

**ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)**  
**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting – August 22, 2018**

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met on Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at the Saint John Education Centre, 490 Woodward Avenue, Saint John. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

**Council Members:**

Rob Fowler, Chair; Roger Nesbitt, Vice Chair; Wayne Spires, Bernie Regenbogen, Dan O'Connor, Linda Sherbo, Heather Gillis, Larry Boudreau, Justin Tinker, Richard Malone

**Regrets:** Rob Alexander, Gerry Mabey

**ASD-S Staff:**

Zoë Watson, Superintendent; Paul Smith, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; John MacDonald, Director of Finance & Administration; Peter Smith, Director of Education Support Services; Derek O'Brien, Director of Schools, St. Stephen Education Centre; Debbie Thomas, Director of Schools, Saint John Education Centre; Gary Hall, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; and Clare Murphy, Recording Secretary.

**1. Call to Order/Welcome/Regrets**

Mr. Fowler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. Approvals**

**2.1 Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Fowler asked if there were no questions or concerns with the Agenda that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Nesbitt moved that the Agenda be approved. Mr. Spires seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**2.2 Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Fowler referred to the Minutes of the June 13, 2018 meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns regarding the Minutes that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Minutes be approved. Seconded by Mr. Nesbitt. Motion carried.

## **2.3 Public Comment**

None

## **3. Member's Notebook**

Ms. Gillis enquired about PSSC/Open house dates. Mrs. Watson advised that any confirmed dates were collected at the Principals meeting and we will post them by the end of the week. Mrs. Watson also reminded Principals to ensure that DEC members are included on their distribution lists.

Mr. Fowler commented that he brought greetings at the Principals/VPs meeting this week on behalf of Council.

## **4. Presentation – Future St. Stephen – Request for Surplus Property Declaration**

Mr. Fowler introduced Richard Fulton from Future St. Stephen, and Gerald and Raymond Disher who are requesting Council declare land surplus behind St. Stephen Elementary School.

Mr. Fulton provided an overview of their project which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

Mr. Gerald Disher then addressed Council and emphasized that this community is changing and this project would provide an opportunity to grow the community. He advised that there is a need for new infrastructure, roads and homes. This project will provide very structured and regulated growth – for young families, retirees. The location makes it ideal.

Questions following the presentation included: what type of homes would be built (ie mini homes, private homes, apartment buildings); land leases; enforcement of covenants; who maintains the roads, plowing, etc.; was the Town on board with this proposal; what the final layout would look like; would the existing sewer system and water lines be able to accommodate new additions.

During the presentation it was clarified that the Dishers would also like to include the 20' of trees behind the school in the declaration as surplus. As well, they would be looking for a piece of land near Chocolate Drive for road access.

Council determined that with these additional requests, staff would need to connect with the Department of Education and Early Childhood before making a final decision. Mr. Fowler clarified that once land is declared surplus, disposition is up to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

## **5. Business Arising from Minutes**

### **5.1 Minister's Excellence in Education Awards**

Mr. Fowler advised that all applications were reviewed by a sub-committee and three were chosen and sent to the Department.

Discussion arose on whether or not the applications could be sent out in April (instead of May) to allow more time to complete the paperwork at a very busy time of the year in our schools.

Mr. Boudreau then moved that Council write to the Minister to request applications be sent out in April to allow more time for completion. Seconded by Mr. O'Connor. Motion carried.

### **5.2 Policy 409 – Options for the Northern Peninsula**

Mrs. Watson referred to the analysis that was prepared by John MacDonald and posted with Council's meeting materials. Mr. MacDonald then reviewed the three options and highlighted any challenges with each scenario. He also reviewed the long and short term recommendations.

Discussion followed with many questions being asked about different possibilities and the pros and cons associated with the scenarios as presented. All were addressed by Mr. MacDonald and Mrs. Watson.

Mrs. Watson commented that with no announcement on Phases 1 & 2, these changes would be a few years out and emphasized that parents would not want to see students moved out of schools before new ones are built.

Mr. Regenbogen moved that Council begin Phase 3 of the 409 process for the Saint John city centre schools to look at reconfiguring Millidgeville North School to a middle school. Council will also look at an addition or new construction, depending on cost, to M. Gerald Teed to accommodate the grades 3-5 from Millidgeville North School. The middle school student population from Hazen-White/St. Francis may move to Millidgeville North School in September of 2019 and the middle school students from Princess Elizabeth School would only move when M. Gerald Teed is able to accept the grades 3-5 from Millidgeville North School. Council will also consider major capital repairs to Princess Elizabeth School or a new school, depending on cost. Seconded by Mr. Tinker. Motion carried. Mr. O'Connor voted against the motion.

