

**ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)**  
**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting – October 10, 2018**

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at the “Little Red School House”, (Hamilton Homestyle Daycare), 70 Gault Road, Saint John. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

**Council Members:**

Rob Fowler, Chair; Wayne Spires, Bernie Regenbogen, Dan O’Connor, Linda Sherbo, Heather Gillis, Justin Tinker, Richard Malone, Larry Boudreau

**Regrets:** Roger Nesbitt, Vice Chair; Gerry Mabey

**ASD-S Staff:**

Zoë Watson, Superintendent; Jessica Hanlon, Director of Communications, Allan Davis, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; Lissa McNaughton-Dickie, Director Early Childhood Services; and Clare Murphy, Recording Secretary.

**1. Call to Order/Welcome/Regrets**

Mr. Fowler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He commented on the reasons for meeting at “The Little Red School House” and the significance of it to Council member Gerry Mabey, who was head of the Teacher’s Association when the building was given to the City sometime in the 1960s. It has come full circle now that it has been placed here at the daycare, operated by his daughter, Heather Hamilton.

**2. Approvals**

**2.1 Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Fowler asked if there were no questions or concerns with the Agenda that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Agenda be approved. Mr. Regenbogen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**2.2 Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Fowler referred to the Minutes of the August 22, 2018 meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Minutes be approved. Seconded by Mr. Malone. Motion carried.

## **2.3 Public Comment**

None.

## **3. Member's Notebook**

Mr. O'Connor attended the Harbour View High School production of "Legally Blonde" and commented on the great job they did. He also noted that he attended an initial planning meeting for the It Takes A Village group and they are looking at 2 sessions (possibly Nov and April). They are in the process of looking for speakers and have a budget this year of \$2,500 provided by MindCare. PSSCs will also reserve some funds for the events. Mrs. Watson advised that the District would be happy to provide staff to speak if appropriate for the topics they choose. Mr. O'Connor also expressed his thanks to the PSSC Orientation Committee for the work on the three events and a job well done.

Mr. Spires advised that four of seven PSSCs are up and running (Lawrence Station, Vincent Massey, Milltown Elementary and St. Stephen Elementary). They are working together with parents and schools. He noted that they are struggling with the new Policy 711 but are working it out.

## **4. Presentations**

### **4.1 CUPE 2745 – Save our School Libraries**

Mr. Fowler introduced Michael Osborne, RVP for ASD-S CUPE 2745. Mr. Osborne thanked Council for the opportunity to speak at their meeting, and introduced library workers Natalie LeBlanc, ASD-E and Joan Babineau, ASD-S who would be presenting information to help explain the role of a library worker and what they do for our children.

Ms. LeBlanc explained that CUPE saw a need to show that our libraries are at risk, with access being cut back, and initiated a public awareness campaign to address this challenge. Ms. LeBlanc noted that they had met with the provincial Deputy Ministers prior to meeting with the DECs, and next, the PSSCs. She then reviewed the presentation which had been posted with Council's meeting materials. Her presentation is attached and forms part of these Minutes.

Questions following the presentation included: the number of library workers across the province; the qualifications/training of those in the position; what a typical class would be for a library worker at the elementary, middle and high school level and the components of the public awareness campaign, all of which were addressed by Ms. LeBlanc.

## **4.2 Early Childhood Update**

Mrs. Watson introduced Lissa McNaughton-Dickie, Director of Early Childhood Services who was present to provide Council with an update on what is happening in Early Childhood Services in ASD-S.

Ms. McNaughton-Dickie advised that the Early Childhood Services Act was passed on February 1, 2018. She noted that there has been a change in her role in that she no longer oversees licensing and regulation. Other members of her team have had their positions restructured to include these responsibilities.

Ms. McNaughton-Dickie spoke about the Action Plan and its 8 objectives noting that Phase 1 (the expansion of designated facilities to the rest of the district) was completed September 1, 2018. There were 41 facilities designated and now there are 68 (out of 98). These facilities have agreed to follow the guidelines set out including an inclusion policy, low fee policy and a parent committee. She also noted that assessment and improvement facilitators have been hired to conduct baseline assessments at all 98 early learning centres. They have completed 70% and hope to finish by mid-November.

