



ASD-W
Anglophone School District West



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Southern Victoria High School
Public Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2023**

Council Members Present:

- Tanya Adams – Sub-district 1
- Candice Browse – Sub-district 3
- Tanya Cloutier – Sub-district 4
- Serena Bradford – Sub-district 5
- Ruth Eden – Sub-district 6
- Janet Dean – Sub-district 8
- Michael Mazerolle – Sub-district 9
- Chris Harquail – Sub-district 10
- Jim Mills – Sub-district 11
- Thomas Geburt – Sub-district 13, Chairperson
- Mya McAllister – Student Councillor
- David Perley – First Nations Councillor

Council Member Regrets:

- Amgad Salem – Sub-district 7
- Wallace Carr – Sub-district 12, Vice Chairperson

Council Vacancies:

- Sub-district 2

ASD-W District & School Staff Present:

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
- Sarah Francis, Nihkanatpat ciw Skicinowi Kehkiketowaken
- Jay Colpitts, Director of Schools (WEC)
- Paul MacIntosh, Director of Communications
- Justin Tompkins, Principal
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC

Guest Speaker:

- Dr. Imelda Perley, Wolastoqew Elder

Members of the Public

- 1 Media
- 3 Guests

Call to Order:

- Thomas Geburt, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:31 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 unsundered 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 the 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.
- Chairperson Geburt acknowledged that this meeting was held in close proximity to the Neqotkuk First Nations Community, and the students from this community attend Southern Victoria High School.

Introductions:

- The Chairperson welcomed those in attendance to the public District Education Council (DEC) meeting. A review of the agenda process and a sign-in/public comments sheet was reviewed.
- The Superintendent introduced district office and school staff in attendance. Appreciation was extended to Justin Tompkins, Principal, for providing the Council with a tour of the school prior to the meeting and hosting the public DEC meeting at Southern Victoria High School.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was reviewed by the Council and approved as presented.

MOTION:

..... to approve the agenda as presented.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Mike Mazerolle

MOTION CARRIED

- **Approval of the Minutes – November 16, 2023:**

- The minutes were previously reviewed by the Council and action items were reported as being completed. A spelling error was noted in the first name of Councillor Browse. With this change, the minutes were approved by consensus.

MOTION:

..... to approve the November 16, 2023 DEC minutes.

MOVED BY: Councillor Browse

SECONDED BY: Mya McAllister

MOTION CARRIED

- **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Superintendent Monitoring Reports:

Superintendent Report (1 of 1) - ASD-W-ER11: Wabanaki Education

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-ER11: Wabanaki Education*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented once per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal.
- The Superintendent noted that he was speaking from the power point presentation that mirrors his official Superintendent report. Sarah Francis, Nihkanatpat ciw Skicinowi Kehkiketowaken (Director of First Nations Education) and Richard Champagne, Educational Support Teacher, were acknowledged for their work in preparing this report.
- The Superintendent reported compliance with the ER11 Policy, and this was accepted by the Council.

- **Presentation:**

- Dr. Imelda Perley (Opolahsomuwehs) shared with Councillor's a presentation called Wolastoqey Worldviews Conveyed in Our Ceremonies. This presentation can be found on the ASD-W website.

- **New Business:**

Review of Governance Process Policies:

- Chairperson Geburt stated that the Council had reviewed the Governance Process Policies previously and again during the pre-meeting. During the pre-meeting, it was the Council's opinion that the following policies required minor amendments. The following policies will be reviewed again in 2024 to ensure they remain accurate and relevant.
 - **ASD-W-GP7 – Committees**
 - **ASD-W-GP10 – District Hiring Process**
 - **ASD-W-GP11 – Travel Policy**
 - **ASD-W-GP12 – Code of Conduct**

MOTION:

..... I move that the revisions proposed by the Chairperson to the Governance Process Policies ASD-W-GP7, ASD-W-GP10, ASD-W-GP11 be accepted and that ASD-W-GP12 does not require any amendments at this time.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Chris Harquail

MOTION CARRIED

Sustainability Studies (Policy 409):

- **Town of Oromocto and Area – Update**

- The Superintendent reported that school administrators and district office staff will participate in a meeting on December 18th that will review the study process and meeting structure. The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development has responded to the Council's letter notifying him of this study, and his response was that he looks forward to hearing the Council's findings in 2024.

