

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
ANGLOPHONE NORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES
October 15, 2012
Bonar Law Memorial High School**

Present: Mike Mortlock, Chair
Mike Coster, Vice-Chair
Andy Flanagan
Glenn McAllister

Raymond Murphy
Joe Petersen
Sheila Rogers

Nancy Boucher, Superintendent
Brenda Dunnett, Executive Assistant

	AGENDA ITEM
A.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. at Bonar Law Memorial High School.</p>
B.	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Rogers and seconded by Raymond Murphy that the agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
C.	<p>PRESENTATION – Ms. Nancy McEachern, Principal, Bonar Law Memorial High School</p> <p>Ms. Nancy McEachern welcomed the District Education Council members to Bonar Law Memorial High School. She began her presentation by sharing historical information about Bonar Law, a gentleman who was originally from Kent County and went on to become the only Prime Minister of England born outside of the British Isles and the only Canadian to become Prime Minister of England.</p> <p>Bonar Law Memorial High School is a Grade 9-12 school serving students from Kouchibouguac to Bouctouche and Richibucto Village to Harcourt. The school has a population of 393 students, 48% of whom are First Nations students. It also has a staff of 29 teachers, 8 educational assistants, 5 First Nations support workers, an administrative assistant, and a half-time librarian. Ms. McEachern reviewed the many successful programs that her school offers. She also noted the following partnerships that Bonar Law Memorial High School has developed. The school hosts a full-service bank, which is partnered through the local credit union. In 2009, the school initiated an entrepreneurship class for First Nations students in partnership with the Paul Martin</p>

	<p>Foundation. As well, Ms. McEachern indicated that effective September, 2012, Bonar Law Memorial High School has partnered with Eleanor W. Graham Foods and now operates its own cafeteria. In addition, she was pleased to report that the Community Schools Coordinator, Cheryl Warman, does an outstanding job in bringing the community through the doors of the school and raising the profile of the school with the broader community.</p> <p>Ms. McEachern related some of the social issues that often affect her students, and, as a result, the tremendous strain that is placed on resources at her school. She concluded by stating that the staff members at Bonar Law Memorial High School are very dedicated in their responsibilities as educators, mentors and advocates, and they are very proud of the work that is being done, and the work that will continue to be done at the school.</p> <p>Ms. McEachern gave the District Education Council members the opportunity to ask questions. During a brief discussion period, Ms. McEachern indicated that she has already seen an increase in cafeteria sales since the school began operating its own cafeteria in September. The profits from sales are returned to the Student Council to support school activities. When asked about the graduation rate of First Nations students, she noted the difference in statistics between students who enter Bonar Law Memorial High School from Eleanor W. Graham Middle School, and students who enter Bonar Law for the first time in Grade 9 from the First Nations school.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock thanked Ms. McEachern for her presentation.</p>
D.	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Joe Petersen and seconded by Mike Coster that the minutes of the September 17, 2012 meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
E.	<p>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</p> <p>(a) DEC Remuneration</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock indicated that he still is not able to report anything further with regard to DEC remuneration. He assured Council members that as soon as he receives this information, he will forward it to them.</p> <p>(b) District Logo</p> <p>Ms. Boucher has invited schools to take part in a logo design contest for the new Anglophone North School District. This contest is open to all K-12 students in the district, as well as to students in the First Nations operated schools. The deadline for entries is November 30, 2012. Raymond Murphy and Sheila Rogers agreed to represent the District Education Council on the selection committee.</p>

