



**ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 28, 2016  
Fredericton High School**

**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
- Terry Pond – SD 07
- Ron Buck – SD 08
- Jane Buckley – SD 09
- Kimberley Douglas – SD 10 – Vice Chair
- Donald Gould – SD 11
- Elizabeth Nason – SD 12
- Mark Noël – SD 13 – Chair
- Tim Nicholas – First Nations

**Council Member Regrets:**

**ASD-W District Staff Present:**

- David McTimoney, Superintendent
- Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance and Administration
- Tanya Whitney, Director of Schools
- Mark Manderson, Assistant Transportation Manager
- Daniel Wishart, Transportation Manager
- Philip Cliff, Facilities Manager
- Rick Demmings, Director of Schools
- Gina Dunnett, Supervisor of Data and Accountability
- Carol Clark-Caterini, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and DEC Secretary

**Guests:**

- Media (3)
- Several School Staff representing McAdam Elementary School, Nackawic Elementary School, Nackawic Middle School, Nackawic High School, and Burton Elementary School
- Members of the public (*approximately 70-75 people in total*)

**Call to Order / Comments by the Chair**

- The District Education Council (DEC) Chair, Mark Noël called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and he welcomed everyone to the public meeting at the Fredericton High School. At the opening of the meeting Councilor Donald Gould made the following motion:

**Motion**

**.....I move that the Nackawic Study be discussed prior to the Millville Elementary School Study.**

**Moved: Donald Gould**

**Motion Carried**

- Councilor John Slipp was concerned that it would be difficult to make a clear decision on the Millville Elementary School if discussed after the Nackawic Schools. Councilor Donald Gould felt that it would be difficult to make a clear decision if discussed prior to the Nackawic study. Consensus was given to change the agenda.

**Approval of the Agenda – January 28, 2016**

- The agenda was revised to reflect the most recent motion to change the order of sustainability studies to: McAdam Elementary School, Nackawic Schools, Millville Elementary School and Burton Elementary School. The Chair requested a motion be made for this change to the agenda.

**Motion**

**.....to make this change to the agenda.**

**Moved: Jane Buckley**

**Seconded: Donald Gould**

**Motion Carried**

- The agenda was approved with this revision by consensus.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – December 17, 2015**

- The minutes were approved by consensus as presented.

## **New Business**

- No new business to report from previous minutes.

## **Superintendent Reports**

- **ASD-W-EL7–Sustainability of Schools:** the Superintendent presented a report called **ASD-W-EL7 – Sustainability of Schools** as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is also posted publicly on the ASD-W website and included in the School Sustainability Report submitted to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. For each study, the District Education Council will vote on one of three potential outcomes; to remain status quo, a recommendation to the Minister to invest in the school for repairs or recommend to the Minister that the school (s) be closed and students re-located elsewhere.
- The Superintendent confirmed with the Council the format of the ASD-W-EL7 presentation. Questions can be asked at the end of this presentation. The Superintendent began with the McAdam Elementary School Executive Summary that aligns with Provincial Policy 409 - Sustainability of Schools. This school is considered a trigger school based on the enrollment of less than 100 students and on May 21, 2015 a motion was made by Council to initiate this study. It was noted that a previous motion eliminated the possibility of moving the students to the Harvey School.

## **Motion**

**....that the McAdam Elementary remain status quo.**

**Moved: Andrew Corey**

**Seconded: Donald Gould**

**Motion Carried**

- The Superintendent continued with the Sustainability of Schools Executive Summary for the Nackawic Elementary School, Nackawic Middle School and Nackawic High School as a cluster study. These schools were not identified as trigger schools but on May 21, 2015 a motion was made by Council to include these schools in a sustainability study. It was noted that Nackawic Middle School is considered functioning at a low functional capacity. As noted above, the District Education Council will vote on one of three potential outcomes; to remain status quo, a recommendation to the Minister to invest in a school for repairs or closure of one or more of the schools and students re-located elsewhere.
- Three potential scenarios were reviewed with Nackawic Elementary School combining with Nackawic Middle School to house a K-8 school, Millville Elementary School and Nackawic Elementary School combine with Nackawic Middle School as a K-8 school or Nackawic Middle School combine with Nackawic High School as a 6-12 school.
- Councilor John Slipp asked for clarification on the impact of resolution for the Millville Elementary School if a vote for status quo was given for the Nackawic Schools. The Superintendent confirmed that the Millville Elementary School would continue to have the three same options as the other schools studied; to remain with status quo, request for investment in repairs or move the Millville Elementary students to the Nackawic Elementary School. It would be clear, however, that a K-8 at Nackawic Middle School would no longer be an option.
- Councilor David Bowen asked if there would be a full structural integrity study completed at the Nackawic High School. The Superintendent confirmed that meetings have taken place with The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and a space utilization study had been completed. The school, outside of this wing, is safe.

