

**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Gibson Neill Memorial Elementary School
Public Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2024**

<p>Council Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candice Browse – Sub-district 3 • Tanya Cloutier – Sub-district 4 • Serena Bradford – Sub-district 5 • Ruth Eden – Sub-district 6 • 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 • Mya McAllister – Student Councillor <p>Council Member Regrets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Adams – Sub-district 1 • Janet Dean – Sub-district 8 • David Perley – First Nations Councillor <p>Council Vacancies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-district 2 • Sub-district 7 	<p>ASD-W District & School Staff Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David McTimoney, Superintendent • Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance & Administration • Gina Dunnett, Director of Schools • Paul MacIntosh, Director of Communications • Tracey Stewart, Principal • Mali Coulombe, Acting Vice Principal • Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC <p>Members of the Public</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEC Manager • 1 Media • 2 PSSC Chairpersons • 2 Guests
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- **Call to Order:**
 - Thomas Geburt, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:39 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.
- **Introductions:**
 - The Chairperson welcomed those in attendance to the public District Education Council (DEC) meeting. It was noted that a sign-in sheet was located near the door for visitors to complete.
 - Mr. Roland Collette was introduced by the Chairperson as the new DEC Manager for the four Anglophone DEC's.
 - The Superintendent introduced the staff and PSSC Chairperson in attendance from the Gibson Neill Memorial Elementary School. As well introductions were given for district office staff in attendance.
- **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: Chris Harquail

SECONDED BY: Serena Bradford

MOTION CARRIED

• **Approval of the Minutes – December 14, 2023:**

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

MOTION:

..... to approve the December 14, 2023, District Education Council minutes.

MOVED BY: Mya McAllister

SECONDED BY: Tanya Cloutier

MOTION CARRIED

• **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Superintendent Monitoring Reports:

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 noted that this global budget now exceeds \$300M for Anglophone West School District. Approximately \$79M is forecasted for spending prior to the end of March 2024 to allow for a balanced budget. The Instruction and School Services budget line is projected to have \$2.5M remaining for this school year. Shawn specified that balances were projected as of December 2023. This amount will offset the projected deficit in the Education and School Services budget line.
- Councillor Carr inquired on the deficit showing in Education and Support Services of approximately \$2.2 M. The Superintendent reiterated to the Council that ASD-W is funded for 668 Educational Assistants but currently employ 715 Educational Assistants due to the increase in specific needs of students. Further details were provided on the process for hiring an additional Education Assistant beginning with the Education Support Services team following a process to meet the needs of safety, medically fragile students and academic support of students. It was noted that there was a time when Educational Assistants were placed to support academically low students but now are urgently needed for safety (severe behavioral, flight risks, etc.) and medically fragile students. These two categories allow for very little if any Educational Assistant placement for academic support.
- Included in this report is a DEC budget summary that is reported two times per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. The Council's opening balance is \$50K with an approximate balance of \$27K remaining. The remaining balance on March 31st will be rolled into the global budget to offset expenses. In the past, the Council approved the purchase of computers and music equipment for schools from any surplus of this budget.
- Councillor Harquail inquired on the recent purchase of laptop computers for Councillors and that this purchase did not appear to be included in the budget report presented. **ACTION:** Shawn was asked to inquire about this expense, reflect the expense in the budget report, and prepare a new report for Councillors to review during the working meeting on February 8, 2024.
- The Superintendent reported compliance with Policy ASD-W-EL4, and this was accepted by the Council.

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.
- The Superintendent reported 24,348 students enrolled in ASD-W for the 2023-2024 school year. Fredericton High School is the largest school in the Province of New Brunswick.
- The computer software Baragar (district intelligence program) is used in ASD-W for transparency and enrolment forecasting.
- It was noted that new schools are projected to open / be built in ASD-W beginning in September 2024, when the new K-5 elementary school on Cuffman Street in the City of Fredericton should open. Mr. Dave Burrell was recently announced as the Principal for this new north-side school. Mr. Burrell is currently the Principal at Montgomery Street Elementary School.
- In 2025, the new McAdam Avenue and Nashwaaksis Memorial school is projected to open. The province has also recently announced start-up funding for a new school to replace George Street Middle School as well as a K-5 school to replace the Liverpool Street Elementary School and Forest Hill Elementary School.
- A reminder was given of the upcoming sustainability study (meeting #1) on Saturday, January 27th, for seven elementary/middle schools in the Oromocto and Burton area.

- Councillor Mills inquired on behalf of a school in his sub-district, that the district functional capacity data seems to be different in district intelligence than what the school reflects. It was noted that a functional capacity upload is done once a year and if a school was not in agreement, they need to notify the district office of their concerns.
 - It was noted that the size of a classroom affects the functional capacity ratio, and a recommendation was given to reflect the number of classrooms used for the ratio. Outside programs such as head start does is not included in the ratio. **ACTION:** The Council requested the Superintendent to investigate a better way to report functional capacity in his next report.
 - The Superintendent reported compliance with Policy ASD-W-EL6, and this was accepted by the Council.
- **New Business:**
 - **Minister's Excellence in Education Awards**
 - The Chairperson informed those in attendance that posters and nomination forms have been circulated to all staff and PSSC in early January 2024. The deadline to submit a nomination to the DEC was extended to February 9th. A sub-committee was established with Councillor Bradford (Chairperson), Councillor Harquail, and Councillor Carr taking part. Two nominations have been received so far with hopes of additional nominations to follow prior to the deadline. The sub-committee will meet on Feb 12th to select three candidates from ASD-W. A recognition ceremony will be held on May 14th in Fredericton. The postponed deadline to accept nominations has been shared within the organization.

