



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Hanwell Park Academy
Public Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2023**

Council Members Present:

- Tanya Adams – Sub-district 1
- Candice Browse – Sub-district 3
- Tanya Cloutier – Sub-district 4
- Paul MacIntosh – Sub-district 6
- Amgad Salem - Sub-district 7
- Janet Dean – Sub-district 8
- Michael Mazerolle – Sub-district 9
- Chris Harquail – Sub-district 10
- Jim Mills – Sub-district 11
- Wallace Carr – Sub-district 12, Vice Chairperson
- Thomas Geburt – Sub-district 13, Chairperson
- Hayden Sparkes – Student Representative

Council Member Regrets:

- David Perley – First Nations Councillor
- Mark Thompson – Sub-district 2
- Serena Bradford – Sub-district 5

ASD-W District Staff Present:

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
- Catherine Blaney, Director of Education Support Services
- Darla Day, Director of Schools (FEC)
- Katrina Page, Numeracy Subject Coordinator
- MaryAnne Reynolds, Numeracy Subject Coordinator
- Derrick Grant, Numeracy Subject Coordinator
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC

Guest:

- Mr. R. Andrews

Call to Order:

- Thomas Geburt, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:45 PM.**

Welcome & Comments by the Chairperson:

- Chairperson Geburt, on behalf of the Council, acknowledged that, with the exception of one, the land on which Anglophone West School District schools are located is the traditional unceded and unsurrendered territory of Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet). This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship which the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Wolastoqey (Maliseet), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Introductions:

- Councillor Geburt recognized Councillor Mark Thompson as the newest appointed Councillor in Sub-district 2. Councillor Thompson was sworn-in at the working meeting in January 2023 and Chairperson Geburt had planned to introduce Councillor Thompson at the public meeting in January, but this meeting was postponed until tonight due to winter weather. Councillor Thompson is absent tonight and will be introduced at the next public meeting on February 23rd.
- The Superintendent introduced district office staff in attendance and Chairperson Geburt acknowledged Mr. Andrews as a member of the public in attendance.
- Chairperson Geburt recognized David McTimoney, Superintendent and Jay Colpitts, Director of Schools for the Woodstock Education Centre as the recent recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for their outstanding work in the school system during the COVID pandemic.
- Councillor Cloutier was also recognized for receiving the same award for the tremendous work she had done in her community, as Mayor of Canterbury, during the COVID pandemic. Sincere congratulations were given to all recipients on behalf of the District Education Council.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda:

- The agenda was previously reviewed by the Council, and it was noted that the Circle of Understanding presentation would be postponed until the next public meeting as Councillor Perley was absent tonight. The following motion was carried.

MOTION:

..... to approve the agenda, with the noted revision.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Candice Browse

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes – December 15, 2022:

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

MOTION:

..... to approve the minutes as distributed.

MOVED BY: Tanya Adams

SECONDED BY: Michael Mazerolle

MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEC Policy Review Process: ASD-W-GP12: Code of Conduct:

- Chairperson Geburt acknowledged that the Council had reviewed *Policy ASD-W-GP12* during the working meeting in January 2023. Other than grammar changes, formal changes were not needed. The ASD-W District Education Council has now completed *Council Self Evaluations: Governance Process ASD-W-GP1 to ASD-W-GP12* as indicated on the DEC Planning Cycle.

Unfilled Vacancy Update:

- The Superintendent reviewed the number of unfilled teacher absences in ASD-W since the beginning of this school year. A weekly unfilled absence report is monitored closely with a significant peak seen during the month of November. The highest report was seen during the third week of November when 204 unfilled teacher absences were reported. Replacement strategies have been implemented since the numbers increased and improvements were seen during the month of December. A lesser number of unfilled vacancies were reported during the month of January 2023.
- The Superintendent reported that the replacement strategies will remain in place with the addition of operational supply teachers assigned to schools. As well, approval was recently given for an additional six operational supply teachers to be hired to assist with unfilled vacancies and other challenges at large high schools in ASD-W.
- The Superintendent reported that the management absence system (AESOP) that is used in ASD-W has been reprogrammed to shorten the time allowed between contacting supply teachers to proceeding to contacting retired teachers. Individuals who have not taught in our system for some time have been contacted and their names have been removed from the replacement lists. Personal phone calls have been made to secure replacements in some cases and professional learning days will be approved only if a replacement can be secured and the need is significant.