<p>F.</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>(a) Policy Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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) EL 3,7, GP 8 – In Compliance – See Attached Briefing Notes <p>IT WAS MOVED BY Mike Coster and seconded by Andy Flanagan that the Consent Agenda Items be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<p>G.</p>	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>(a) Capital Improvements Projects</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock presented the list of Capital Improvement Projects for the Anglophone North School District, which was prepared by Mr. Ron Lavigne, Facilities Manager. He acknowledged the excellent work done by Mr. Lavigne in prioritizing the items and estimating the costs. IT WAS MOVED BY Raymond Murphy and carried by Mike Coster that the list of Capital Improvement Projects be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p>
<p>H.</p>	<p>CHAIR’S COMMENTS</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock reported that he recently participated in a video conference with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and DEC Chairs to discuss the budget. He indicated that the district’s operating budget should be received by the middle of November; however, schools should be receiving their budget allocations by the end of this week. Mr. Mortlock stated that Minister Carr continues to work on finding efficiencies within the system.</p> <p>Mr. Mortlock presented his monitoring report on Policy GP-8, <i>Communication Protocols</i>. IT WAS MOVED BY Andy Flanagan and seconded by Joe Petersen that Mr. Mortlock’s monitoring report be approved. MOTION CARRIED.</p> <p>Discussion followed with regard to PSSC cluster meetings and the type of information that DEC members could provide at these meetings. It was suggested that this information should include such topics as the roles and responsibilities of the PSSC, the meeting structure, the need for preparing and maintaining minutes, the budget process, etc. Mr. Mortlock and Ms. Boucher agreed to collaborate in preparing a Power Point presentation for Council members to use at the cluster meetings. As soon as this information has been prepared, it will be forwarded to the members. Mr. Mortlock noted that the members of the PSSC, including the Chair and Vice-Chair, the teacher representative, principal, parents and the community representative should all be invited to attend these cluster meetings.</p>

Mr. Mortlock informed Council that he will be participating in a video conference on October 24 with Minister Carr and Rob Fallon for a Planning and Regulations meeting. As soon as Mr. Mortlock receives the agenda, he will forward it to the DEC members for their information. He hopes to receive more information on DEC remuneration at this meeting.

A brief discussion followed concerning provincial committees that will include representation from the District Education Councils. Mr. Mortlock assured Council that he has forwarded to Minister Carr the names of DEC members who indicated their interest in serving on these committees.

A Council member requested that the following items be taken under advisement. The Millerton School PSSC requested that consideration be given to having a full-time gym teacher at the school in place of the half-time position, and that consideration be also given to hiring a music teacher. As well, it was noted that because the library does not have a full-time librarian, the library is often closed and books are not available to the students.

It was reported that fundraising efforts for the Breakfast Program at North & South Esk Regional School have been very successful, with a total of \$3,300 being raised.

A DEC member indicated that Council will be receiving correspondence from citizens who have voiced concern over the hiring process at North & South Esk Regional School.

Council suggested that an item entitled "DEC Members' Reports" be added to future agendas.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Ms. Boucher reported that ten nominations for Outstanding Volunteers were received – Norma McGregor, Heather Dunn, Kim Mah, Merle Campbell, Greg Scott, Kevin Dunn, Claudia Bryenton, Ben Gaudet, Carol Reher, and Lisa Munn. **IT WAS MOVED BY** Andy Flanagan and seconded by Sheila Rogers that each of these volunteers will receive a Certificate of Appreciation. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ms. Boucher reported that Anti-Bullying Week, held on September 24-28, 2012, was a huge success. She noted that during this week, each school organized activities designed to raise awareness about bullying. Travis Price, the co-founder of the Pink Shirt Campaign, spoke in several of the high schools. Arrangements were also made to have his presentation streamed into all other high schools where he was unable to personally attend. Ms. Boucher also noted that Minister Carr had distributed blue bracelets to further promote awareness. In addition, she indicated that anti-bullying will be implemented into the School Improvement Plans.

	<p>Ms. Boucher stated that the ground has been broken for the new Tabusintac School. It is expected that the school will be completed in June, 2013.</p> <p>Kindergarten registrations were held during the week of October 9-12, 2012. Ms. Boucher requested schools to ensure that families register their children at the school which is zoned for their area. If parents would like to request an out-of-zone placement, they are required to submit a letter to Ms. Boucher. She requested the assistance of DEC members in reinforcing this message to the parents.</p> <p>Ms. Boucher spoke briefly on district-level appeals. She noted that the parent or guardian has the right to appeal any disciplinary action and that the first step in the appeal process takes place at the school level. In the event the appeal reaches the district level, the DEC members become involved in this process. If the DEC member is unavailable, the PSSC Chair or his/her designate will be invited to attend on behalf of the DEC member.</p> <p>It was noted that positive reports have been received as a result of District Education Council meetings being held at various schools throughout the district. It was suggested that in order for the District Education Council to show its appreciation to the schools for hosting these meetings, Council should consider purchasing a book for the school library. Mr. Mortlock will check with the Budget Department about this possibility. If approval is granted, this will be retroactive to the first meeting.</p>
J.	<p>The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. on a motion by Raymond Murphy.</p> <p>The next District Education Council meeting will be held on November 19, 2012 at Bathurst High School at 5:30 p.m.</p>