



# ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

## DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2014  
Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School

### Council Members Present:

- Sheila Gallagher – SD 01
- Norma Shaw – SD 02
- John Slipp – SD 03 – Vice Chair
- Miriam Grant – SD 04
- Andrew Corey – SD 05
- David Bowen – SD 06
- Ron Buck – SD 08
- Jane Buckley – SD 09 - Chair
- Kimberley Douglas – SD 10
- Elizabeth Nason – SD 12
- Mark Noel – SD 13

### Council Member Regrets:

- James Kozlowski – SD 07
- Donald Gould – SD 11

### ASD-W Staff Present:

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and DEC Secretary
- Garth Wade, SEO, Fredericton Education Centre

### Guests:

- Media (1)
- Donna McLaughlin, Subject Coordinator – *Numeracy and Science*
- Leadership Candidates (8)

## I. Call to Order / Comments by the Chair

- The DEC Chair, Jane Buckley called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone.
- The DEC Chair and the Superintendent attended an event at Old Government House in Fredericton on February 19<sup>th</sup> acknowledging employees for their role in inclusive practices in public education. This was sponsored by the New Brunswick Association for Community Living. Linda Sullivan, Educational Assistant at Gagetown School, was recognized in Anglophone West School District.

## II. Approval of the Agenda

- It was suggested that an additional bullet be added to the agenda called Synervice. With this revision, the agenda was approved by consensus.

## III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

- The January 2014 minutes were approved by consensus.

## IV. Presentation

- A presentation was provided by Erika Nason, School Psychologist called "What is a School Psychologist". This presentation provided the committee and guests with a view of the role they play in our schools. A School Psychologist works with all levels of students from high to low academic achievers and students with behavioral needs. A three tier system has

been designed and is followed to assist with student success while attending school in the Province of NB. A typical classroom has multiple student levels and challenges which typically develops a multi-ripple effect on each other in the class. Mental health issues have been identified as being on the rise in schools and recent data has shown how valuable a school psychologists input can be.

- The School Psychologist initiatives include regular consultation with EECD, partnership with Mount Saint Vincent University, liaison with NBTA, community groups and MLA's. Regular articles have been contributed to NBTAs publication, and newsletters to district personnel and advocacy initiatives have been submitted twice a year.
- The School Psychologists have a wish list to improve the allotment in NB, designated funding for this position, strategy and practical internships, and improved training programs for School Psychologists.
- A School Psychologist provides support to students, teachers and educational assistants in a group or a one on one setting.
- Erica has provided the DEC members with a copy of her presentation which has been posted to the DEC Portal for future reference.

#### **V. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- ASD-W-GP6 was approved from the last meeting with bullet #1 placed at the bottom of the policy and not in a template form.
- ASD-W-GP10 was mentioned to exclude the last three paragraphs and make reference to the District Education Council not being involved in the hiring other than the Superintendent position. This would make in line with the motion from the last meeting.

#### **Motion**

**...to add this discussion, to make changes to policy ASD-W-GP10, at the next working meeting.**

**Motion: Ron Buck**

**Seconded: Elizabeth Nason**

**Motion Carried**

- ASD-W-EL2 policy on Staff Treatment will be discussed in camera due to the sensitivity of issues.
- ASD-W-ER5 policy will remain in February agenda for discussion.
- ASD-W-EL6 policy has been moved to April agenda for discussion.
- ASD-W-ER6 policy on high school programs was approved to leave for discussion in the month of November for next year.

#### **Motion**

**..... for the Superintendent to provide the DEC members with information on how Synervoice is currently funded and used in this year's budget. This report should also explore why the funding does not fit with the budget forecast going forward. This report should be made available at the next public meeting on March 20, 2014.**

**Motion: David Bowen**

**Seconded: John Slipp**

**Motion Carried**

## **VI. Correspondence – Outgoing and Incoming**

- There was no correspondence to discuss.

## **VII. New Business**

- Acknowledgement of Patricia Thorne, Principal of Woodstock Middle School, recently receiving Canada's Outstanding Principal award. Patricia has served in our district for many years, most recently in the position of Principal and Vice Principal of Canterbury High School, and as Principal of Woodstock Middle School since 2009. She will assume principalship of the new K-8 Woodstock School currently under construction and set to open in 2015.
- A proposal was made to acknowledge Ms. Thorne with a formal letter from the District Education Council acknowledging her recent award. Jane Buckley will prepare a letter on behalf of the District Education Council.