She noted that her team worked on parent subsidies and as of September 1<sup>st</sup> this transferred to Service New Brunswick.

NB Association of Community Living has been contracted to support designated Early Learning Centres in developing inclusion policies.

Next will be the creation of a Centre of Excellence – a group of people who will work toward continuous learning and continuous quality improvement.

Talk With Me has been busy supporting Principals with Kick off to Kindergarten this fall. This week is registration for Kindergarten in ASD-S. There is talk of a re-design toward best practices which we are already doing in ASD-S.

FACE (Family and Child Educators) are getting ready for EYE-DA testing later this year.

The Bridging Project, which sees preschool and kindergarten teachers partner to explore best practices, has 9 new pairings.

She noted that there will be a provincial Literacy Conference in Fredericton in November.

## **5. Business Arising from Minutes**

### **5.1 PSSC Orientation Subcommittee Follow Up**

Ms. Gillis advised that feedback has been positive for the three events. Good comments were received and we can build on this for next year. She noted that they will debrief as a committee and report back at the November meeting.

Mr. Fowler expressed his thanks and felt the sessions were very well done. Mrs. Watson commented that the “Info Fair” was a good addition to the evening.

Ms. Sherbo commented that the “Info Fair” people were happy with the event and would like to come back next year. She will be following up with thank you letters to each of those groups who participated.

### **5.2 DEC Vacancy Update**

Mr. Fowler advised that to date we have not had any response to our ad for the vacant position in Sub-district 11. Mrs. Watson advised that she had reached out to Principals in the area and asked that they mention the vacancy during their open house events. It was suggested that Council could reach out to community members who have expressed an interest in the past.

It was also suggested that if DEC members are available to attend PSSC meetings in the area, to please feel free to attend. Mrs. Watson has advised Principals to send any questions that may arise from PSSC to her for follow up.

### **5.3 Policy Review Committee Update**

As Mr. Nesbitt, Vice Chair, was unable to attend tonight’s meeting, this agenda item was postponed until the November meeting.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Policy 409 Phase 3 – Saint John Education Centre**

Mrs. Watson reviewed the plan going forward with regard to meetings with the PSSC and school communities involved in Phase 3.

It was determined that Council would first meet with the PSSC at Hazen-White/St. Francis as changes could occur as early as September 2019. Mrs. Watson noted that this PSSC group meets during the day (1:30 pm) so it might be difficult for Council members to attend. Question arose about meeting at Crescent Valley Resource Centre. Mrs. Watson advised that she will talk with the Principal to determine the best place to meet.

Following this meeting, there will be a joint meeting of the PSSCs from M. Gerald Teed, Millidgeville North and Princess Elizabeth. Staff are hoping to complete these meetings in October. Public meetings will follow before Christmas, with M. Gerald Teed requiring two public meetings as part of the Policy 409 process.

## **7. Information Items**

### **7.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Watson noted that her report was posted with Council's meeting materials and reviewed a few highlights including, epi-pen training, concussions, Policy 711 and support for French Immersion teachers (St. Stephen Education Centre).

Mrs. Watson reminded Council of the NBSLA meetings on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Fredericton. Council normally meets with students mid-morning, have lunch together, and then meet again for about an hour in the afternoon. ASD-S is paying for the release of teacher advisors for the day and the four Superintendents cost-share the lunch.

Questions were raised with regard to Policy 711 (packaging from outside suppliers); the provincial Principals' meetings Oct 25 & 26<sup>th</sup>; and the secondment of Greg Paterson to conduct research for the pilot on the extension of the day for K-2 students.

### **7.2 Chair's Report and Update**

Mr. Fowler reminded Council that the DEC Spring Symposium which had to be postponed in May, has been rescheduled for November 2-4<sup>th</sup> in Fredericton. He noted that attendee numbers are down a bit, but if any PSSC member was interested, to connect with Stacey Brown. He also noted that The Minister's Excellence in Education Awards is Saturday, November 17 at the Crowne Plaza, Fredericton.

### **7.3 Correspondence**

None; all correspondence was posted on the portal for Council's information.

## **8. Adjournment**

Mr. Fowler thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting and reminded Council the next meeting will be held at 490 Woodward Avenue, Saint John on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rob Fowler, Chair

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Clare Murphy, Recording Secretary