

**ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)**  
**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting – January 10, 2018**

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met on Wednesday, January 10, 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, Rob Alexander, Heather Gillis, Larry Boudreau, Justin Tinker

**Regrets:** Richard Malone, Gerry Mabey

**ASD-S Staff:**

Zoë Watson, Superintendent; Paul Smith, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; Derek O'Brien, Director of Schools, St. Stephen Education Centre; John MacDonald, Director of Finance & Administration, Peter Smith, Director of Education Support Services; 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 7:05 pm.

Mr. Fowler advised that Mr. Malone and Mr. Mabey were unable to attend this evening.

**2. Approvals**

**2.1 Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Fowler asked that there be a few additions to the agenda: 5.2 Council Meeting Evaluation Survey; 6.1.1. Policy 409 Motion re Hazen-White/St. Francis and Centennial; and 6.3 Policy Development. He asked that if there were no questions or concerns with the amendments to the Agenda, that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Nesbitt moved that the amended Agenda be approved. Mr. Tinker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**2.2 Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Fowler referred to the Minutes of the December 13, 2017 meeting and the amended motion to change the word "attack" to "challenge" in one of his statements. He advised that

“attack” was the word he used and suggested that Council cannot just change his words. He went on to explain he was not asking the Minutes be amended again; however, wanted to have it on record that the original minutes correctly recorded what he said.

He asked that if there were no concerns or questions regarding the Minutes, that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Minutes be approved. Seconded by Mr. O’Connor. Motion carried.

### **2.3 Public Comment**

Mr. Ron McGrath, PSSC Chair at Chris Saunders Memorial Elementary School addressed Council to ask if there were any plans to look at rezoning for the Kennebecasis Valley schools, and if so, when. He noted a drop in Chris Saunders Memorial Elementary School enrolment and that parents have expressed concern. He also questioned if parents would be involved in the process. Mrs. Watson advised that there is no plan currently to look at any rezoning in the Kennebecasis Valley but she said that the District is aware that the population is dropping and that we are not seeing much growth in Rothesay or Quispamsis. Discussion arose regarding other schools in the area and what the difference might be if changes were made. Mrs. Watson suggested that John MacDonald, Paul Smith and she could meet and review and then report back to the PSSC.

### **3. Member’s Notebook**

Mr. Tinker noted that he attended the Curriculum Think Tank in Fredericton in December and was encouraged to see that we are trying to anticipate the needs of tomorrow and developing curriculum to meet those needs. He advised that he will share the results when they are released.

### **4. Presentation**

Mrs. Watson introduced Moira Sherwood, Subject Coordinator of Technology & Skilled Trades across all of ASD-S. She is also the Co-Chair of the Digital Citizenship Committee along with Pam Miller.

Ms. Sherwood reviewed the highlights of the “Bring Your Own Device” program (BYOD) along with an update from the Digital Citizenship Committee. Both presentations are attached to and form part of these Minutes.

Questions from Council followed the presentation and were addressed by Ms. Sherwood; including: when schools would be getting the BYOD program; when the program was instituted; the application process; equity issues (not all students have devices) and whether all classrooms in a BYOD school must offer the program if a teacher doesn’t want devices in his/her classroom. Mr. Fowler thanked Ms. Sherwood for her presentation.

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

### **5.1 Policy Review Committee**

Mr. Nesbitt outlined the review process to date and advised that Council's current GP#1 (Governance Commitment); GP#2 (Governing Style) and GP#3 (Role of the DEC) had been revised and were posted with tonight's meeting materials for Council's review.

He noted that there would be a new numbering system and a monitoring template for all policies going forward if Council approves the direction of the Policy Review Committee.

Following discussion, Mr. Nesbitt moved that the current GP#1, GP#2 and GP#3 be rescinded and replaced with the revised policies as posted. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

### **5.2 Council Meeting Evaluation Surveys**

Mr. Fowler advised that he will be providing cumulative updates on the survey results which Council members are completing after each meeting. This information will allow him to address any issues that may arise in a timely manner.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Policy 409 Sustainability Review & Motion – St. John the Baptist/King Edward & Prince Charles**

Mr. Fowler advised that he would be reading into the record the summary documents of the consultations held in both schools followed by a request for a motion. At that time, the floor would be open to Council members who had questions or wished to make a comment.

