



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
On-line Public Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 7, 2020**

Council Members Present:

- Tanya Adams – SD 01
- Andy Saunders – SD 02
- Heather Hogan – SD 03
- Miriam Grant – SD 04
- Andrew Corey – SD 05
- Laura O’Brien – SD 06
- Sean Winslow – SD 08
- Jane Buckley – SD 09 – Vice Chair
- Kimberley Douglass – SD 10 – Chair
- Faith Kennedy – SD 11
- Wallace Carr – SD 12
- Thomas Geburt – SD 13

Council Member Regrets:

- David Perley – First Nations

ASD-W District Staff Present:

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance & Administration
- Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
- Judy Cole, Director of Communications
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC
- Rob Hohmann, Information Technologies, II
- Nick Kitchen, Information Technologies

Vacancies:

- Vacant – Sub-district 7
- Vacant – Student Representative

Guests

- Approximately 17 On-line Viewers

Call to Order / Comments by the Chair:

- Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at **6:33 p.m.** The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the on-line public meeting that had been arranged due to the current COVID-19 restrictions. The Chairperson recognized that this meeting was held on the unceded and unsundered land of the Wolastoqiyik people and Wolastoqey territory.

Approval of the Agenda – May 7, 2020:

- The agenda was reviewed, and a request was made by Chairperson Douglass to add the revised 2019-2020 DEC Meeting Schedule and the new DEC Priority Schedule under New Business. With these additions, the agenda was approved by consensus.

Approval of the Minutes – February 20, 2020:

- The February 20th minutes were reviewed by Council. A request was made by the Superintendent for the policy number to be revised on the Superintendent Monitoring Report – Healthy Living to reflect ASD-W-ER2.3. In addition, a revision is needed under the Circle of Understanding Presentation to reflect Wolastoqi Identity. With these revisions, the minutes were approved by consensus.

Introductions:

- The Superintendent introduced district office staff in attendance and District Education Councillors introduced themselves and provided the communities that they represent.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- **Policy 409 – Multi-Year School Infrastructure Planning:**

Carleton North Area - Discussion & Plan Moving Forward. The Superintendent shared of three public meetings being needed to complete a Policy 409 study. The Carleton North Area studies began in October 2019, and included four schools: Bath Community School, Bristol Elementary School, Florenceville Elementary School and Florenceville Middle School. Both public meeting #1 and public meeting #2 for all schools were completed by January 25, 2020. In addition, to these eight meetings, discussions occurred amongst Councillors during public and private working Council meetings.

- Community leaders and presenters involved in the study had been contacted to learn their thoughts on the platform of final meeting #3. Consensus gathered was to learn the outcome of the schools now rather than waiting until COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, as it was time to bring this study to a close. Therefore, on May 21st the third public meeting will be included with the on-line Public DEC Meeting for the Carleton North Area schools. During this meeting, the Council will bring a motion forward for each school separately to remain status quo, to recommend a financial investment or school closure with a new school being built.
- The Bath Community School had been previously studied, and at that time, a motion was carried by Council for a Major Capital Investment at the previous Bath Middle School that was approved by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. Unfortunately, the cost became higher than anticipated, and the project was placed on hold and cancelled. Therefore, the outcome of this school may be slightly different than the other three schools as a motion may be brought forward and approved for the continuation of the previously approved motion and the completion of the work at this school.
- Councillor Hogan asked for clarification from the second meeting on January 25th at the Bath Community School where Andrew Harvey, MLA referenced that the building was 75% complete and that it could be finished in a short period of time for the beginning of a new school year. In addition, the remaining cost provided by Mr. Harvey was worlds apart from the projections given by Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI). The Superintendent responded that conversations had taken place between himself and Mr. Harvey on January 25th, along with several phone conversations later. The district staff received information from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) that \$3.3-3.4 M had been spent to date on the project with an additional \$4.15 M being needed to complete the Bath Community School. Phase 2 of the project could see an additional \$1M in expenses. In addition, the district staff learned that the school would not be completed in 6 months but rather 7.5 to 11 months.
- **ACTION:** The Superintendent will write to the families of the Carleton North Area school to inform them of May 21st at 6:30 PM being public meeting #3.
- Councillor Geburt asked if the options chosen were to remain status quo, does the district continue to maintain the buildings as in the past? The Superintendent confirmed that the schools would continue to be supported by our Facilities staff and the buildings would receive the necessary maintenance to remain safe for our students and staff. The Bath Community School is a bit different where the building is partially completed and not ready for staff and students at this time.

