



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL Virtual Meeting Public Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 22, 2021

<p>Council Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Adams – SD 01 • Andy Saunders – SD 02 • Heather Hogan – SD 03 • Miriam Grant – SD 04 • Andrew Corey – SD 05 • Laura O’Brien – SD 06 • Sean Winslow – SD 08 • Jane Buckley – SD 09 – Vice Chairperson • Kimberley Douglass – SD 10 – Chairperson • Faith Kennedy – SD 11 • Wallace Carr – SD 12 • Thomas Geburt – SD 13 <p>Council Member Regrets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Perley - First Nations 	<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 • Karen Morton, Director of Human Resources • Dianne Kay, Director of Curriculum & Instruction • Jay Colpitts – Director of Schools - WEC • Jennifer Read, Director of Communications • Shawn Tracey, Director of Finance and Administration • Beth Christie, Fine Arts, Social St. & Enrichment Subject Coordinator • Mitchell Hemphill, Principal, Bath Community School • Katie Saunders, Teacher, Bath Community School <p>Vacancies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant – Sub-district 7 <p>Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin Doucette, Ernst & Young • Media (1)
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Call to Order / Comments by the Chair:

- Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, called the public meeting to order at **6:32 PM**. Members of the public and media were welcomed to the online virtual meeting. Chairperson Douglass recognized that this meeting was held on the unceded and unsundered Wabanaki territory of the Wolastoqi people. The many students of Maliseet and Mi’kmaq descent were also recognized as attending schools within Anglophone West School District (ASD-W). David McTimoney, Superintendent, provided staff introduction of those in attendance and he welcomed Mr. Doucette from Ernst & Young to the public DEC meeting.

Approval of the Agenda:

- The Chairperson informed the Council that a motion will be called for an in-camera session following the approval of consent items. The agenda was previously reviewed by the Council and approved by consensus.

Approval of the Minutes – March 25, 2021:

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

MOTION:

..... I so move to leave this meeting and join an in-camera session.

MOVED BY: Wallace Carr

SECONDED By: Thomas Geburt

MOTION CARRIED

- The Council rejoined the meeting following a 10 minute in-camera session and the following motion was moved.

MOTION:

..... I move that the District Education Council (DEC) accepts that the Superintendent, David McTimoney, is in compliance with DEC policies at this time and has exceeded beyond the reasonable interpretation. It is the recommendation of the DEC that the Superintendent receive a four-step increase in salary, however, it is aware that he has reached the Control Point Maximum and that re-earnable increments under the Management and Non-Union Wage Scale is currently frozen. As such, this compensation reference is simply for recognition.”

MOVED BY: Wallace Carr

SECONDED BY: Heather Hogan

MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- The Superintendent shared a report with the Council called Bath Community School - Grade Reconfiguration Review. The recommendation made in this report was to keep the current Grade K-8 setting at the Bath Community School. The Superintendent agrees with the recommendation and asked DEC to support his conclusion to leave the K-8 school in Bath as is.
- Councillor Carr asked if the findings of this review recommended the Early Learning Centre, that is housed in the Bath Community School, be moved as it would be taking away important space from school aged children. The Superintendent concurred that this Centre does take away space from the school, but that it is an important part of preparing children for when they begin school. There were no recommendations made in the report concerning the Early Childhood Centre that is housed at the Bath Community School.
- The Bath Community School - Grade Reconfiguration report is saved on the DEC Portal and shared publicly on the ASD-W website.

MOTION:

..... I so move this motion that we support the decision of this report.

MOVED BY: Jane Buckley

SECONDED BY: Andy Saunders

MOTION CARRIED

New Business:

- The McAdam Elementary School and McAdam High School report was presented to the Council by Mr. Doucette from Ernst & Young Consulting Services. This presentation can be found on the DEC Portal and shared publicly on the ASD-W Website.