Mr. Fowler then read into the record the summary documents of the meetings that were held at St. John the Baptist/King Edward and Prince Charles schools. The summary documents are attached to and form part of these Minutes.

Mr. Fowler then called for a motion. Motion was made by Ms. Gillis that Council direct the Superintendent to inform Minister Kenny that we recommend the closure of St. John the Baptist/King Edward and Prince Charles schools and the construction of a new K-8 school, in a central location to both. Seconded by Mr. Regenbogen. The floor was then open for discussion. Mr. O'Connor noted that ASD-S needs four new schools and he was not sure this is the right one at this time. There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Fowler asked for a show of hands of those in favour. Motion carried. Mr. O'Connor voted against the motion.

### **6.1.1 Policy 409 Motion re Hazen-White/St. Francis and Centennial**

Mr. Fowler called for a motion with regard to Phase 2 of the multiphase infrastructure plan for the seven Saint John central city schools. Mr. Regenbogen moved that Council direct the Superintendent to inform Minister Kenny that we intend to conduct a sustainability study for Hazen-White/St. Francis and Centennial schools and propose the construction of a new K-5 school in a location central to both. Seconded by Mr. Spires.

Mr. Fowler noted that this motion is the result of previous discussions regarding the various scenarios for the city schools and what the next best option would be. It was noted that Millidgeville North, Princess Elizabeth and M. Gerald Teed would be looked at in Phase 3 and that process should be considered quickly to determine what is needed and what can happen to ensure all our students have safe spaces.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Fowler asked for a show of hands of those in favour. Motion carried. Mr. Boudreau voted against the motion.

### **6.2 Saint John High School Mid-Life Upgrade**

Mr. MacDonald advised that he would need a motion with regard to the Mid-Life Upgrade document that was posted with Council's meeting materials for review. Mr. Spires moved that Council accept the report from the province for the Saint John High School Mid-Life Upgrade. Seconded by Mr. Alexander. There being no questions or concerns, Motion carried.

### **6.3 Policy Development**

Mr. Fowler opened the floor to suggestions for policy development and to a discussion to determine Council's wish with regard to which of the suggestions they would like to see referred to the Policy Review Committee for development.

Following discussions, it was decided to refer the following to the Policy Review Committee:

- All Items delegated to the Superintendent i.e. self-sustaining funds, crisis plans, etc.
- Policy 409 process – i.e. we have more latitude than we think – review what we do and what we could do to achieve better results

Discussion arose on how/if Council might be able to assist in reducing the number of abusive incidents reported by our EAs which occur when students act out. Mr. Fowler advised that on February 6<sup>th</sup> he would be attending an Inclusion Education Forum which will look at what's needed, what's left to do and where we are at. He suggested that it was possible some information could come from that meeting.

Mr. Fowler also noted this will be a big topic for the Minister's Forum which he would be attending with DEC Chairs on Feb 14 & 15. Mr. Fowler advised he would update Mr. Nesbitt with any relevant information on this topic prior to the start of the February 14<sup>th</sup> DEC meeting (Mr. Nesbitt will be Chair for that meeting).

Mrs. Watson noted that we have reached out to schools to get copies of the CUPE incident form and are asking for copies of the NBTF forms as well. She advised that the District would be aware of the more serious incidents for sure.

Mr. Alexander added that we should look at engaging the parents – that they have solutions.

## **7. Information Items**

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

Mrs. Watson advised that her report was posted on the website for review with tonight's meeting materials. She also posted information on Teachers' Working Condition funds.

Mrs. Watson noted that ASD-S was host to the Education Group provincial meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday. Four Superintendents, the Directors, EECD staff and the ADM were in attendance. During the Wednesday session, Mr. Fowler facilitated a session based on the work of Stephen Covey on The 7 Habits. Positive feedback was received.

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

Mr. Fowler advised that the DEC Chairs would be attending an Inclusive Education Forum on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Minister's Forum is being held on February 14 & 15 in Miramichi and the DEC Chairs will be in attendance. Mr. Nesbitt will Chair the ASD-S DEC meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **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 advised that the next meeting will be held at 490 Woodward Avenue, Saint John on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rob Fowler, Chair

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Clare Murphy, Recording Secretary