## **Motion**

**...I propose based on the economic developments outlined to us in this presentation that we maintain the status quo of all three schools.**

**Moved: Jane Buckley**

**Seconded: David Bowen**

**Motion Carried**

- Councilor Donald Gould noted two concerns that he had with this motion as being the low assessment results for the Nackawic Elementary School and the cost to maintain the Nackawic Middle School that is currently identified with a 29% functional capacity.
- The Superintendent continued with the Sustainability of Schools Executive Summary for the Millville Elementary School. This school was identified as a trigger school based on enrollment of less than 100 students and a low functional capacity. On May 21, 2015 a motion was made by Council to initiate this study. It was noted that 17 students from the Millville area attend a Nackawic school as a result of an approved request to transfer. As well, there are 4 approved students from the Nackawic area that attend the Millville Elementary School.
- As noted above, the District Education Council will vote on one of three potential outcomes; to remain status quo, a recommendation to the Minister to invest in the school for repairs or closure of the school and students re-located

elsewhere. As a result of the recent motion for the Nackawic Schools to remain status quo, and if the vote was to close the Millville Elementary School and re-locate the students elsewhere, students would be re-located to the Nackawic Elementary School and not the new K-8 proposed structure at the Nackawic Middle School.

#### **Motion**

**.... I move that we maintain the status quo for Millville Elementary School.**

**Moved: Miriam Grant**

**Seconded: Norma Shaw**

**Motion Defeated**

- Councilor Donald Gould requested that consideration be given by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) for schools that could not house 100 students. The Nackawic schools were voted to remain status quo as a result of the economic development. A recommendation was made to review and enforce **Policy 319 – Attendance Outside School District**. If we are unable to enforce this policy, then it should be changed. Councilor Donald Gould recommended to have the catchment areas reviewed for all schools and he was concerned with the start and end time of the school day for the Millville students that would have to travel to the Nackawic Elementary School.
- The Superintendent reiterated that his role was to provide information to the District Education Council and not try to sway their decision in any way. Information he wanted to share with the Councilors and audience was that when the district is aware of a school struggling with their Provincial Assessments, we are going to step in and assist that school, such as Nackawic Elementary. Also, when a request is made for a student to attend a school that is considered to be “out of zone”, consideration is given based on each individual circumstance and reassessed on an annual basis. Transportation is provided if the bus is driving right by the student and going to the same school, but when the drive is not on the same route and add additional costs, then the parent/guardian to incur this costs.
- Councilor John Slipp was also concerned with low assessment results for Nackawic Elementary School and the thought of DEC being able to control where students want to attend schools is beyond the scope of their control. The Superintendent reiterated that Provincial Assessments are a snapshot in time.
- Councilor Ronald Buck was concerned that only 9 student desks supported three grades. He asked when is it too small and reminded everyone that the smaller the school, the smaller the class size where assessments are skewed.
- Councilor Kim Douglass reminded Councilors that if they changed their minds, then it is important to keep this school opened. Councilor Mark Noël wished that the functional capacity and school zones were both resolved prior to moving students.

#### **Motion**

**.....I move that the students at Millville Elementary be moved to Nackawic Elementary School.**

**Moved: John Slipp**

**Seconded: David Bowen**

**Motion Carried**

- Burton Elementary School was the final Executive Summary to be reviewed. The Superintendent, identified this school as a trigger school based on enrollment. On June 11<sup>th</sup> a motion was made by Council to initiate a sustainability study following a previous motion to request an exemption from the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- Councilor Elizabeth Nason thanked the community for their involvement and asked Councilors to consider the local tax base and proximity to Base Gagetown. The enrollment and functional capacity are maxed-out at 63% and this school could never house 100 students. The school structure, quality of education and strong community involvement were all considered to be very good. Safety concerns were noted for students waiting on this busy stretch of road during the early morning hours, when it was still dark, for the school bus. The finances saved would be minimal and a report of one repair was needed for siding. Closure of this school would have a significant impact on this community.

#### **Motion**

**.... I move that our DEC recommend to the Minister of Education for Burton Elementary School to remain status quo.**

**Moved: Elizabeth Nason**

**Seconded: John Slipp**

**Motion Carried**

- It was noted that Councilor Ronald Buck abstained from voting on the outcome of the Burton Elementary School for personal reasons and he had requested that this information be included in the minutes.
- Councilor Jane Buckley commented that a bigger component to consider was that students were located in a school with no suitable gymnasium and smells of mold were evident. The proximity to an Oromocto school, where their siblings attend, was minimal. It was her wishes that catchment areas be reviewed in the near future.
- Discussion were amongst Councilors concerning the Burton Elementary School and a comparison was requested of approximate time a student would travel on a bus for the Millville and Burton Elementary Schools. Councilor David Bowen thanked the communities and Councilors for their hard work and Councilor Mark Noël added that the Burton Elementary School was an efficient K-2 school. This concluded the *Superintendent Report for ASD-W-EL7 – Sustainability of Schools*.

**Leo Hayes High School**

- Councilor Jane Buckley requested that a committee be established to review the recent Ernst & Young study on Leo Hayes High School.

