the First Nations' communities concerning their Enhancement Agreements. • Mrs. Stymiest's office appointments will be scheduled after 3:00 p.m. each day in order to allow her the opportunity to visit schools during instructional hours.
<p>K.</p>	<p>DEC MEMBERS' COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Murphy discussed the significance of having students represented on committees and involved in their communities. He noted that several high school students volunteer their time to assist with activities and functions in the Rexton area. Mr. Murphy asked if volunteerism is included in graduation requirements, and Mr. Mortlock indicated that it is part of the leadership program.</p> <p>A discussion followed concerning student representation on the District Education Council. Mr. Mortlock noted that students often bring many innovative ideas to meetings, and that they were certainly a great addition to District Education Council meetings in the former school districts. The large geographical area that the Anglophone North School District now covers certainly presents challenges for student travel. Nevertheless, Mr. Mortlock is hopeful that a student representative will be added to the Council before the end of the current term. Although the Education Act states that only one student representative can be appointed as a member of Council, Mr. Mortlock suggested the possibility having an additional student mentored in order that incumbent students are trained and prepared for their position on the District Education Council.</p>

L.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the next District Education Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014, at Croft Elementary School. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.
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Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Dunnett
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent