



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, October 24, 2019  
Office of the Superintendent**

**Council Members Present:**

- Andy Saunders – SD 02
- Heather Hogan – SD 03
- Andrew Corey – SD 05
- Laura O'Brien – SD 06
- Sean Winslow – SD 08
- Jane Buckley – SD 09 – Vice Chair
- Kimberley Douglas – SD 10 – Chair
- Faith Kennedy – SD 11
- Thomas Geburt – SD 13

**Council Member Regrets:**

- Tanya Adams – SD 01
- Miriam Grant – SD 04
- Wallace Carr – SD 12
- David Perley – First Nations

**ASD-W District Staff Present:**

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Janice Webber, Acting Executive Assistant to Superintendent & DEC
- Judy Cole, Director of Communications
- Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
- Wayne Annis, Director of Schools
- Beth Christie, Fine Arts, Social Studies & Enrichment Subject Coordinator
- Terri McKellar, Budget & Accounting Manager

**Guests:**

Members of the public (3)

**Vacancies:**

- Vacant – Sub-district 7
- Vacant – Student Representative

**Call to Order / Comments by the Chair:**

- Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at **6:45 p.m.**, and she welcomed everyone to the District Education Council meeting in Fredericton. The Chairperson recognized that this meeting was held on unceded and unsurrendered Wolastoqiyik territory.

**Approval of the Agenda – October 24, 2019:**

- The agenda was reviewed by the Council. Approved by consent.

**Approval of the Minutes – September 19, 2019:**

- The minutes were reviewed by the Council and approved as presented by consensus.

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- There was no new business arising from the minutes.

**New Business:**

- Infrastructure Planning – Sustainability Study Meetings will be held at Florenceville Middle School (10:00 a.m.) and Florenceville Elementary School (1:00 p.m.) on Saturday, October 26, 2019.
- Presentations are located on the DEC Portal for review prior to the meetings. Florenceville-Bristol forwarded communication with interest in learning more.
- Budget Process – Other districts have had difficulties with approving budgets. There are concerns with support for Educational Assistants taking money designated for other areas. ASD-W approved the detailed budget information provided. Any questions should be forwarded to the Superintendent.
- The Superintendent introduced District staff in attendance: Judy Cole, Wayne Annis, Terri McKellar, Dianne Kay, Beth Christie.
- Green Paper: Succeeding at Home: A green paper on education in New Brunswick – DEC members agreed it would be difficult to develop a common response for DEC, given the wide variety of backgrounds. DEC members are encouraged to respond individually, as are PSSC members. It is understood that no other District Education Councils have prepared a response on behalf of council.
- Education Summit – Chairperson Douglass and Councilor Geburt attended the summit. It was not organized to discuss the green paper but was filled with presentations, many concerning things related to the paper. The paper was a backdrop for the summit. The focus of the first day was an effort to *Inspire*; the second day was to *Energize*; the third day to *Empower*. Speakers at the summit were primarily from outside the country, some with educational backgrounds, some were entrepreneurs, and for others it was difficult to see connectivity. The ideas in the conversations were relevant. The absence of speakers from the mental health profession was noted. The format on the final day was a world café – an opportunity to exchange ideas, questions addressed by various tables.

- The Minister of Education set up a schedule for 15-minute meetings with anyone wanting to meet with him. He reported having 47 meetings during the summit. If additional time was required, follow-up meetings could be scheduled.
- A meeting of DEC chairs has been scheduled for reactions to the Green Paper, with particular focus on the governance section. Superintendents have also been asked to meet. The Superintendent has shared with EECD the importance of including District leadership.
- The Chairperson reinforced that the Minister has said he puts great emphasis on what he hears in the public. Members are encouraged to write or call the Minister with questions and input.
- There has been no mention of opening the Education Act. DEC chairs have presented the Deputy Minister with a list of requests.

