

ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting – May 8, 2024

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met in-person on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Council Members:

Roger Nesbitt, Chair; Amanda Hamm, Vice-Chair (on-line), Ginny Hooper, Matthew Martin, Shane Borthwick, Sarah Craig, Teresa Sewell, Kaylee Johnson (on-line), Beth McQuinn-Nixon and Wayne Spires.

ASD-S Staff:

Derek O'Brien, Superintendent; Jessica Hanlon, Director of Communications; Allan Davis, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; Rosemary Southard, Director of Schools, St. Stephen Education Centre, Ryan Price, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, John MacDonald, Director of Finance and Administration, and Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary.

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Regrets

Mr. Nesbitt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He noted regrets from Jon Barry, Amanda Henderson-Matthews and Jennifer Sheils.

Mr. Nesbitt began the meeting respectfully acknowledging the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaq and Peskotomuhkati peoples. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

2. Approvals

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Agenda for the meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Ms. Craig moved that the Agenda be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Minutes of the April 10, 2024 meeting and asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. There were a couple of spelling corrections to be made on page 2 section 4 and page 3 section 7.1, Mr. Spires moved that the Minutes be approved as corrected. Seconded by Ms. Hooper. Motion carried.

2.3 Public Comment

No public were in attendance.

3. Superintendent's Report & Update

Mr. O'Brien advised that his report had been posted last week for Council to review.

He noted the conference opportunities for our principals and vice principals. Six principals attended the Ulead Conference in Banff, six principals and a director of schools attended the Canadian Association of Principals Conference in Toronto, and six members of the leadership team attended the Canadian Association for the Practical Study of Law and Education in Toronto. These are efforts to continue building leadership capacity in our district.

Mr. O'Brien mentioned activities continue supporting the work with anti-racism. We had our second anti-racism summit, which consisted of a group of students from our high schools and staff. The draft anti-racism policy was shared at the summit for staff and student feedback.

He reported that funding is continuing next year to support the When Children Succeed project in our seven Saint John elementary schools, as well as continued funding to support Academic Support Teachers in elementary schools throughout ASD-S.

Mr. O'Brien highlighted that our junior, intermediate, and senior orchestras performed for the New Brunswick Music Festival and won gold.

He concluded his report by indicating the hiring of principals and vice principals to known vacancies. He spoke about the variety of musicals in high schools and middle schools this spring and the regional heritage fair at UNBSJ where he presented awards.

4. New Business

4.1 Draft Council Meeting Dates & Location (2024-2025)

Mr. Nesbitt advised the council meeting dates and location had been posted last week for Council to review. Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Council Meeting Dates/Location be approved as posted. Seconded by Ms. Hamm. Motion carried.

4.2 Functional Capacity Report

Mr. John MacDonald, Director of Finance and Administration was in attendance to update Council on the functional capacity of each school in the district.

Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved to approve the Functional Capacity Report as presented. Seconded by Ms. McQuinn-Nixon. Motion Carried.

4.3 Monitoring Reports:

EL 3.5 – Property Management

Mr. O'Brien presented the Monitoring report on Property Management. Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Ms. Hooper moved to approve the monitoring report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion carried.

EL 3.6 – Stakeholders and Public Relations

Mr. O'Brien presented the Monitoring report on Stakeholders and Public Relations. Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Ms. McQuinn-Nixon moved to approve the monitoring report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

EL 3.0 – Global Executive Constraint

Mr. O'Brien presented the Monitoring report on Global Executive Constraint. Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Ms. Hooper moved to approve the monitoring report as presented. Seconded by Ms. Craig. Motion carried.

5. Information Items

5.1 Member's Notebook

Ms. Johnson mentioned that May 15, 2024 is Purple Day for the Sweet Caroline Foundation to bring awareness to anaphylaxis. She also mentioned that Saint John High School is having an International Night on May 24, 2024.

Ms. Hooper spoke about the talent show she attended at Seaside Park School. She also attended the Kindness Café at Centennial School where students learn how to run a business. The monies from this event were to support the local food bank.

Ms. Hamm mentioned she attended the River Valley Middle School production – Dorothy in Wonderland.

5.2 Chair's Report and Update

North End School

He was pleased to attend, with Mr. O'Brien, the announcement by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Hon. Bill Hogan on Friday, April 19. The Minister announced the additional funding for the new school to provide the Community Hub. The design changes that result will mean that the new school will not open until the Fall of 2027.

DEC Retreat of Saturday, April 20

Thank you to all of you who came out for that day. The feedback has been very positive, and he thinks it was a very productive day. We had some great presenters and great discussion.

AI Think Tank

Mr. Nesbitt was pleased to be able to attend the "Think Tank" session in Fredericton on Wednesday, April 24. A productive day dealing with the topic of Artificial Intelligence.

PSSC

He attended the PSSC meeting at KVHS on the Tuesday, April 30.

DEC Chairs Virtual Meeting

Chairs met virtually with Roland Collette to discuss the agenda for the Minister's Forum scheduled now for Monday, May 27.

5.3 Correspondence

Dealt with prior to the meeting.

DEC members were made aware of the dates for each Education Centre Inspire Awards.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Nesbitt thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 12, 2024.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Nesbitt, Chair

Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary