

# DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL Superintendent's Monitoring Report

POLICY NAME	Sustainability of Schools		
POLICY NUMBER	ASD-W-EL7	Number of Reports per year	2
Date of Report	January 28, 2016		
Date of Previous Report (s) This School Year	September 24, 2015		
Date of Future Report (s) This School Year	N/A		
Report Filed by:	David McTimoney, Superintendent		
Report Supported by:	Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance and Administration Gina Dunnett, Supervisor of Data and Accountability Many District Office Staff		

#### **Current Situation**

- The policy calls for the District Education Council (DEC) to have steps in place when studying the sustainability of a school. The steps need to align with Provincial Policy 409 Multi-year School Infrastructure Planning. There is a requirement to ensure that persons affected by a school closure are given sufficient notice and fully informed about the process, are provided with relevant documentation, have adequate time to consider the information as well as seek advice and consult with others (should they wish) and have adequate time to prepare a presentation for DEC, being heard impartially.
- There are a series of steps, with timelines, regarding the process of studying the sustainability of a school;
   Policy 409 guides these timelines.
- The DEC has been engaged in four sustainability studies, as launched at the May 21, 2015 (3) and June 11, 2015 (1) Public DEC Meetings.
- A detailed timeline and plan has been followed, with the culmination of all four studies (Burton Elementary School, McAdam Elementary School, Millville Elementary School and Nackawic Elementary, Middle and High Schools as a cluster) scheduled for tonight.
- The Superintendent has facilitated the sustainability studies with tremendous support from district staff.

  The DEC has been actively engaged in the studies for a period of approximately eight months.
- The communities of Burton, McAdam, Millville and Nackawic were active participants in the sustainability studies.
- The Superintendent and staff have prepared four reports for tonight, each containing the necessary
  documentation to allow the DEC to make an informed decision on the sustainability of the four scenarios in
  question. The Council has had access to this information along the way as well as an opportunity to discuss,
  ask questions and reflect.

# **POLICY NAME**

# **Sustainability of Schools**

#### **Looking Ahead**

- The Superintendent recommends the DEC make a motion on each of the four studies, bringing them to a conclusion tonight.
- An executive summary is included in this report, one for each school setting.
- Upon completion of this meeting and in the days ahead, the Superintendent will complete the required tasks associated with informing the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and the parent population of the outcomes.

# **Challenges**

- A sustainability study requires a tremendous amount of work for both district staff and the Council.
- At times, meetings can become emotional.
- There may be different interpretations among all stakeholders on the presentation of data and its relevancy.
- The outcomes of the studies have huge implications on a number of people.

# **Addressing the Challenges**

- For future studies, the Superintendent will continue to work with district staff in providing relevant, accurate information in a timely manner in an effort to allow Council to make an informed decision on a very important topic.
- The provision of this information will occur in a neutral and transparent way.
- The Superintendent will continue to review policy and engage in conversations surrounding the policy when the appropriate time arises.

# **Appendices**

- Executive Summary Burton Elementary School Sustainability Study
- Executive Summary McAdam Elementary School Sustainability Study
- Executive Summary Millville Elementary School Sustainability Study
- Executive Summary Nackawic Elementary, Middle and High Schools Sustainability Study

Superintendent's Signature:	
DEC Chair Signature:	
Date:	