

ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sustainability Study #2

Forest Hill Elementary School

Meeting Notes

Thursday, November 15, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Council Members Present:

- Miriam Grant – SD 04
- Andrew Corey – SD 05
- Stephanie Haslam – SD 06
- Terry Pond – SD 07
- Sean Winslow – SD 08
- Jane Buckley – SD 09 – Vice Chair
- Kimberley Douglas – SD 10 – Chair
- Wallace Carr – SD 12

Council Member Regrets:

- Tanya Adams – SD 01
- Andy Saunders – SD 02
- Heather Hogan – SD 03
- Faith Kennedy – SD 11
- Mark Noël – SD 13
- David Perley – First Nations

ASD-W Staff Present:

- Catherine Blaney, Acting Superintendent
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and DEC
- Wayne Annis, Director of Schools – FEC
- Judy Cole, Director of Communication
- Susan Young, Supervisor of Data and Accountability
- Richard McCarthy, IT Support

Guests:

- Approximately 8 Community Members and School Staff

➤ Sustainability Study – Forest Hill Elementary School – Meeting #2

- Kimberley Douglass, District Education Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the second public sustainability study meeting for Forest Hill Elementary School (FHES) and the District Education Council (DEC) introduced themselves and provided the area in which they serve as a Councillor. District office staff also provided introductions.

➤ PSSC Presentation

- Wendy Monk, on behalf of FHES PSSC provided a presentation called FHES - PSSC Community feedback on the proposed options for our school. Wendy recognized the PSSC as an active group within the school and that they circulated an online questionnaire to school staff, parent/guardian(s) and the wider community. Questionnaire were ranked as strongly oppose, oppose, no opinion, support and strongly support. Feedback from 101 participants had been received which included 33 community members, 4 staff and 64 parent/guardian(s).
- **Option I** – to remain status quo reported a number (55) of participants opposing this option due to the current air quality, lack of space, school structure, and the number of schools (4) a child would have to attend prior to graduation. **Option II** – a number of participants (46) supported necessary repairs to the facility. However, the lack of space and the cost to standardize the aging building were remaining concerns. **Option III** – reported to be an overwhelming support (91) for a new K-5 school in the area. Although the feedback received reported to love the smaller K-1 setting, a new building that provided extra space, a modern learning environment, and extra-curricular opportunities was welcomed. The difficulty in making a decision between Option I and Option II was due to the unknown location of a new school, traffic flow, mixed age groups, the number of staff to student ratio and the interim maintenance concerns. Councillor Douglass made the community aware that the Council can make a decision to close the school now or later when a new school is built. However, there is no location to send students to at this time.

➤ Council Comments and Questions

- The Council asked how the wider community was reached. Ms. Monk replied through social media.
- Appreciation was given to the presenter for an excellent presentation.
- Councillor Douglass made those in attendance aware of the remaining steps needed; a second meeting at Liverpool Street Elementary School, Councils review and discussions, a final decision meeting on January 24, 2019, and communication to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development on the decision of the Council.
- Councillor Douglass recognized that their recommendations were not always chosen in the order given by Council. As well, there is a potential of five new schools in the city of Fredericton and area (Hanwell Road, Northside (2), Kilarney Lake and Southside pending).
- It was asked what would happen if students could not remain in the school. The expectation given was that students would remain at the school with the district supporting the maintenance needs until a new school is built. Option II would mean a major capital investment with costs identified in the district presentation during the first meeting in October 2018.

➤ Closing Comments:

- Councillor Douglass thanked the community for attending and to the presenter for a great presentation.
- A reminder was given of three potential Policy 409 outcomes; to remain status quo, to make a recommendation to invest in repairs, and thirdly, to make a recommendation to build a new school closing Forest Hill Elementary School and combine with Liverpool Street Elementary School for students continued education.

➤ **Date for Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 at Fredericton High School, Tom Morrison Theatre.

➤ **The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.**