#### **Presentation:**

- Curricular and Program Presentation – Beth Christie, Subject Coordinator for Fine Arts, Social Studies and Enrichment, provided an interactive presentation on Social Studies curriculum - Democratic Citizenship.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Letter to Minister – Cancelled Town of Oromocto and Burton Policy 409 Studies
- Letter to Minister – Recommendation for Policy 409 Study in the Carleton North area
- Letter from Minister – Recognizing decision to cancel Policy 409 Studies in Town of Oromocto and Burton
- Letter from Minister – Acknowledging recommendation for Policy 409 Study in Bath, Bristol and Florenceville

#### **Superintendent Monitoring Reports:**

- **ASD-W EL-4 – Budget and Forecasting** – This is the first of 4 reports for the current school year. The District provides quarterly reports to the DEC and submits same to EECD. DEC approved the district expenditure plan presented in June. The Superintendent reports compliance.
  - Terri McKellar, Budget & Accounting Manager, reviewed the details of the \$227,969,500 budget, projecting a balanced budget for second quarter. Some areas of concern are EAs, replacement costs (all staff), fuel costs, minor repairs for aging buildings. These concerns have been noted to EECD when projections are submitted. The District does have some flexibility in movement of funds to support these areas of concern.
  - The impact of carbon tax on the budget was questioned. It is being tracked separately at this time, and direction will follow on how funding will be impacted.
  - Equipment maintenance/replacement costs in IT was also discussed. Many schools raise funds for purchasing items for their schools so there are many different sources of revenue. When items are donated it must be determined if they are compatible with existing equipment. These situations are reviewed by IT.
- **ASD-W EL-8 – Communication to the Council** – The Superintendent is required through policy to maintain open and effective communication with the Council. Formally this occurs through the schedule reporting process. Additionally, communication takes place electronically, through the Portal, and through conversations. Last year ASD-W responded to 216 media requests. The annual reporting cycle was attached as an appendix. The Superintendent reports compliance with this policy. DEC and PSSC members are also encouraged to visit the ASD-W website and Twitter feed to view exciting things going on throughout the district.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Student Voice** – Councilors Hogan and Carr will organize the next meeting and share the information with all DEC members to encourage participation. A student council leadership forum occurs annually in Fredericton, with invitations often extended to the Superintendent and DEC members. It was noted that ASD-W was well represented on student panels at summit.
- **Policy Committee** – Councilor Winslow will contact Stacey Brown at EECD for input prior to the next session. Appreciation was extended to Councilor Perley for his assistance in the development of the Indigenous Education Policy.
- **District Health Advisory Committee** – The Superintendent will connect with Committee members regarding further DEC representation on this Committee. Anyone interested in serving on this committee should contact Chairperson Douglass.

#### **Public Comments:**

- David Coon, MLA, Fredericton South, presented feedback from constituents in his riding, noting there are five schools within riding. A community meeting was held to gather feedback from his riding. Discussion has taken place regarding planning for the new school replacing Liverpool and Forest Hill. There is a growing interest in locating a community centre, within the new school.

- Bussing distances was also a topic of concern with regard to regulated eligibility distance. Students within 2.4 km of their zone school are considered walking students. In some areas the eligibility distance for transportation is 1.5 km. It was asked if consideration could be given to provide all students with the same eligibility distance as other schools. This request is outside of the DEC mandate; however, Mr. Coon and the Superintendent have corresponded regarding this issue. Regulations associated with the Education Act state 2.4 km as being within walking distance; however, the Act states the Superintendent has authority to adjust that if scheduling and finances permit. Of the 69 schools in ASD-W, many of the elementary schools have had their walking distance reduced from 2.4 to 1.5 km. A concern was raised between the accuracy of the software used on the District website to identify bussing information, compared with Google maps software.
- The Superintendent noted that a series of public meetings will be arranged throughout the 2019-2020 school year, with the first one focusing on transportation. This will provide the District with an opportunity to present some information and allow discussion on identified topics to obtain feedback from the public.

**Closing Comments:**

- The Chairperson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Date of Next Public Meeting:**

- The next public meeting will be held on November 21, 2019, at the Woodstock Education Centre.

**MOTION:**

.... I move that the DEC Meeting be adjourned.

**Moved by: Jane Buckley**

**Motion Carried by Consensus**

**Adjournment:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Kimberley Douglass  
 Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, DEC

Nov. 21, 2019  
 Date

Carol Clark-Caterini  
 Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant, DEC

Nov. 25, 2019  
 Date