**Motion**

**.....I move that we have a look at the Ernst & Young study on Leo Hayes High School.**

**Motion – Jane Buckley**

**Seconded – Terry Pond**

**Motion Carried**

- Committee members will be Councilors: Ron Buck, Kim Douglass, Jane Buckley, and Terry Pond.

**School Cafeteria**

- The Superintendent provided an update on the 12 schools that had recently lost their cafeteria services by Chartwells due to low revenue; new services are being explored.
- Councilor John Slipp added that whereas the food service provider in our district recently ended food service at 12 schools located in AWS D, and whereas the time between this announcement and the termination of services was only 30 days, and whereas the growth of the fast food industry in Urban Centre’s makes it difficult for the service provider to compete, and whereas with the elimination of services in rural schools, students and staff are left without food service, and whereas the application of certain aspects of provincial policy # 711 nutritional guidelines additionally limit the ability of the service provider to attract customers, and whereas the inter-district interpretation and enforcement of policy # 711 appears to be inconsistent, and whereas the current business model for food service provision in AWS D schools is not profitable and not sustainable it is important that we take immediate action in an effort to sustain the delivery of food services in our schools, so it is therefore that I move the following:

**Motion**

**..... I move that the AWS D Education Council ask our Chairman to draft an urgent letter to the Chair of the Council of District Education Council Chairs seeking the placement of a review of Policy 711 as a priority agenda item for the purpose of developing a proposal for the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development seeking revisions to Policy 711 that will allow for the development of a more sustainable business model for the delivery of food services in New Brunswick Schools.**

**Motion – John Slipp**

**Seconded – Andrew Corey**

**Motion Carried**

- Councilor David Bowen asked why the Superintendent approached the Fredericton High School Principal with a request to secure additional space in the school for district office use. Councilor Bowen was made aware of this request at a recent FHS - PSSC meeting and he was requesting space utilization documents to support this requests. Superintendent, David McTimoney spoke of a recent conversation between the Principal, Director of Finance & Administration and himself to discuss how we could utilize the full potential of the building and help FHS in an investments of a kitchen area. Shawn Tracey, DFA, confirmed that there was no space utilization study for FHS. Other Councilors expressed concern that this item was not included in the approved agenda for tonight’s meeting and that this was an operational decision.
- The Superintendent offered to provide information that was presented to the School Principal at the upcoming information session in February.

**Superintendent Report**

- **ASD-W-EL4 – Budget and Forecasting:** the Superintendent presented a report called **ASD-W-EL4 – Budget and Forecasting** as per the Annual Planning Cycle. This report is also posted publically on the ASD-W website and reported 4x per year. The Superintendent reported a surplus of \$527,634.00 as of November 30, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year, third quarter. Building rental fees and International funds has allowed goods and services to be purchased that are not covered by the School Budget. The Provincial Attendance Management Program has assisted in replacement costs, and low fuel prices have assisted in transportation and heating costs. The surplus noted above is after taking into account additional investments in technology infrastructure, curriculum and instruction, education support services and community schools). We will continue to monitor costs associated with heat, fuel, and staffing requirements due to enrolment increased from the arrival of Syrian children.

**Motion**

.....I move that we approve the budget as presented.

**Motion: Jane Buckley**

**Seconded: John Slipp**

**Motion Carried**

**Committee Reports**

- David Bowen reported on behalf of the Policy Committee with recent information from correspondence he had received from Mark Noël indicating that he will no longer be able to continue as part of this committee. David then thanked Councilor Sheila Gallagher for stepping-up as his replacement.
- David Bowen thanked each committee member for their part in the Sexual Assault Policy.
- Superintendent, David McTimoney reminded about two new committees for the naming of the Bath and Stanley Schools being; Councilor Norma Shaw for Bath and Councilor Kimberley Douglass for Stanley represent the DEC on these committees.

**Correspondence – Outgoing and Incoming**

- No Correspondence to Report

**Public Comment**

- Millville Community Member, Sharon Connors thanked everyone for their hard work and late nights. Sharon knew that this was a difficult decision to make and asked if the recommendation to close a school on such a close vote to the Minister would stand? Chair, Mark Noël responded that it was a majority vote and we have to go with the recommended vote. The audience observation was that the vote was 7-6 for closure and this number was not a majority vote.

**Closing Comments:**

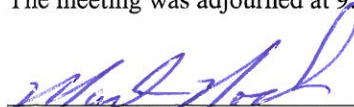
- Councilor John Slipp made a note of gratitude to the students who worked very late to assist with the sound and lighting of tonight’s meeting.

**Date for Next Public Meeting:**

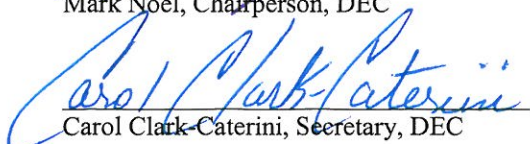
- Thursday, February 25, 2016 at the Woodstock Education Centre

**Adjournment:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m. moved by Councilor Donald Gould.

  
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 Mark Noël, Chairperson, DEC

  
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 Date

  
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 Carol Clark-Caterini, Secretary, DEC

  
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 Date