Kingsclear Community School (KCS) Survey Update:

- The Superintendent shared information on the sustainability study that was conducted in 2016-17. In October 2018, a decision was made by the Council of that time to keep the school open. The Hanwell Park Academy (HPA) was opened in 2022, and the catchment area was determined. Some families indicated that they wanted to be included in the catchment area of the new school, so a parent survey was circulated amongst the families of KCS, HPA and Garden Creek Elementary School (GCES) to determine if the catchment area should be changed. A total of 64 families participated in the survey and the data collected from the survey led to the conclusion that the HPA and KCS catchment areas were to remain the same, with no further changes. This detailed report can be found on the ASD-W website, asdw.nbed.nb.ca under the February 9th meeting date, under the District Education Council section.
- To share this information in advance, on January 24th, the Superintendent, DEC Chairperson, and Councillor MacIntosh met with the KCS Parent School Support Committee (PSSC).

- The Chairperson asked the Council if they had any questions about the finding of the survey; with none, and by a showing of hands, the Council acknowledged that they were in support of the decision made by the Superintendent that no further changes were needed to the catchment area for KCS and HPA.
- The Chairperson reminded the Council that infrastructure questions can be brought forward at the upcoming meeting in May 2023.

Naming of Nackawic Senior High School (NSHS) Outside Basketball Court:

- Chairperson Geburt reported that at a working meeting in December 2022, the Council reviewed a request that was made by a school PSSC to approve the naming of an outside basketball court. At the public meeting on December 15th, the Council approved in principle “the naming of a specific facility within the confines of a specific school in ASD-W, as previously discussed in their private meeting”. This motion was moved by Councillor Cloutier, seconded by Councillor Bradford and the Motion was Carried. The official name of the outside basketball court was released at an opening ceremony where a long-time serving teacher, administrator and coach, Mr. Ross Calder was honoured.
- As a follow-up to the previous motion that was carried on December 15, 2022, the following motion was brought forward to identify the location and new name of the outside basketball court at NSHS.

MOTION

.... I move that we confirm that the name for the outside basketball court at Nackawic Senior High School is “Calder Court”.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Candice Brower

MOTION CARRIED

Presentations:

Curriculum & Program Presentation-Numeracy:

M. Reynolds, K. Paget & D. Grant, Numeracy Subject Coordinators:

- The coordinators provided a handout called Building Thinking Classroom that showed 11 strategies used to keep students engaged and thinking. It was noted that teachers have access to an online platform where they can practice their math skills, find useful resources and sign-up for online professional learning (PL) opportunities. A report was given that during this school year, the amount of interest shown in online PL had exceeded the group limit with over 90 applicants.
- Participants were placed in small working groups to complete an interactive math problem solving question.

Education Support Services – C. Blaney, Director of Education Support Services (ESS):

- A presentation was given by Catherine Blaney that reflected a high-level overview of the Education Support Services Team. The purpose of the ESS District Team is to promote student learning and success through systematic support, coordinating supports, and collaboration. Teachers can access school-based teams through a pyramid of interventions, beginning with Tier 1: Core Instruction, Tier 2: Targeted, Small Group Interventions and Tier 3: Intensive, Individual Interventions.
- Councillor Mills requested an update on the group of Resource Teachers that had signed-up to continue their assessment training. Catherine responded that these individuals are called Resource Specialists who have committed to an additional 16 months of specialized training to further support students. At the end of this intensive training period, ASD-W will benefit from 7 Specialized District Resource Teachers.
- Clarification was given on the meaning of ESTR (Resource) and ESTG (Guidance) under the Child and Youth support group and their involvement with the district-based team.
- Councillor Mills asked if Behaviour Mentors were still used in the education system. Catherine confirmed that they are but now called Behaviour Intervention Mentors (BIM’s). Councillor Mills stated that he is hearing that there is a need for additional Educational Assistants. Catherine responded that this is a deeper conversation, and we first must learn what the school/classroom dynamics are struggling with.
- Councillor Salem asked if “English as an Additional Language” (EAL) was included in the ESS portfolio. The Superintendent responded that the EAL program was under the Director of Curriculum and Instruction portfolio. An announcement of an additional two Leads was made by the Department of Education and Early Childhood to support the work of anti-racism.

- Catherine informed the Council that the document called Education Support Services Teams: School-Based Teams to Support Inclusion is a provincial guideline that can be found on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website. As well, this document and presentation have been saved to the DEC Portal.
- Chairperson Geburt recognized the recent retirement announcement given by Catherine and he acknowledged her commitment to students and her long-time service in various roles to improve education. Catherine will finish her work in ASD-W in May 2023.

Circle of Understanding:

- Postponed until the next public meeting on February 23, 2023.

