

ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUSTAINABILITY STUDY – Meeting # 1
NACKAWIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NACKAWIC MIDDLE SCHOOL,
NACKAWIC HIGH SCHOOL
Tuesday, September 29, 2015
6:30 p.m.

<p>Council Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Slipp – SD 03 • Miriam Grant – SD 04 • Andrew Corey – SD 05 • David Bowen – SD 06 • Terry Pond – SD 07 • Ron Buck – SD 08 • Jane Buckley – SD 09 • Kimberley Douglas – SD 10 – Vice Chair • Donald Gould – SD 11 • Elizabeth Nason – SD 12 • Tim Nicholas – First Nations <p>Council Member Regrets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheila Gallagher – SD 01 • Norma Shaw – SD 02 • Mark Noël – SD 13 - Chair 	<p>ASD-W Staff Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David McTimoney, Superintendent • Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance and Administration • Jay Colpitts, Director of Schools • Daniel Wishart, Transportation Manager • Philip Cliff, Facilities Manager • Gina Dunnett, Supervisor of Data and Accountability • Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and DEC Secretary <p>Guests: 122 Community Members 1 Media</p>
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➤ **Sustainability Study – Nackawic Schools – Meeting #1**

- Kimberley Douglass, District Education Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the first Sustainability Meeting for Nackawic Elementary, Nackawic Middle and Nackawic High School and she thanked the Principal and staff of Nackawic Middle School for their hospitality and tour of the school prior to the meeting.
- David McTimoney, Superintendent of ASD-W presented a 102 page power point presentation about the three Nackawic schools. David reviewed the Provincial Policy 409 and discussed the content of the slides on each school history, statistics and financial data with the public. This presentation can be found along with other pertinent documents and information related to the sustainability study of Nackawic Elementary, Nackawic Middle and Nackawic High School on our website www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/sustainability/pages/nackawic
- The next public meeting will be held at Nackawic Elementary School on **Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.** where stakeholders will be allowed to present to the District Education Councilors. A stakeholder form is posted on ASD-W website. This document needs to be completed and sent to Carol Clark-Caterini one week prior to that meeting. The final meeting will be on Thursday, January 28, 2016 at the Fredericton High School in the Tom Morrison Theatre.
- Three outcomes included in Policy 409 are to remain status quo where the study is declared finished, a vote to make a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to repair the school, and thirdly a recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to close the school and place students elsewhere.

➤ **Public Comments and Questions**

- Al Hitchcock, spoke on behalf of the AV Group which employs 358 men and women at the mill. The mill is currently staffed with a high percentage of employees that are nearing retirement who will need to be replaced by younger employees. Mr. Hitchcock asked if consideration was given when projecting future enrollment to the new families that will be moving into the area to replace those that have retired. David

invited Mr. Hitchcock to present his facts at the second meeting for the District Education Council to consider.

- Mr. MacFarlane, PSSC asked how enrollment projections were calculated and why students in Kindergarten classes had declined. Gina Dunnett explained the process where she reviewed previous year's enrollment and followed the traditional numbers with moving the enrollment numbers forward.
- Jeanette Garland, PSSC, Nackawic Elementary School, asked why the three Nackawic Schools were considered to be combined as they were unique in very different ways. David responded that it was decided to study the three schools as a cluster as a result of the Sustainability Studies done at the Bath Middle and Bath Elementary Schools last year. The District Education Council found that by studying Bath Middle School as a single identity, different scenarios included questions about the Bath Elementary school, so the study was broadened. Therefore, the District Education Council included the three Nackawic Schools as scenarios would overlap as with the Bath Schools.
- A community member asked how they should prepare for their presentation to the District Education Council with the three Nackawic Schools clustered and Millville Elementary School not included. David responded that if the three Parent School Support Committees (PSSC) would like to present individually or as a working committee for all three schools would be acceptable. Registration forms are available on the website and need to be sent to Carol Clark-Caterini one week prior to the 2nd meeting.
- Vickie Donald – PSSC, Nackawic Middle School asked how capital investment costs were determined. David explained that the Facilities Department were out and about schools daily, they determine the repairs that are needed, and the projects were prioritized based on safety and urgent needs. An example would be parking lot paving could remain on a Capital Improvement Lists for some time as a leaky roof would take priority.
- Al Hitchcock, AV Group made the audience aware of the mandate for Forest New Brunswick to build communities in rural NB. Mr. Hitchcock identified our Province to have 50% as considered to be rural communities. Mr. Hitchcock asked the Superintendent the criteria used to support small communities in Policy 409. David referred to a section called “The Impact on the Community” and reminded the community that this section of the policy would need to be identified and discussed at the second Sustainability Study meeting. If there was something that we were not aware of, this would be the time to make us aware of anything.
- David McTimoney acknowledged the Chief Administrator Officer and Nackawic Town Council were recognized for their invitation to meet with the Superintendent in the summer. Their commitment and concern for their Town was evident.
- John Allen, a community member asked what the decision criteria was, are we trying to save the community or money. Mr. Allen asked how much money would be saved and commented that the data analysis needs to be improved. David McTimoney referenced Policy 409 lists of 8 criteria's that needed to be considered and followed. David replied that money was a factor but not the final factor. He would continue to work on reports for the District Education Council and a savings report would be uploaded prior to the second Sustainability Study meeting. In addition, Councilors have 3-5 months to make a decision prior to January 28th. Many reports and discussions will be had amongst Councilors prior to the final meeting in January 2016.
- Vicki Donald, PSSC asked why Nackawic Schools were chosen first to be studied. David responded that there was no particular reason as to why they were chosen first as this year's schools to be studied.
- It was asked how the community could access additional reports from Anglophone West School District. David showed the community the website where reports will be posted. As well, a discussion board for communication. They could also contact the school Principal or Carol Clark-Caterini with their inquiries and comments.
- A community member asked if the District Education Council would be visiting the Nackawic High School prior to the next meeting. David confirmed that Councilors would be visiting the high school prior to the second meeting.
- The Vice President of the AV group commented that it was not wrong for the Province of New Brunswick to try and save money but how will he be able to hire employees to settle in this community when they are concerned with schools for their children. David reminded the community that these concerns needed to be brought-up during the second meeting. As well, Councilors needed to know more about this organization and invited the Vice President to share this information with the District Education Council.

➤ **Closing Comments:**

- David asked if there were any other question to be clarified.
- David reminded the public to be prepared for the next meeting in November by completing the Stakeholder Registration form, then forward to carol.clark-caterini@gnb.ca a week in advance of the meeting with details of who will be presenting to the District Education Council. Information was provided on the screen for the public of who to contact. The power point presentation had been posted to the sustainability study website for the Nackawic Schools that evening.
- Kimberley Douglass, Vice-Chair thanked everyone for attending and for their questions and comments.

➤ **Date for Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 24, 2015 – Meeting # 2**

➤ **The meeting was adjourned at 8:55p.m.**