New Business:

- Approval of the new DEC Meeting Scheduled, as posted on the DEC Portal and ASD-W Website where a May 21st and June 4th public meeting are added. Chairperson Douglass added that if the Director of Finance and Administration was not able to provide the new fiscal year budget, due to delays at EECD, then the June 4th meeting may need to be postponed to later in June.
- A list of remaining DEC priorities for the 2019-2020 school year was provided for Council. This list included the approval of Capital Improvement Project Priorities and Major Capital Construction Project Priorities (May 21st), and ASD-W-EL4: Budgeting/Forecasting (Final Report for Fiscal Year and Approval of an Expenditure Plan) as well as DEC Finances and Budget (June 2020). All remaining Superintendent reports, curriculum presentations and First Nation presentations were cancelled for the remainder of this school year.

MOTION:

..... To approve the revised DEC meeting schedule, as presented, for the remainder of this school year.

MOVED: Wallace Carr SECONDED: Miriam Grant MOTION CARRIED

MOTION:

..... To approve the revised list of DEC priorities for the remainder of this school year.

MOVED: Sean Winslow SECONDED: Andrew Corey MOTION CARRIED

- **Update on COVID-19 in Relation to ASD-W and Continuity of Learning** – the Superintendent updated the Council and members of the public on the work completed and measures in place by ASD-W since the beginning of this pandemic. On March 9th students and staff were required to self-isolate if they had travelled internationally to any of the hot spots given by the Province of NB. Shortly thereafter everyone that had travelled anywhere internationally needed to self-isolate. As well, on March 16th all schools were closed for 2 weeks.

- The first official case of COVID-19 was announced on March 14th and normal operations changed to critical operations on March 20th. Schools remain closed as the safety, health and well-being of all students and staff in ASD-W remained the focus. A continuity of learning plan was established, a state of emergency was announced, playgrounds and daycares were closed. The renewing of learning in homes began in April, and a focus on mental health and support was put in place. At this time, we are at a point where students can go to their school to retrieve personal belongings and efforts are in place to put devices and internet in the hands of students.
- The Superintendent shared that his work now consists of a large volume of e-mails, conference calls, communication to all 23,000 families across ASD-W and close consultations with the Deputy Minister, George Daley and Assistant Deputy Minister, Craig Caldwell. The Senior Management Team and School Administrators remain in close contact, with the 2020 Graduation being the most recent topic of discussion. Restrictions in place does not permit large gatherings, so a committee has been established to brainstorm on how we can celebrate the end of the school year accomplishments. The Superintendent reported that 2020-2021 school year planning and ASD-W staffing, with several vacant Administrator positions, have begun.
- **Major Capital Construction Projects Lists** – a draft letter to the Director of Facilities and Transportation for EECD was provided to Councillors for their review and approval. A new K-5 elementary school in the Killarney Lake (Fredericton North) area was listed as the #1 priority followed by a new K-5 elementary school in the Skyline Acres (Fredericton South) area to replace Forest Hill Elementary School and Liverpool Street Elementary School. The mid-life upgrades at Oromocto High School (Oromocto) fell to #3 on the list followed by a new K-5 elementary school in the Fredericton North-West area to replace Nashwaaksis Memorial Elementary School and McAdam Avenue Elementary School. A mid-life upgrade was added as priority #5 for Woodstock High School (Woodstock) and a new 6-8 middle school in the Fredericton North-East area to replace Devon Middle School and a new 6-8 middle school in the Fredericton South area to replace George Street Middle School followed as priority #6 and #7. Three new K-8 schools to replace 7 existing schools in the Oromocto and surrounding area (Burton Elementary, Assiniboine Avenue Elementary, Harold Peterson Middle, Hubbard Avenue Elementary, Gesner Street Elementary, Summerhill Street Elementary and Ridgeview Middle Schools) was listed as priority #8.
- A Policy 409 study is currently underway for a new K-8 school to replace the configuration of schools in the Carleton North catchment areas for 3 schools in Florenceville-Bristol (Florenceville Elementary, Florenceville Middle and Bristol Elementary Schools); this project could possibly include Bath Community School based on a pending outcome of a current sustainability study and government's decision on the future of the Bath Community School upgrade that has been placed on hold.
- Priority #10 included a building assessment to examine the potential combination of Minto Memorial High School with Minto Elementary/Middle School (Minto) as well as the potential combination of Chipman Elementary School with Chipman Forest Avenue School (Chipman), followed by the final priority at Leo Hayes High School (Fredericton) for a shop and skilled trades addition and renovation.
- A motion was given by Councillor Buckley, followed by a request for a discussion.

