



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL Virtual Online Meeting Platform Public Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 24, 2022

<p>Council Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Adams – Sub-district 1 • Luke Rousselle – Sub-district 2 • Jessica Martin – Sub-district 3 • Tanya Cloutier – Sub-district 4 • Serena Bradford – Sub-district 5 • Paul MacIntosh – Sub-district 6 • Miriam McLaughlin – Sub-district 7 • Janet Dean – Sub-district 8 • Michael Mazerolle – Sub-district 9 • Chris Harquail – Sub-district 10 • Jim Mills – Sub-district 11 • Wallace Carr – Sub-district 12, Vice Chairperson • Thomas Geburt – Sub-district 13, Chairperson • David Perley – First Nations Councillor • Hayden Sparkes – Student Representative Councillor <p>Council Member Regrets: None</p>	<p>ASD-W District Staff Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David McTimoney, Superintendent • Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC • Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction • Jay Colpitts, Director of Schools - WEC • Jennifer Read, Director of Communication • Susan Young, Data and Accountability Supervisor • Katrina Paget, Numeracy Subject Coordinator • Derrick Grant, Numeracy Subject Coordinator • Mary Anne Renyolds, Numeracy Subject Coordinator <p>Guest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media (1) • D. MacKenzie • R. Andrews
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Call to Order:

- Thomas Geburt, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:30 PM.**

Welcome & Comments by the Chairperson:

- Chairperson Geburt, on behalf of the Council, acknowledged that the land on which all of the ASD-West schools, with the exception of one, are located on the traditional unceded and unsundered territory of Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet). This territory is covered by the Treaties of Peace and Friendship which the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Wolastoqey (Maliseet), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Introductions:

- Councillor Geburt welcomed members of the public and he acknowledged that all members of the Council were in attendance tonight. Superintendent McTimoney introduced the district office staff in attendance.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was previously reviewed by the Council and approved by consensus.

MOTION:

..... to approve the agenda as presented.

MOVED BY: Chris Harquail SECONDED BY: Miriam McLaughlin MOTION CARRIED

Review of Action Items from Previous Public Meeting – January 27, 2022:

- Action items from the previous minutes were reviewed and reported as being in progress or completed.
- Chairperson Geburt reported that his school PSSC meetings have included discussions regarding Black History Month, and he looks forward to hearing from other Councillors about their respective school acknowledgements.
- Vice Chairperson Carr reported that the Student Voice Committee meeting in February has been postponed until March 3, 2022.

Approval of the Minutes – January 27, 2022:

- The minutes were previously reviewed by the Council and approved by consensus.

MOTION:

..... to approve the minutes as presented.

MOVED BY: Tanya Cloutier

SECONDED BY: Mike Mazerolle

MOTION CARRIED

Presentations:

Curriculum & Program Presentation: Numeracy:

- Numeracy Subject Coordinators Katrina Paget, Mary Anne Reynolds, and Derrick Grant, presented a tool used by teachers called “Number Talk” that includes students showing a hand signal to inform their teacher that they are ready and thinking, they have the answer, they have multiple strategies, and finally that they agree with the answer. The Council participated in an activity that asked, “how many two-digit numbers are divisible by their one’s digit? The quotation must be a whole number”. The Superintendent was the first to respond with the correct answer, 41 but then changed his answer to 42. It was noted by the Subject Coordinators those patterns are important to consider when calculating the answer and number talks is an excellent practice to embed in teaching of all levels as it shows where the student is in their thinking. This practice is more important now than ever following a two-year pandemic, learning from home, and in the classroom.

Provincial Assessment Results:

- Susan Young, Data and Accountability Supervisor, began her presentation with the Provincial Assessment Results chart. This chart outlined assessments that are, at times, not comparable as they were not administered, discontinued, a pilot or reported to be a field test status. The understanding of the assessment timeline will be beneficial for the next series of assessment reports.
- The 2020-2021 ASD-W Assessment Results was presented. Sue explained that during the 2020-2021 school year, Provincial Results were provided for Grade 4 English and French Second Language Reading, Grade 6 English and FSL Reading (early, late and Post Intensive French), Grade 9 English Language Proficiency Assessment, Grade 10 FSL Reading (early, late and PIF), Grade 10 FSL Oral Proficiency and Grade 12 FSL Oral Proficiency.
- A video was shown to explain Item Response Theory (IRT) that the Province of New Brunswick had selected to use that aligns with the Francophone sector reporting methodology.
- Councillor Perley asked if IRT was the new method of assessment, and does it take into consideration the different learning styles. Sue responded that it would take into consideration student learning abilities and their level of learning. Councillor Perley requested to know the percentage of First Nation Students that participated in the English reading scores for Grades 4, 6, and 9 during the 2020-2021 school year. The Superintendent informed Councillor Perley that this information was included in the December Superintendent Report called ASD-W ER11: Wabanaki Education.
- Councillor Mills asked if students used a computer when completing their assessments. The response given was that the use of computers was the practice for the past two years during the COVID pandemic. Councillor Mills requested additional information concerning the Grade 10 Mathematics and Scientific Proficiency that were pilot projects. The Director of Curriculum & Instruction responded that we would have to wait a few more years to learn the outcomes of these prototype programs.
- Chairperson Geburt commented that the French Second Language results indicate that a child enrolled in the Early French Immersion Program has developed a greater understanding of the language than those enrolled in the late French Immersion Program.

