



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Virtual Online Meeting Platform
Public Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 27, 2022**

Council Members Present:

- 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
- 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

Council Member Regrets:

- Michael Mazerolle – Sub-district 9

ASD-W District Staff Present:

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & DEC
- Shawn Tracy, Director of Finance and Administration
- Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
- Gina Dunnett, Director of Schools - OEC
- Jennifer Read, Director of Communication
- Jon Hoyt-Hallett, Subject Coordinator, Science/Co-Op & Experiential Learning
- Luc Plourde, Lead, Co-Op & Skilled Trades
- Nick Kitchen, IT

Guest:

Call to Order:

- Thomas Geburt, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:31 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 unsurrendered 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 acknowledged Councillor Mazerolle absence and he welcomed those joining the meeting. Superintendent McTimoney introduced the district office staff in attendance.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was previously reviewed by the Council and a request was made by Chairperson Geburt to add under New Business, a sub-bullet under the COVID Update to include a discussion on HEPA Filters. As well, under New Business, the agenda item called Housing for Economic Immigrants. With this addition, the agenda was approved by consensus.

MOTION:

..... to approve the agenda with the mentioned additions.

MOVED BY: Miriam McLaughlin SECONDED BY: Paul MacIntosh MOTION CARRIED

Review of Action Items from Previous Public Meeting – December 9, 2021:

- Action items from the previous minutes were reviewed and reported as being completed.

Approval of the Minutes – December 9, 2021:

- The minutes were previously reviewed by the Council and no revisions were needed.

MOTION:

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

MOVED BY: Tanya Adams SECONDED BY: Wallace Carr MOTION CARRIED

Presentations:

Curriculum & Program Presentation: Co-op Education / Skilled Trades

- Jon Hoyt-Hallett, Subject Coordinator, and Luc Plourde, Skilled Trades Lead, presented a skilled trades initiative in ASD-W. Luc asked the Council to think about a middle school subject that they really enjoyed. Luke went on to say that students at Devon Middle School are very excited to begin a woodworking program. This opportunity is available for students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 as generous donations of materials and additional proceeds needed to support this program had been donated by Devon Lumber and Main Street Home Hardware.
- The provincial welding trailer was recently housed at LHHS. A short video was shown of students participating and speaking about the welding program. Councillors were given an opportunity to participate in a welding game activity, <https://welding-game.web.app/#/> which can also be used as a welding teaching tool for students to learn if they would enjoy the program. Councillor Sparks commented that the welding program is a great program for students interested in a career in trades.

Language Learning Opportunities (LLO)

- Dianne Kay presented a report called Language Learning Opportunities (LLO). This is a Provincial initiative with the intention of examining unique learning strategies that would contribute to the goal of all anglophone graduates in the public school system to have at least a conversational level of French. During the 2021-2022 school year, 11 schools and 2 early learning centres are carrying out new and innovative programming that is intended to increase French language proficiency for students. These schools and early learning centres received resource support and funding to assist prior to the rollout.
- Three prototype schools/sites are Angie's Little Peeps and Early Learning Centre in Woodstock, Stanley Consolidated School and Sunbury West School; each are participating in the provincial Language Learning Opportunity initiative.
- Each site has regular connection with an ASD-W FSL Subject Coordinator and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) provides monthly reports to ASD-W. Reports are indicating that this initiative is going well, and students are excited and proud to be learning French. Learning has been extended outside of the classroom and an assessment will follow this school year.
- Councillor Geburt asked if these schools will continue with this project next year. Dianne responded that this opportunity was being reviewed, but that we do not know what it will look like beyond this school year. The Superintendent added that the goal of the province is for all children to have a level of conversational French. The French Second Language programming for next year and the future of the LLO initiative will be determined by EECD.
- Councillor Geburt asked if a selection of 1 or 2 of the three prototypes may move forward. The Superintendent felt that it would not be unreasonable for this to be shared across the province for consideration by other schools and Early Childhood Centres.

Circle of Understanding – Language of Harmony and Respect:

- Councillor Perley's presentation included the historical source of information to include explorers, settlers, missionaries, colonial authorities, archeologists, and historians who had introduced a language of disharmony and disrespect.
- The contemporary sources of information were shared by media, civil servants, non-Indigenous people, Mi'kmaq scholars, Wolastoqi scholars, Penobscot scholars, and Passamaquoddy scholars. The language used to identify an Indigenous person included primitive, savage, barbarian, pagan, and uncivilized. Councillor Perley encouraged that the language of disharmony should be avoided in all classroom settings and to never use the terms Indian, Tribe, Band, Reserve and Reservation as these terms are disrespectful to Indigenous people. Acceptable terms to use are First Nation, Aboriginal/Indigenous, Penobscot, Maliseet, and Mi'kmaq. Councillor Perley went on to say that Indigenous people changed and progressed societies, and that they were civilized and resourceful. Indigenous people were generous to early settlers as they shared their resources, medicines, and food.
- Councillor Harquail asked if the words First Nation Communities is preferred over the word Reserve. Councillor Perley confirmed that this is indeed the preference of the Indigenous people. As well, some communities are returning to their ancestral names.
- Councillor Martin asked how the Town of Woodstock was named; was it by colonials or did they adopt the word? Councillor Perley responded that there was a Community in Meductic, but those living in Woodstock were given a colonial name and now translated to Wotstak.
- This presentation has been saved to the DEC Portal and the ASD-W website.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Black History Month – February 2022

- The Superintendent informed the Council that Black History Month was recognized last year and will be again this year in ASD-W schools. This year, a message has been sent to all teachers, administrators, and subject coordinators of available resources to support the teaching of black lives and experiences. These website links, films, and novels were provided in addition to the curriculum that is taught throughout the school year. It was noted that the month of February was designated as Black History Month in Canada in 1995.
- The Superintendent acknowledged the work of Beth Christie, Subject Coordinator, and her team, for their efforts in researching and informing educators of these additional resources.
- **ACTION:** Councillor Geburt requested Councillors to report back to the Council after attending their PSSC meetings of any conversations given on this topic.

New Business:

COVID-19 Update

- The Superintendent informed the Council of 346 positive COVID cases reported in ASD-W schools from September 2021 to December 2021. Many cases occurred between January 14th to January 26th with students, school staff, and district office staff impacted by the COVID virus.
- January 31st was confirmed as the first day back for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students. January 28th is the end of Semester I, followed by 2 turnaround days for High School students.
- The Superintendent informed the Council of approximately 75 ASD-W Subject Coordinators and Leads that have been deployed to a school and back to the classroom setting, as needed, for the next 5 weeks to fill any unfilled vacancies for teachers that are sick or need to self-isolate. As we are expecting an increase in employee vacancies, the process is to first try to secure a supply teacher, followed by a retired teacher then a local permit licensed individual. Educators working at EECD, will also be called upon for support. An Administrator meeting was held today to review the process and the Provincial Winter Plan. This document can be found on the EECD website.
- ASD-W employees have been supplied with KN95 & N95 masks.
- HEPA Filtration Systems have been supplied to classrooms in 25 schools in ASD-W without a mechanical ventilation system. The number of HEPA Filtration Systems received by ASD-W is 773, (2 systems per classroom plus some extras). The Superintendent informed the Council that Burton Elementary School, Connaught Street Elementary School, and Montgomery Street Elementary School were receiving a full mechanical ventilation system in the summer of 2022. These projects are in addition to the Capital Improvement projects already approved.
- Councillor Carr asked if the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development was covering the cost of HEPA Filtration Systems and face masks. The Superintendent confirmed that they were covering this cost and went on to say that the facial masks N95 and the most recent delivery of KN95 masks were equivalent in protection. They are expected to be used 1 per day when used all day long when teaching.

- The Province of NB has committed \$8.8M, over the next 4 years, for schools without a mechanical ventilation system. A discussion was had about ASD-W schools that would be equipped with a new ventilation system. It was noted that the four Carleton area schools, McAdam Avenue and Nashwaaksis Memorial School are on the provincial list for a new school in the years ahead. This could therefore eliminate at least 6 systems needed in ASD-W if these projects move forward.
- As well, George Street Middle School and Forest Hill Elementary School are additional schools to be considered as those that could be replaced in the future.
- Information was provided indicating that a reading of 1500 PPM is acceptable for CO₂ although not optimal for learning. Readings have increased above the 1500 PPM level at school for a period of the day, then for example recess occurs, and fresh air is brought into the school, which improves the reading. No schools have CO₂ readings that are impacting the safety of students and staff.

2022 Capital Improvement Update:

- Seventeen ASD-W schools were included on the 2022-2023 Capital Improvement Project lists approved by EECD. In May 2022, the Council will review projects for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. As noted earlier, three schools have been approved for new mechanical ventilation systems this summer. Investment also continues for three new schools...Hanwell and two on the northside of Fredericton.

Housing for Economic Immigrants:

- The Chairperson received a request to declare land adjacent to Chipman Forest Avenue School as surplus. The purpose of this purchase is to begin a housing development of approximately 75 homes, on 26 acres of land.
- Councillor Mills asked if Chipman Forest Avenue School Administration had been contacted to ensure this land was not used for outdoor programs and activities. Shawn Tracey responded that he has discussed the potential of selling this parcel of land with the school principal, and that she was excited at the potential to increase the population in the community and she did not foresee any concerns with selling this parcel of land.
- Councillor Martin wanted to know why a prosperous company would only be expected to pay \$1.00 to purchase 26 acres of land, when the Village of Chipman and the Provincial Government could benefit from a fair sale price. The Superintendent confirmed that it would be the Department of Infrastructure that would negotiate the sale price and that this decision was not at the district level. The funds from the sale would belong to the Province of NB.
- Councillor McLaughlin commented that she has previously worked with immigrants and that they arrive with financial resources and skills that will benefit a rural community greatly.
- The Superintendent informed the Council that if they agreed to approve this request, then this parcel of land would need to be declared surplus.

MOTION:

..... I will make a motion to declare this parcel of land, being PID #4502526, as surplus.

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

- Councillor Mills asked why the Council needed to hurry in passing a motion as he would like to hear what the PSSC would have to say. Councillor Martin concurred with Councillor Mills.
- A vote occurred with the majority in agreement of declaring this parcel of land as surplus.

Correspondence:

- Chairperson Geburt informed the Council of recent correspondence received from the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, dated December 13, 2021. Minister Cardy, has approved the Council's recommendations to appoint Luke Rousselle as the new Sub-district 2 Councillor in ASD-W.
- During the pre-meeting, Councillor Rousselle was sworn-in by Stacey Brown, DEC Manager for EECD.

Superintendent Reports:

- The Superintendent presented the report *ASD-W-EL4: Budget/Forecasting (3rd Quarter)*, as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented four times per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. The Superintendent reported that an initial surplus was expected the recent CUPE strike. However, EECD has approved planned expenditures to improve the learning of students from recent school closures due to the pandemic. ASD-W has determined that this savings would best benefit students with

assistive technology, school resources to learning and socio-emotional growth, in-class intervention for students, classroom technology for teaching, security upgrades and minor repairs in schools.

- **ACTION:** Councillor Geburt requested a technology purchase breakdown (I-Pads, laptops, tablets, headsets, and interactive projectors) prior to the end of **March 2022**.
- The Superintendent informed the Council that assistive technology is assigned to an individual student with exceptional needs.
- The Superintendent presented report *ASD-W-EL4: DEC Finances and Budget* (1 of 2), as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented twice per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal. **ACTION:** The DEC financial report will be reviewed at the upcoming working meeting on February 10th.
- The Superintendent presented report *ASD-W-EL4: Effective Use of Schools* as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is presented once per year and is posted publicly on the ASD-W website and the DEC Portal.
- Councillor Geburt asked the meaning of teaching spaces on the functional capacity report. The Superintendent responded the areas identified as the normal classroom and some additional areas designed as space for learning.
- Student enrollment was reviewed, and confirmation was given that 22,915 students would be considered the official enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year.

Committee Reports:

Hanwell School Naming Committee

- Councillor Paul MacIntosh provided an update on the Hanwell School Naming Committee, that includes 6 active members who were established prior to the Christmas holidays. The first meeting was an orientation meeting, that the Superintendent led, and a review of Policy 409, Section 6.3 was completed. A weekly meeting schedule was set with four meetings being now completed.
- The committee reviewed their obligation to inform the community that a name was needed for the new school, and a process was established for collecting this information. A forms document has been created and is housed on the ASD-W website. The questions asked include the suggested school name and the reason for this recommendation. Communication of this opportunity to be involved in the naming of the new school has been saved on the ASD-W website and twitter account. A media press release occurred yesterday, and the Hanwell Village Centre has also posted this information on their community website. Councillor MacIntosh reported 201 responses have been received from the public to date. The website will remain open until February 28, 2022.
- The next step in the process is to sort the recommendations and bring three names to the Council for their consideration and subsequent communication with the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. **ACTION:** Chairperson Geburt requested the three names be brought forward to the Council at the public meeting on March 24, 2022.

New Northside West School

- Councillor Dean reported the first meeting for the new McAdam Avenue / Nashwaaksis Memorial School had occurred. A recording of this meeting was sent to Councillor Dean as she was unable to attend the meeting. **ACTION:** The next planned meeting is set for Monday, January 31, 2022, and she will provide an update at the February 10th Working DEC Meeting.

Student Voice Committee

- Councillor Carr reported the first meeting had occurred on January 11, 2022. Councillor Sparkes was unable to attend this meeting, but the meeting notes were saved on the DEC Portal for Councillors to read.
- **ACTION:** The next planned meeting is expected to occur mid-February 2022 and a report will be provided at the February 24th Public DEC Meeting.

Public Comments:

- There were no members of the public in attendance for comments.

Closing Comments:

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

Date of Next Public Meeting: February 24, 2022, with the location to be determined (Woodstock or Online)

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 PM.

Thomas Geburt
Thomas Geburt, Chairperson

24 Feb 2022
Date

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

February 24, 2022
Date