MOTION:

..... To approve and submit the Major Capital Priorities list, as presented for the 2021–2022 school year, to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

MOVED: Jane Buckley

SECONDED: Heather Hogan

MOTION CARRIED

- Councillor Buckley agreed with the importance of priority item #1, for a new school to be built in the Killarney Lake area, as this would relieve overcrowding pressures at Gibson Neill Memorial Elementary School. Councillor Hogan asked if this letter could be revised following the outcome of the current sustainability studies in the Carleton North area. The Chairperson responded that a revision letter could be submitted if needed. The Superintendent informed the Council of three district responsibilities to EECD: the submission of the Major Capital Priorities lists, Capital Improvement Projects, and a multi-year infrastructure report for each of the 69 schools in ASD-W. The Superintendent shared that the Facilities Department was currently working on the Infrastructure report, that is due by May 30th, an example was given for 1 school that was saved on their DEC Portal. Councillor Geburt compared the Major Capital Priority lists to last year submission where OHS was prioritized as priority #1. Councillor Geburt asked if this important priority project would continue to move down the list, and if so, he recommended priorities remain consistent each year. Chairperson Douglass responded as to why the order of priorities had been changed from last year as a Fredericton North Side was identified as a crisis which moved that priority to number 1 on this year's list. In

addition, another project on the list could be completed prior to the order. The motion was carried with a majority consensus.

- **Capital Improvement Projects Priorities** – the Superintendent explained that this current list is a living document where projects are added and removed when completed to maintain the current 69 buildings in ASD-W. The Director of Finance and Administration, Shawn Tracey, added that should an emergency occur in a school building, the priority of the list may be adjusted to resolve the emergency concern.
- Councillor Buckley asked why a sports field took priority over a ventilation system or fire integrity of a school. Shawn explained that these types of projects are rarely completed as they continue to fall towards the bottom of the lists due to other emergencies. Therefore, site improvements are added when finances are available to support the project. Councillor Corey asked why washroom upgrades at Harvey High School was not on the lists. **ACTION:** Shawn will learn the reason as to why this project was not on the list from the Facilities Manager and report back to Council at the next public meeting.

MOTION:

.... To approve and submit the Capital Improvement Project Priorities list as presented for the 2021-2022 to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

MOVED: Wallace Carr

SECONDED: Andrew Corey

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence:

- Chairperson Douglass acknowledged that a letter was sent from the DEC Council of Chairs to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. This correspondence was shared with members of the Council on their DEC Portal.

Superintendent Monitoring Reports:

- Superintendent Monitoring Reports for May were cancelled for this school year.

Committee Reports:

- **Policy Committee** – Councillor Winslow will make the necessary changes required to the ASD-W Code of Conduct Policy and then send to Carol to post to the DEC Portal.

Public Comments:

- There were no public comments.

Closing Comments:

- The Chairperson thanked everyone for their involvement in the on-line public meeting and a reminder was given of the upcoming public meeting, that will include the conclusion of the Carleton North Area studies, on Thursday, May 21st at 6:30 PM.

Date of Next Public Meeting:

- Public DEC Meeting and Policy 409 Meeting #3 will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:30 PM On-line.

MOTION:

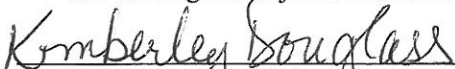
.... I move that the District Education Council meeting be adjourned.

MOVED BY: Miriam Grant

MOTION CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

Adjournment:

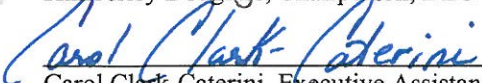
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM



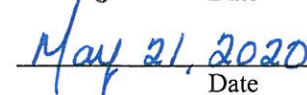
Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, DEC



Date



Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant, DEC



Date