Circle of Understanding – History of Wolastoqey, Mi'kmaq and Peskotomuhkati Societies:

- Councillor Perley's presentation included a timeline chart called the Circle of Life. Principles learned from this presentation included respect of yourself and all of creation, the importance of sharing with others in the clan and establishing harmony in the community. In the Indigenous community, it was taught to respect Community Elders, and when hunting to only bring back what you need so that the resource is available for the next generation. The final principle taught is called the Web of Life, which means all aspects of the Circle of Life need balance.
- The timeline was reviewed, moving in an Eastern direction, and beginning with the time of Creation, Age of Reciprocity, Age of Destruction and the Age of Healing and Revival.
- The Wabanaki Confederacy is located in Old Town Maine. The Grand Council consisted of Wolastoqey, Mi'kmaq and Peskotomuhkati Chiefs and Community Elders. A boundary line was established, the Indigenous people spoke their language and an economic system was established. Therefore, they were considered a nation.
- During the Age of Destruction, pre-confederation colonists adopted policies of assimilation into French and English societies. This was designed to attack and dismantle language, knowledge, value, and culture of the Wabanaki people.
- The Age of Healing and Revival re-introduced Indigenous ceremonies, language, and teachings, which is healing to the spirits of Indigenous people. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada responded with 94 Calls to Action.
- In closing, Councillor Perley requested that we continue to support the rebuilding of culture foundations and to work towards building harmonious and healing relationships.
- This Circle of Understanding presentation has been saved on the DEC Portal and the ASD-W website.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

DEC Budget

- A discussion has occurred at previous Council meetings regarding the need for technology at the Middle School level. Councillors had recently been provided with a DEC Budget Summary Report showing an ending balance of **\$38,459.00**. Chairperson Geburt acknowledged that this amount will not carry forward at the end of this fiscal year-end on March 31st, but will be included in the final balance for ASD-W.
- Vice Chairperson Carr requested to make a motion as follows:

MOTION

..... I move that \$30,000.00 from the 2021-2022 DEC budget be reallocated to the Superintendent of Anglophone West School District for the expressed purpose to purchase laptops or other technical devices to support digital learning by Middle School students in the district. This support may be directed to one or more schools at the discretion of the Superintendent.

MOVED BY: Wallace Carr SECONDED BY: Miriam McLaughlin MOTION CARRIED

New Business:

Parcel of Land – Nashwaaksis Middle School:

- The Anglophone West School District received a request by the City of Fredericton to declare a portion of property at Nashwaaksis Middle School as surplus for a turnaround spot at the top of Lilac Crescent, so that a cul-de-sac can be created for a better flow of traffic and city equipment to turnaround. The Council had previously seen a photo of the area and have discussed this matter prior to the public meeting. Consensus had been given that by declaring this small piece of land as surplus, it would not create a hardship for the school but only improve the flow of traffic at the Nashwaaksis Middle School. An ariel map was shown of the requested parcel of land and the following motion was carried.

MOTION:

..... I will make a motion to declare this parcel of land, at Nashwaaksis Middle School as specified in the City of Fredericton request, to be declared as surplus.

MOVED BY: Jessica Martin SECONDED BY: Paul MacIntosh MOTION CARRIED

Minister's Excellence in Education Award:

- The Chairperson informed the Council of an annual award that is given by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to an educator who displays outstanding skills in supporting the diverse needs of all learners. Anglophone West School District is seeking three candidates who will be presented with this prestigious award in May or June of this school year.
- The District Education Council Selection Committee will consist of Councillor Mazerolle (Chairperson), Councillor Martin and Councillor Dean. The deadline to submit nominations to the District Education Council is April 4, 2022. The Awards Committee's deadline to submit their recommendation to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is April 28, 2022.