- **Site Selection – George Street Middle School (GSMS)**
 - The Chairperson reviewed the Councils' requirement to recommend a general area for a new middle school to be built to replace George Street Middle School. The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is required to select and announce the actual school site.
 - To assist the Council, the Superintendent provided detailed information including a map of the Fredericton downtown area, the student population in the downtown area and a City of Fredericton map. Councillors discussed potential sites for a new middle school within this general area, followed by their consensus to include the boundaries of Bishop Drive to Queen Street and Regent Street to the Hanwell Road. **ACTION:** The Chairperson will provide the Superintendent with a diagram of the recommended general location for the new George Street Middle School, and he will subsequently advise the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development of the Council's decision.
- **Site Selection – Liverpool Street Elementary School (LSES) / Forest Hill Elementary School (FHES)**
 - The Chairperson acknowledged the previous Councils recommendation, during a Policy 409 study in the 2018-2019 school year, of a new K-5 school to be built on the site of Liverpool Street Elementary School. The current Council discussed the population growth in the City of Fredericton, and the configuration of a new school if it was to include students in Grades K – 8 from this area and GSMS. Various scenarios were discussed with consensus given by the Council for a new school to be built as recommended by the previous Council. A red circle was drawn around the Liverpool Street area as the recommended location for a new K-5 school to replace both elementary schools. **ACTION:** The Chairperson will provide the Superintendent with a diagram of the recommended general location for the new Liverpool Street / Forest Hill School, and he will subsequently advise the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development of the Council's decision
- **Sub District 2 Council Vacancies:**
 - The Chairperson acknowledged Sub-district 2 as the one remaining vacancy in ASD-W District Education Council. This area covers the communities of Bath, Florenceville-Bristol, Carleton North and Centreville. School Principals and the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development have been notified of this vacancy and to date, there have been no interests for appointment. Schools in this area are being supported by the DEC Chairperson attending online PSSC meetings.
- **EECD Executive Committee Report – Long Term Recommendations on English Prime & French Immersion**
 - The Chairperson acknowledged a recent news release from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development called Long-term Recommendations on English Prime and French-language Learning. This article states that the department will develop an implementation plan and accountability framework for eleven actions prior to March 31, 2024. Recommendations will support the areas of: attendance, classroom composition, personalized learning in technology advancements, middle school learning, French language learning in high school and rural areas, using the Centre of Excellence outdoor education and physical education, implement a comprehensive retention and recruitment strategy for qualified teachers and specialized health services professionals, provide professional learning opportunities for Educational Assistants and Teachers, and develop resources-strategies and interventions for educators to improve inclusion. It was noted that the implementation plan has begun with more details to be shared with the Council in the spring of 2024.
- **DEC Committees – Update**
 - The Chairperson reviewed the sub-committees established this school year and a detailed list of sub committee members was saved on the DEC Portal. Councillor Harquail reported that he would be attending a training session next week for the Evaluation Committee for Designated Early Learning and Childcare Facilities.
 - Councillor McAllister provided an update from the Council of Student Leaders. Councillor McAllister attended a meeting today at the Ayer Motor Centre in Woodstock, where students worked in small groups (2 focus groups and 1 survey group) to build research tools to assist with this year's topic: how ASD-W educates about minority populations from Kindergarten to Grade 12, specifically with the aiming of stopping discrimination of these groups. Research will be conducted between January – March 2024 with an in-person meeting expected to be held in the spring of 2024.
- **Correspondence:**
 - The Chairperson reported that an e-mail had been sent to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) on November 16, 2023 in response to Corrective Action Request #2.
 - On November 28, 2023, a letter was received from the Minister regarding the appointment of Councillor Eden in Sub-district 6. The Chairperson acknowledged Councillor Eden as the new Councillor in sub-district 6 after being sworn-in at a working Council meeting on November 30, 2023.

- **Public Comments**

- Mr. R. Andrews requested to address the Council and his comments are summarized below:
 - o He questioned the Chairperson's statement of time allotted for public comments indicating that in his opinion placing a limit on this portion of the meeting indicated that the Council did not value public input.
 - o He opined that a public meeting is held for members of the public, therefore, their time limit and the position on the agenda needed to be changed.
 - o He stated that the ASD-W Vision, Mission and Values statement, in his opinion, is weak and mushy, and should be changed to something that excited people.
 - o He asked the Council to explain, in simple terms, the meaning and outcomes of DEC policy ASD-W-ER4: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification.
 - o He stated that there should be a process to improve the school district and that he was prepared to assist us, starting with determining where we wanted to be.
 - o He reiterated comments on the end product of the education system being the graduate and that we do not seem to be focussed on it.
- **NOTE:** Mr. R. Andrews has attended several public meetings, and he has recently been given unrestricted time to present to the Council on how his philosophy would improve the education system. He has been advised to read documents outlining the graduation requirements and he has spent a considerable amount of time with the Director of Curriculum and Instruction reviewing the New Brunswick curriculum. He has also written numerous times to the Council, and he has received written responses reiterating EECD and DEC policies, as well as the Council's views on his comments.
- A member of the media attended the meeting and asked the Chairperson if the Council had seen a letter that was written on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce suggesting a new middle school (replacement for George Street Middle School in Fredericton) be built on the site of the New Brunswick exhibition grounds. The Chairperson responded that the Council's mandate is not to select the specific location of a new facility but rather to recommend a general area to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development for his consideration.

- **Closing Comments**

- The Chairperson thanked those in attendance for attending the public DEC meeting and a reminder was provided of the upcoming public meetings.

- **Date of Next Public Meetings:**

- **January 13, 2024 – Town of Oromocto & Burton Sustainability Study – Meeting #1 at Oromocto High School**
- **January 25, 2024 – Public DEC Meeting at Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School in Fredericton**

MOTION:

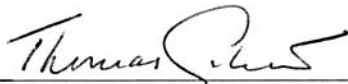
..... I move to adjourn the meeting.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Mike Mazerolle

MOTION CARRIED

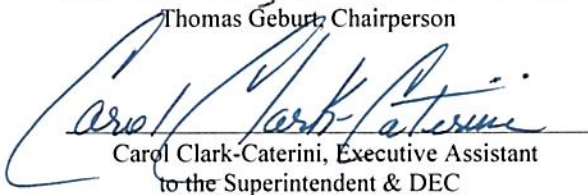
- **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at **9:10 PM**.



Thomas Geburt, Chairperson

25 January 2024

Date


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

January 25, 2024
Date