Mrs. Watson advised Council that it will take time to determine and schedule the meetings required and develop the materials. With the Phase 3 proposal, some steps are grade reconfiguration, others a full Policy 409 process. Council suggested the possibility of one meeting before Christmas and one after.

### **5.3 PSSC Orientations Subcommittee Update**

Ms. Sherbo provided Council with a proposed agenda and revised format for the PSSC Orientation evenings this fall. Ms. Gillis commented that by communicating the new format at the open house events, it may catch the interest of more people. DEC members will be asked to communicate with their liaison school Principals to ensure the invitation gets sent out. The committee will meet again to finalize.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Draft Council Meeting Dates & Locations**

Mrs. Watson reviewed the schedule for the coming year and noted last year Council met once at the new Seaside Park Elementary.

Mr. Boudreau moved that Council accept the schedule as presented. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

### **6.2 Draft Annual Planning Calendar**

Mrs. Watson reviewed the document and noted that it is a work in progress. Items can be added/changed as required by Council.

Mr. Fowler confirmed that there will be a DEC provincial symposium in the Miramichi in the spring.

Mr. Boudreau moved that Council accept the schedule as presented. Seconded by Ms. Gillis. Motion carried.

Mr. O'Connor enquired about linkage meetings with community organizations. Mr. Fowler suggested that anyone who would like to have a group present bring the request to Council and they will decide.

### **6.3 Expenditure Plan 2018-19**

Mr. MacDonald reviewed the expenditure plan for 2018-19 and highlighted concerns with regard to a shortfall for funding of EAs, SIWs and custodial staff. He noted that the \$3.8M surplus in regular instruction and a cut in minor repairs will be needed to break even.

Mr. MacDonald clarified that this year the Department provided an extra \$3M in funding due to the shortfall for EAs for Anglophone districts with Anglophone South receiving \$1.5M of the total \$3M.

Mr. MacDonald noted that this is our best projection and that we will monitor and advise of any concerns going forward.

Mr. Spires enquired if we receive adequate funding to pay the salaries for our new FI teachers. Mrs. Watson responded we did, and explained they are paid based on their certification and the collective agreement.

Mr. Spires then moved to accept the expenditure plan as presented. Seconded by Mr. Nesbitt. Motion carried.

#### **6.4 PSSC Budgets 2018-19**

Mr. MacDonald reviewed the document and advised that the amounts are based on September 2017 enrolment, and are either a \$500 minimum, or \$2.40 per student, whichever is greater.

Mr. Boudreau moved that we accept the budgets as presented. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

#### **6.5 DEC Vacancy**

Mr. Fowler advised that Mr. Alexander has submitted his resignation, with regret, as representative for Sub-district 11. An advertisement will be posted in the Kings County Record and on our ASD-S website. Three names will then be submitted to the Minister to appoint a new representative.

### **7. Information Items**

#### **7.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Watson asked for a moment of silence for staff and students who passed away over the summer months including: Devan Breau, former student at Harbour View High; Teresa Grenier, custodian at Kennebecasis Valley High; Heather Cole, EA at Hazen-White/St. Francis; Rob MacMurray, teacher at Island View Elementary, and Barb Murray, a bus driver in the St. Stephen Education Centre.

Mrs. Watson expressed her thanks to staff who worked diligently to fill the FI roles including, Subject Coordinators Jacqueline Turnbull and James Geraghty and Bridget Ryan, Human Resources.

She noted that the Principals/VPs met today at Kings Church in Quispamsis and it was great day. She spoke with CBC Information Morning last week with regard to changes to alternate education.

Mrs. Watson advised Council that Debbie Thomas, Director of Schools for the Saint John Education Centre will be retiring at the end of August. She has taken a part time role with AEI. Council thanked Ms. Thomas for her dedication to the District over many years.

## **7.2 Chair's Report and Update**

Mr. Fowler advised Council that CRA has advised that the stipend Councilors receive for sitting on the DEC, will be fully taxed beginning in January, 2019.

Mr. Fowler noted that Stacey Brown, DEC Manager, will be sending out a generic questionnaire to all political parties asking for their position on topics such as French Immersion, the 10 Year Education Plan, etc. The DEC Chairs and Vice Chairs will be meeting with party representatives on September 10<sup>th</sup> in Fredericton.

Mr. Fowler reported that the DEC Chairs met a few weeks ago (Stacey Brown was unable to attend). He noted that he took Minutes and that he will send them out shortly.

Mr. Fowler advised that there will be a spring symposium in May in the Miramichi, and that Stacey Brown will be working with ASD-N on the details.

## **7.3 Correspondence**

None; all correspondence was posted on the portal for Council's information.

## **8. Adjournment**

Mr. Fowler thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting and reminded Council the next meeting will be held at 490 Woodward Avenue, Saint John on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Rob Fowler, Chair

---

Clare Murphy, Recording Secretary