COVID-19 Update:

- The Superintendent informed the Council of a large number of COVID cases being reported in schools over the past few weeks and leading up to the March Break.
- The reporting process has changed, where positive cases are no longer reported daily by school and number.
- Employee absences are high and daily vacancies are being left unfilled. Educators who are assigned to the district office (approximately 70 employees) now report to work in a school setting. D. Kay monitors the vacancies and dispatches teachers by trade as needed. Educators who are assigned to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (approximately 28 employees) also have been included in this 5-week deployment strategy. Casual educational assistants and supply teachers are also dispatched to fill-in for unfilled vacancies within their classification. This is on top of the daily absences that are picked-up through the district's AESOP replacement system used to contact casual employees.
- The Superintendent informed the Council of 25 schools receiving portable HEPA filtration systems. Three ASD-W schools (Connaught Street Elementary School, Montgomery Street Elementary School and Burton Elementary School) will receive a permanent mechanical ventilation system this summer.
- To date, 34 of the 69 ASD-W schools have reached out for district and EECD staff to cover an unfilled vacancy.
- It was announced today, that on March 14th, the Province of NB COVID-19 restrictions will cease. Additional work will be needed next week to prepare for when students return to school following the March Break.

Correspondence:

- There was no correspondence to discuss.

Superintendent Reports:

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-ER2.3: Healthy Living*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented one time per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. This policy calls for learning opportunities and programs that support and promote healthy living practices for all to benefit within the learning and working environment. Schools are no longer allowed to supply unhealthy snacks in vending machines and for sale in school cafeterias. ASD-W cares about the well being of all students and staff. Approximately 3000 employees have access to the Homewood Health service provider and a recent self-reflective survey was circulated in all 69 schools concerning mental fitness and resiliency.
- Chairperson Geburt asked the Superintendent if he found the CARR (Competence, Autonomy, Relatedness, and Relevance) student survey results concerning for questions 31 (...when a strategy is not helping me achieve a goal, I try a different one) and 32 (My knowledge of others' cultures helps me interact with those from other cultures) with a score less than 60%. The Superintendent concurred that this low percentage is indeed concerning to him and that he would like to see this benchmark increase and that this is a measure of resiliency.
- Councillor McLaughlin asked what external measures are used to assist students with mental health issues. The Superintendent confirmed that we have staff trained (ASSIST) to support students with suicidal intent.
- Councillor Carr added that he was concerned with 1 in 3 students not knowing where to go in their community to get help as a concerning number to him. Councillor Mills referenced the LINK program that was promoted through schools to inform students of the various programs and resources available to them within their community.
- Councillor Sparkes added that as a student, he is aware of the LINK program as teachers are known to provide this card to students for support. **ACTION:** Councillor Carr requested further information on the resources available to students in schools by C. Blaney during the March Public DEC Meeting. As well, Chairperson Geburt requested to know the external indicators and how it can be brought into the Superintendent report. This report is pending until the next public meeting.

Committee Reports:

Hanwell School Naming Committee

- Councillor MacIntosh informed the Council that the submission of recommended school names needs to be submitted to the Hanwell School Naming Committee, by February 28th. To date, there have been over 350 submissions. A committee meeting will be held the first week of March and a report will then be given at the March 24th public DEC meeting.

New Northside West School Naming Committee:

- Councillor Dean reported that there were no updates from her committee.

Student Voice Committee:

- Councillor Carr reported that the February Student Voice meeting was postponed until **Thursday, March 3rd at 12:15 PM.**

Public Comments:

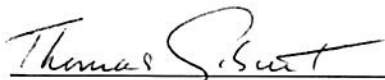
- Mr. Andrews commented that he was involved in a discussion about report cards surrounding sensitive kids that get a report card in a poor light in sense of their accomplishments. During the pandemic, student performances are gauged against their non-exposure to school time. The Superintendent responded that he recognized that over the past couple of years, an interruption in learning had occurred due to the COVID pandemic. Currently work is being done to organize responses to student needs, in the spring, summer and fall moving forward to fill the gap, which will be felt in the years ahead. Recommendations have been sent to EECD to offset the learning that has been missed. Report cards are only a part of our system, and we count on teachers to provide more than just a grade, but comments and interaction with the parent/guardian about their child's learning.
- D. Kay shared that the previous K-12 Curriculum Report had been reviewed in the delivery of the outcomes. K-8 rubrics have been used to assist in the determination of the achievement scale. Mr. Andrews added that when a child gets a poor score, who is a smart child, why does that happen? The Superintendent suggested the parent to connect with the classroom teacher, who will have the rationale of why that grade was assigned. The Superintendent's expectation is that the teacher would never assess the child on a section of curriculum that they had not been taught.

Closing Comments:

- Chairperson Geburt thanked those that had attended tonight's public DEC meeting.

Date of Next Public Meeting: March 24, 2022 - Best Western Plus Conference Centre in Woodstock, N.B.

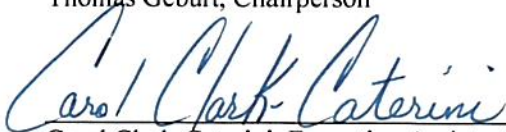
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.



Thomas Geburt, Chairperson

24 March 2022

Date



Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant
to the Superintendent & DEC

March 24, 2022

Date