Superintendent Report:

Superintendent Report (2 of 4)-ASD-W-EL4: Budgeting/Forecasting (3rd Quarter Report):

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-EL4: Budgeting/Forecasting*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented four times per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. The Superintendent provided an overview of budget areas projected until March 31, 2023 and he informed the Council of an expected \$200,000.00 surplus from an approximate \$280M global allotment for the 2022-2023 school year.
- The Superintendent confirmed that the recent additional revenue from the Province of NB was included in this budget forecast. A fourth quarter financial report will be provided to the Council in June 2023 that will reflect the actual remaining balances.

Superintendent Report (1 of 2) – ASD-W-EL4: DEC Finance and Budget:

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-EL4: DEC Finance and Budget*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented two times per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. The annual budget allotted to the business of the Council is \$50,000.00. The projected remaining balance is approximately \$29,000.00.

MOTION

..... I move that \$21,000.00 from the 2022-2023 DEC budget be returned to the ASD-W Global Budget and specifically be targeted toward providing support to the music spending proposal submitted by Beth Christie, Subject Coordinator for Fine Arts, Social Studies and Enrichment.

MOVED BY: Hayden Sparks

SECONDED BY: Jim Mills

MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent Report (1 of 1) – ASD-W-EL6: Effective Use of Schools:

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-EL6: Effective Use of Schools*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented one time per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. Included in this report is a functional capacity report for all 70 ASD-W schools, enrolment data (23,708) on September 30, 2022, French Second Language Programs and confirmation of approved Capital Improvement and Major Capital Project submissions for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Councillor Dean asked when the McAdam Avenue School to Nashwaaksis Memorial Elementary School transition will occur and the details. David responded the March to June plans will be mapped-out, a meeting in March, and he will be in attendance. Councillor Geburt will attend the PSSC meeting at McAdam Avenue School (MAS) in Councillor Dean's absence. The staffing process was explained to the staff at both schools, and a survey was circulated to all staff at MAS asking where they would like to work during this transition.

New Business:

French Language Education Changes:

- The Chairperson noted the conclusion of in-person public consultation meetings with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. These meetings were held across the province to discuss the potential changes to the French Second Language Programs and were all well attended by members of the public. When a consultation meeting was held in Fredericton, several district office staff and Councillors were in attendance.

Minister's Forum:

- The Chairperson said that the DEC Chairs (CDC) had requested to meet with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development in the fall of 2022. Meetings have been planned but later postponed by the Minister's

office. The next planned meeting is scheduled for February 16th in Fredericton. These meetings are open to the Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons, and Superintendents from across the Anglophone sector of the Province.

- The topic "Governance" is on the agenda for the Forum and the Council of DEC Chairs will be seeking clarity on the Government's intention with regard to the proposed changes to enable DEC's to implement plans for the future.
NOTE: Forum date subsequently changed to 21 February 2023.

Capital Improvements:

- This agenda item has been moved to the next public meeting.

Correspondence:

- The Chairperson provided a review of outgoing and incoming correspondence since the last public DEC meeting.
 - Letter from Minister appointing Mr. M. Thompson to Sub-district 2
 - Letter to Minister on Innovative Immersion Program – February 3, 2023

Committee Reports:

- There were no committee reports.

Public Comments:

- Mr. Andrews commented that he is rescinding his questions to the DEC Council as he has determined that this is outside the mandate of the Council. Mr. Andrews has requested a meeting with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. Mr. Andrews remarked that the district staff have done a tremendous job in providing him with information that he has requested.

Closing Comments:

- Chairperson Geburt acknowledged that the upcoming week is Staff Appreciation Week and that on behalf of the Council, they are very appreciative of the staff in ASD-W and the work that they do and the guidance that they provide to our children.
- Chairperson Geburt reminded everyone of the next public DEC meeting to be held at the Hanwell Park Academy. Following this meeting, the Council will be meeting in different locations, as follows:
 - March 2023 - working and public meetings will be held at the Oromocto Education Centre. A tour of Oromocto High School will be provided.
 - April 2023 – Woodstock Education Centre (working meeting) and Devon Middle School (public meeting). A tour of Devon Middle School will be provided.
- Chairperson Geburt acknowledged the month of February as Black History Month. An e-mail had been shared with the Council of resources and activities that are planned in ASD-W schools.
- Chairperson Geburt thanked everyone for attending tonight's public DEC meeting.

Date of Next Public Meeting: Thursday, February 23, 2023 – Hanwell Park Academy, 2331 Rte. 640, Hanwell

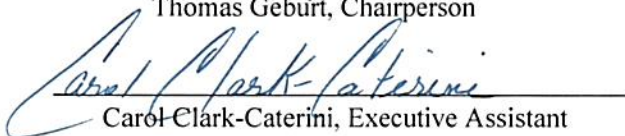
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at **9:10 P. M.**



Thomas Geburt, Chairperson



Date


Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant
to the Superintendent & DEC


Date