Sustainability Studies (Policy 409):

- **Town of Oromocto and Area – Update**
 - The Superintendent has informed staff, families from all school communities, and members of the public of meeting #1 for elementary and middle schools in the Town of Oromocto and Burton area to occur on Saturday, January 27th. The style of this meeting will be a booth set-up for each school in the cafeteria lobby area of Oromocto High School throughout the day while concurrently, in the auditorium, the Superintendent will be presenting information about each school according to a posted schedule.

DEC Vacancies

- The ASD-W Council has Councillor vacancies in Sub-district 2 (*Bath Community School, Bristol Elementary School, Carleton North High School, Centreville Community School, Florenceville Elementary School, and Florenceville Middle School*) and Sub-district 7 (*Bliss Carmen Middle School, Forest Hill Elementary School, George Street Middle School, Liverpool Street Elementary School, Montgomery Street Elementary School, New Maryland Elementary School*). Other sub-district Councillors are participating in PSSC meetings from the schools in these areas to keep the communication open between the PSSC and the DEC.

- **Carleton North K-8 Design Committee**

- Councillor Browse reviewed the details of the first and second design committee meetings which included a tour of the new Hanwell Park Academy. Meeting #3 will be occurring the following day with anticipation of their work being completed within the next couple of weeks. The sub-committees report will be presented to the Council with their recommendations being submitted to Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development for consideration. It is anticipated that the site location will be announced by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood in the near future.
- The Chairperson acknowledge Councillor Eden as the DEC representative for the new Liverpool/Forest Hill and George Street Middle School education specification / design committee.

- **Naming of Playground – Garden Creek Elementary School**

- The Chairperson referenced a previous article written about a recent fundraising campaign for beautification, ground improvements and playground equipment at Garden Creek Elementary School and the substantial charitable donation by Mr. MacPherson in memory of his late wife, Dianna MacPherson who was a teacher at this school. The Council has been asked to approve the naming of this new playground area and the following motion was approved.

MOTION

.....I move that, in accordance with the EECD Policy 409, Section 6.3.1, the new playground at the Garden Creek Elementary School, which was made possible through the generous donations of many members of the "Creeker's Community", be officially named the Dianna MacPherson Lilypad.

MOVED BY: Ruth Eden

SECONDED BY: Mya McAllister

MOTION APPROVED

- **ACTION:** The Chairperson will advise the School Principal of this approved motion.

• **Long Term Recommendations Engagement Process (February 6 – March 15):**

- The Chairperson referenced Building a Better Education System documents and he reminded Councillors to review these documents that are posted on the DEC Portal.
- The Superintendent identified the eleven long-term recommendations announced recently by the Government as a result of the consultation / steering committee process. He stated that he has requested Principals to change their PSSC meetings to fall between Feb 6th and March 15th so that these recommendations can be discussed, and feedback gathered from parent/guardians. The Council were informed that they too can be a part of these conversation during PSSC meetings and during a DEC working meeting. **ACTION:** The Superintendent will arrange for a template to be developed to assist the Chairperson in collecting feedback and he will share this template with schools and Council. Councillors will be discussing these recommendations during working meetings in February and March.

• **Revised DEC Meeting Schedule:**

- A revised DEC meeting schedule was shown to the Council with a recommended change made for the public meeting on Thursday, March 28th to Wednesday, March 27th due to the Easter holiday and long weekend. The Council agreed with this change.

Council of Student Leaders:

- Councillor McAllister shared a power point presentation on the work of the Council of Student Leaders. The next meeting is scheduled for March 26th & 27th in Fredericton. A final report will be presented to the Council at the public meeting in May 2023.

• **Correspondence:**

- A letter was written to the Minister informing him of a recent Councillor resignation in sub-district 7.

• **Public Comments**

- Mr. Andrews reviewed recent correspondence he had sent to the District Education Council since the last public DEC meeting on December 14th and he acknowledged a response from the Council on January 23rd. Mr. Andrews stated that he has prepared his response to the Council's January 23rd communication, and he proceeded to read his response. Mr. Andrews informed the Council that he would e-mail his most recent communication to the Council for further review.
- Mr. Salam inquired on the boundaries of the new northside school.

• **Closing Comments**

- The Chairperson thanked those in attendance for attending the public DEC meeting and a reminder was given of the upcoming public meetings, beginning with meeting #1 of the Oromocto/Burton elementary/middle school Sustainability Studies on Saturday, January 27th at Oromocto High School.

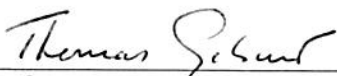
- **Date of Next Public Meetings:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 at Carleton North High School, 30 School Street, Florenceville-Bristol, NB

MOTION:

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

MOVED BY: Chris Harquail **SECONDED BY:** Mike Mazerolle **MOTION CARRIED**

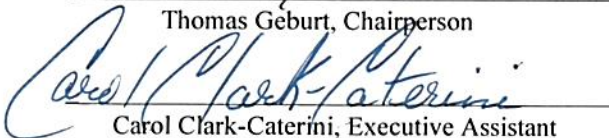
- **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Thomas Geburt, Chairperson

22 February 2024

Date



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

February 22/24

Date