## **VIII. Superintendent's Report**

- An update was given by the Superintendent on policy ASD-W - ER5: Healthy Living, Nutrition and Physical Activity in ASD-W schools. Learning opportunities have been provided and are in-line with NB Physical Education Program. Updates given included the JUMP Program in Elementary Schools, Middle School Boys Sport Day, and OPHEA holding one of 4 national focus groups in our district. A partnership has been established with PHE Canada, and ASD-W is piloting a regional program as a guideline for the other Provinces in Canada. We are one of 4 Districts that has been chosen for this pilot program. In addition to this; there are wellness fairs housed in some of our school communities, and all three Education Centres offer an after school programs that are run by teachers with some equipment that has been provided by PHE Canada.
- Healthy Learners and DHAC meeting was held in January 2014. Roots of Empathy initiatives have been established to promote care and understanding, to support with the delivery of health curriculum by nurses, and vibrant faces initiative to support our teachers. Nurses communicate with newsletters to staff, promoting healthy foods and partnerships with such groups as Doctors for youth.
- The Sexual Health Program continues to evolve and has been given the green light to model the Woodstock involvement here in the Fredericton and Oromocto area high schools. To date this initiative is running smoothly with information sessions being offered to staff, PSSC, and the public. David will arrange to post the Healthy Learners information on the DEC Portal.
- A comment was made that healthy food served in school cafeterias have been known to be too expensive for students to purchase. David expanded on policies 711, and the expectation of our service providers to be creative and follow this policy.
- A handout was provided and David reviewed the "Superintendent's Month in Review" for the month of February, 2014. This report outlined: work with STU, 8 schools visits,

Provincial Professional Counselling meeting, work with SAT on staffing, DHAC and District Public Health Meetings, French Second Language hiring in Oromocto Education Centre - Amanda Deveaux, Woodstock meeting to discuss transition to new schools, NBSSA, IT Management Meeting with Professional Education Leaders, First Nations Enhancement Work, the implementation of Early Childhood Development in schools, on-going Policy Series and What's On Your Mind Series, Performance Excellence training, emergency response training (PREPARE), a successful south side PSSC Chair meeting, catchment area meeting for Sunbury West School, RTIPPA training (Right To Information Privacy Act), Yorkville University Advisory Board, Turnaround Achievement Planning Meeting, Provincial Aboriginal Education Committee, Transition to New Schools Meeting with staff, Inclusion Award Ceremony at Government House, Twitter Professional Learning and the launch of Woodstock Community Schools Naming Committees were established.

- David publically acknowledged Garth Wade's retirement at the end of March, 2014 from ASD-W. Garth has been an excellent colleague and educational leader in the school system for 34 years. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

#### **IX. Committee Reports**

- A meeting was held to discuss Performance Excellence in ASD-W. PLE draft policy was posted on DEC Portal for members to view.
- An update on the Naming committee was provided. The process is underway and two committees have been identified with a public meeting in the near future. October, 2014 is the target date for the substantial completion of construction on both new schools with December 2015 being an entry date for students. The transition of Woodstock Middle School will be more complicated, with the separation of middle school students due to zoning. It was suggested that students complete the full school year at their current school location and transition over the summer in 2015. As well, an Acting Principal will need to be hired for Woodstock Middle School with this plan.
- A request has been made by community members and parents of students affected from Woodstock Middle School and Woodstock Centennial Elementary School for a transition plan outlining each step of the move.
- John Slipp said the new school located in the community of Bedell, may become a part of the Town of Woodstock boundaries. Confirmation will be given on March 1, 2014.

#### **X. Public Comment**

- No Comments.



**X Closing Comments:**

- DEC Chair, Jane Buckley informed committee that she will be attending a Minister Forum this weekend. On behalf of the DEC, Jane intends to mention the subject of Education articles posted in the Daily Gleaner lately, regarding policy 322 (no-fail policy) with the DEC Chairs on Friday Night and the Minister of Education.
- Last night, the Major Capital Construction Projects and Capital Improvement Projects have been approved for the 2014-2015 school year.
- Capital Improvements will be taken into consideration and added to the next DEC agenda for discussion.

**Date for Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the Woodstock Education Centre.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

  
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Jane Buckley, Chairperson, DEC

April 24-14  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Clark-Caterini, Secretary, DEC

April 24-14  
Date