Presentations:

Curriculum & Program Presentation: Fine Arts

- The Curriculum and Program presentation was presented by Beth Christie, Fine Arts, Social St. & Enrichment Subject Coordinator. A piece of artwork was shown to Councillors who were asked to pick out similarities in the painting. The message that was incorporated in the piece of artwork was made clear once the camera zoomed out of close range.

Circle of Understanding

- Councillor Perley was not in attendance. The Circle of Understanding presentation has been postponed until the next public DEC meeting.

Correspondence – Outgoing and Incoming:

- There was no DEC correspondence to discuss. The Superintendent shared that he has written to Administrators of schools in sub-districts that are without a DEC representative. A deadline of Monday, May 10th was given for their Parent School Support Committees to share a brief biography of themselves if interested in serving as a District Education Councillor.

Superintendent Monitoring Reports:

- The Superintendent presented a report called *ASD-W-EL5: Asset Protection* 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 requested a response as to why the Asset Protection and Fire Integrity report showed no inspection date in some school inspections. Shawn Tracey responded that the report is updated quarterly but

schools are inspected on a monthly recurring maintenance work order. The inspection report will be updated by the Facilities Department to include the inspection date.

- Councillor Geburt asked if the sprinkler system section of the report was left blank, did this mean that the school was not equipped with a sprinkler system. Shawn Tracey confirmed that this was the reason for no notation made and that the age of building determined if a school had a sprinkler system installed. Shawn confirmed that during a major upgrade to a school, sprinkler systems were added. Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) determines if a sprinkler system can be installed or not.
- Councillor Carr asked why two new schools, that were built around the same time, such as, Lincoln Community School and Geary Community School, one has a sprinkler system, and one does not. **ACTION:** Shawn will check into the reason as to why the Geary Community School does not have a sprinkler system and the Lincoln Community School does. Shawn will report back to the Council the reason for this decision.

Committee Reports:

Student Voice:

- A report will be shared with the Council at the next working meeting by Councillor Carr as the next meeting is planned for May 4th. Some discussions had with students included student wellness, the expectations of students while learning at home, the wait time for support, and student readiness for university. The big concern was the needed support for mental health issues, and it was asked if teachers could receive mental health training as Guidance teachers and Provincial supports have long waiting lists.
- Councillor Hogan noted that students have talked about the urgent need for Guidance Counsellor previously. The Superintendent reported that each year additional Guidance and Resource staff are advocated for from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The Province follows a formula that allows 1 Guidance FTE for every 502 students, 1 Resource FTE for every 180 students and one Administrator for every 250 students. Principals are given the autonomy, based on their needs at the school, to top-up their Guidance support to bridge the gap and ASD-W tries to top-up Guidance FTE wherever possible to strengthen mental health support. A recruitment for qualified Guidance Counsellors has been done and there is a difference between a Guidance Teacher and a Counsellor. When it is beyond a Guidance Teachers' expertise, they are required to take a step back and get the appropriate support needed.
- Councillor Carr acknowledged the attendance of Catherine Blaney, Director of Education Support Services, at the last student voice meeting, which is reflected in their Student Voice minutes, and her input was greatly appreciated. **ACTION:** The Superintendent was asked if he could review the workload of Guidance Counsellors as students are continuing to seek mental health and academic support from their school.
- Kim asked the Council to think about their recommendations to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the work for the incoming committees.

Public Comments:

- There were no public comments.

Closing Comments:

- The Chairperson thanked everyone for attending the virtual District Education Council meeting. A reminder was given for Councillors to reach-out for potential DEC interests when attending PSSC meetings and ask that a write-up of themselves be provided to the Council for consideration. The timeframe between the received write-up (May 10th) and when the Council makes their recommendation to the Minister (May 20th Public DEC Meeting) is 10 days, with hopes of a decision being made prior to July 1st for the new Council to be established.

Date of Next Public Meeting: Thursday, May 20, 2021 – Virtual Meeting Platform

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at **8:20 PM** by Councillor Buckley.

Kimberley Douglass

May 20, 2021

Kimberley Douglass, Chairperson, DEC

Date

Carol Clark-Caterini

May 20, 2021

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

Date