

ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting – December 14, 2022

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met in-person on Wednesday, December 14, 2022. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Council Members:

Roger Nesbitt, Chair; Amanda Hamm, Vice-Chair, Jane Logan (on-line), Beth McQuinn Nixon, Teresa Sewell, Richard Malone, Sarah Craig, Ginny Hooper, Jonathan Barry, Shelly Merrill-MacKillop, and Amanda Henderson-Matthews.

ASD-S Staff:

Derek O'Brien, Superintendent; Jessica Hanlon, Director of Communications; John MacDonald, Director of Finance, Allan Davis, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; Rosemary Southard, Director of Schools, St. Stephen Education Centre, Ryan Price, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Lissa McNaughton-Dickie, Director, Early Childhood Services, Peter Smith, Director of Education – Support Services (on-line) and Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary.

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Regrets

Mr. Nesbitt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. He advised that Wayne Spires was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Mr. Nesbitt began the meeting respectfully acknowledging the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaq and Peskotomuhkati peoples. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

Sub-District #5 Representative – Matthew Martin was sworn in as a new council member.

2. Approvals

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Agenda for the meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Barry moved that the Agenda be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Malone. Motion carried.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Minutes of the November 9, 2022 meeting and asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. There being no questions or concerns, Ms. Hamm moved that the Minutes be approved as presented. Seconded by Ms. Craig. Motion carried.

2.3 Public Comment

No public present.

3. Superintendent's Report & Update

Mr. O'Brien advised that his report had been posted last week for Council to review.

Mr. O'Brien began his report by mentioning the announcement regarding the new school for the Saint John south central peninsula as well as a new school to replace the Hazen White/St. Francis and Centennial Schools.

He also mentioned that during this past month, there was a death of a custodian in the St. Stephen Education Center, as well as a student in Hampton Education Center. He asked to take a moment to think about those families and their school communities who had to endure those losses.

Mr. O'Brien mentioned at the bottom of his report, some of our new hires this month, we finalized the position of our Director of Schools in St. Stephen with Rosemary Southard taking this position. At Fundy Middle/High

School we appointed the Vice Principal (Rebecca Rudderham) there as the Acting Principal until the end of this school year and a teacher on staff (Kara Matheson) stepped into the Acting Vice Principal position. We also hired a new Vice Principal (Patrick Halford) at Princess Elizabeth School, and we added an Assistant Transportation Manager (Joel McLeod) to support us in the Hampton Education Center.

4. Business Arising from Minutes

4.1 Sub District #5 DEC Representative

Mr. Nesbitt welcomed Matthew Martin as a new member of the District Education Council for Sub-District #5.

4.2 Governance Policies:

GP 4.8 – Nomination of Student Representative

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed the Governance Process Policy 4.8 which was posted as part of the meeting materials. A team was formed which consisted of the DEC Chair, Vice-Chair and the Superintendent to determine how to proceed with the nomination of a Student Representative.

Mr. O'Brien proposed a student leaders council be formed which would have a representative from each of the high schools in Anglophone South. This would be an opportunity for the DEC to have the voice of students from all of our schools. They would probably come together three or four times a year and we would organize a session for them to learn about the work that is going on in the district and also have a working session for them. The student leaders council would put an individual name forward from their group for the Minister to approve. Mr. O'Brien will inquire what the guideline policy is when a person is chosen by the Minister to be on the District Education Council should an alternate student be considered.

5. New Business

5.1 Council-Staff Relationship

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed C-SR 1.0 and C-SR 1.1.

6. Information Items

6.1 Member's Notebook

Ms. Craig mentioned she attended the PSSC at Simonds High School. She spoke about February being Suicide Prevention month and that February 3, 2023 is to wear yellow day to bring attention to the Suicide Prevention month. She asked that the information be sent out to the schools through our weekly newsletter.

Ms. Hamm reported she attended the musicals at Harbour View High School and St. Malachy's Memorial High School as well at the Saint John High School String performance. Each event was done with world class.

6.2 Chair's Report and Update

Since Last Meeting

Monday, November 14, 2022 – Appeal Hearing

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 – PSSC @ Chris Saunders Memorial Elementary School.

Wednesday, November 23, 2022 – Appeal Hearing

Thursday, November 24, 2022 – PSSC @ Lakefield Elementary School

Tuesday, November 29, 2022 – PSSC @ Kennebecasis Valley High School

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 – Virtual Meeting Council of DEC Chairs

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 – Virtual On-boarding Training

Governance Review

Recent changes in the senior leadership at EECD had raised hopes that the issue of changes in governance might be moved to the "back burner". However, at a recent meeting of the Canadian School Boards Association in Fredericton, the new Minister, when asked about this matter responded that the legislation was going before the legislature this Fall!. An email was sent to EECD and was told by the new ADM that the legislation was "in the drafting phase".

On-boarding Session

Thanks to our Vice Chair Amanda for all her hard work in bringing together and preparing materials for this very well done virtual training session. Great job!

Merry Christmas

Mr. Nesbitt took an opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and may you experience great joy and peace during this Christmas season!

Mr. Nesbitt mentioned about a Minister's Forum possibly being held on January 21, 2023. There hasn't been a Minister's forum for some time, so DEC Chairs and Vice Chairs will be invited to Fredericton to attend.

6.3 Correspondence

Mr. Nesbitt reported that he received an email from the Minister regarding the follow up to the letters sent about the new French program. The email indicated it was going to be a new framework for second language instruction.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Nesbitt thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:28pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Nesbitt, Chair

Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary