



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

**DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES (APPROVED)
Thursday, January 17, 2013
Fredericton Education Centre**

Council Members Present:

Sheila Gallagher – SD 01
Norma Shaw – SD 02
John Slipp – SD 03
Miriam Grant – SD 04
Andrew Corey – SD 05
David Bowen – SD 06
James Kozlowski – SD 07
Ronald Buck – SD 08
Jane Buckley – SD 09 – Vice-Chair
Kimberley Douglass – SD 10
Donald Gould – SD 11
Elizabeth Nason – SD 12
Mark Noël – SD 13 – Chair

District Office Staff Present:

Shelley McLeod – Transportation Manager (in part)
Amanda Carr – Assistant Transportation Manager, Fredericton Education Centre (in part)
Ed Hogan – Assistant Transportation Manager, Oromocto Education Centre (in part)
Daniel Wishart – Assistant Transportation Manager, Woodstock Education Centre (in part)
Carol Clark-Caterini – Transportation/Data and VersaTrans Clerk (in part)
Garth Wade – Senior Education Officer, Fredericton Education Centre
David McTimoney – Superintendent
Cathy Buck – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and DEC Secretary

Guests:

Media (1)
Audience (3)

I. Call to Order / Comments by the Chair

The DEC Chair, Mark Noël called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Mark welcomed and introduced the newest DEC member, Kimberley Douglass, representing Sub-district 10.

II. Approval of the Agenda and Previous Minutes

The agenda and the November minutes were approved by consensus.

III. Correspondence

1) Mark read an e-mail from Dianne (and Hank) Nason requesting to purchase property on Otis Drive in Nackawic (PID # 01507367). Mark explained the process.

Motion:

...That the DEC request that David McTimoney consult with the PSSC, the community, and the school to see if the identified land is required or if, in fact, it could be declared as surplus.

Moved: John Slipp

Seconded: Don Gould

Jane Buckley suggested that the vote be delayed so that she could check to see where the property is located in conjunction with the school. After members agreed that checking into the exact location was simply the first step, **the motion was carried.**

- 2) Letter from Minister Carr confirming the appointment of Kimberley Douglass to DEC Sub-district 10.
- 3) Letter to Minister Carr regarding voting in favour of the 2012/13 proposed District Expenditure Plan and a request for a more timely manner of receiving next year's budget.
- 4) Response to Amanda Moss, PSSC Chair for Geary Elementary Community School, acknowledging receipt of bussing concerns.
- 5) Response to John Staples regarding school grounds and safety of students.

IV. New Business

1) Presentation – Transportation

Introductions were made for the Transportation Manager, Shelley McLeod, and the three Assistant Managers, Amanda Carr, Ed Hogan, Daniel Wishart, and Carol Clark-Caterini. Shelley presented and discussions took place on the following:

- Longest time on bus – One student gets on at 6:30 in the morning to travel from Saint Leonard to Saint Mary's Academy.
- Students getting on bus before 7:00 a.m. Besides the one mentioned above, there would be 6-7 students in former SD14. In former SD17 and SD18, there would be 5-7 students.
- Bus drivers record their absences in AESOP. The casual driver who logs into his/her computer earliest will usually get the run.
- Policies and practices for the three former districts, 14, 17 and 18, will be brought together for consistency.
- Deadhead kilometers – Distance from where the bus is stored, to the first pick-up in the morning. At the end of the morning run, the bus returns to that area. Reason for deadhead mileage is that there is a responsibility and cost to get the bus driver back to the bus.
- Could a smaller bus be used in rural areas? Same cost for smaller buses, therefore, would rather have the capacity.
- Storage of bus – Whether it's at the driver's home or in the bus yard, ideally it is whichever is closest to the start of the run.
- Every school community will be looked at over the next few years to see if bussing times can be refined or made better. Will begin with former District 17 because of the new school in Lincoln. Will be looking at catchment areas. With such a large geography, it is not unusual for bus ride to be 60-75 minutes in length.
- Snow days – New process for a very large district. The initial difficulties are being sorted through and improved. Students are not penalized for not being in school if buses are cancelled in certain zones due to weather.

- Field trip process – Principals are assigned a budget for school trips.
- Bus drivers, whether regular or casual, are expected to bring any student issues to the principal's attention. Any concerns with the drivers, whether regular or casual, should be brought to the attention of the Transportation Manager.

2) Official Enrolment

- September 30th enrolment – 23 802 students. This information will be updated periodically.
- Recognition given to Janice Webber for gathering the information from schools and putting it into a very readable format.
- David will provide members with the projected Kindergarten enrolment numbers.
- Question about the decline in student enrolment and whether district tracks what happens to students. Are there some areas that are experiencing higher dropout rates than others? Some explanations for the decline were the drop in birthrate and dropout rate at high school level. Future projections can be looked at and will be sent to members.

V. Superintendent's Report

- Collaboration with Outside Agencies
 - Working with universities (UNB, STU, Crandall, Maine/Presque-Isle) regarding student interns in schools.
 - Met with the Dean of Education, UNB.
- Matt McGuire received a Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- Gibson Neill Memorial Elementary School opening – Small disruption with sub-contractor on opening day; received great support from the Fredericton Police.
- Hired three First Nation Coordinators: Kelly Pryor (Student Services), Sacha DeWolfe (Kingsclear, Oromocto, St. Mary's), and Donna White (Madawaska, Tobique, Woodstock).
- Professional Development
 - Two very successful days took place: January 7th was school-based; January 8th was a district/provincial day. Dianne Kay took the lead in organizing these days. Very pleased with the level of training provided.
 - April 19th will focus on inclusion.
 - There will also be one day organized by the NB Teachers' Association and one day as the Branch Development Day.
 - Various other PD going on: Stepping Out, Fierce Conversations, Inclusion and Differentiated Instruction.
- Facilities – January 22nd invitation to the public and school staff to view floor plans of the two new schools being built in Woodstock. Premier David Alward and Minister Jody Carr to be in attendance.
- Geary Community School Addition and Renovation – Students will need to be displaced for one year while the school undergoes construction. Currently in the process of gaining feedback from Geary staff and PSSC. Will also meet with Gesner Street Elementary and Summerhill Street Elementary Schools for input as they have been housing Lincoln Elementary Community School students for the past two years while they await their new school. The information will be shared with the DEC for their feedback before going to the Department for approval.

At this point, Dave Bowen asked about the approval for renovations for other schools, specifically Fredericton High School and Connaught Street School which had been on the capital construction list. David McTimoney responded that, although the Minister announced the list in the Legislature in December, the district had not heard formally which projects had been approved. Dave B requested clarification and written confirmation that the projects had not been approved because in one case, a school is sitting on a large amount of money waiting to playground improvements.

Motion:

...That David McTimoney request a formal response from the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development as to the status of the request for major capital construction to Fredericton High School and Connaught Street Elementary School.

Moved: Dave Bowen

Seconded: John Slipp

Motion carried

VI. Public Comment

- Grant Ross introduced himself and said he was in attendance as part of a requirement for the Leadership Program that he is involved in.
- Garth Wade, Senior Education Officer for the Fredericton Education Centre, explained that one of the recommendations for those attending the Leadership Program is to be more aware of the DEC and PSSC responsibilities.

VII. Next Meeting – February 21st, 6:30 p.m., at the Woodstock Education Centre.

VIII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Original signed by

Mark Noël, Chairperson, DEC

February 21, 2013

Date

Original signed by

Cathy Buck, Secretary, DEC

February 21, 2013

Date