



SCHOOL DISTRICT 17

DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL MINUTES (UNAPPROVED)

Tuesday, June 14, 2011
District Office, Oromocto

Council Members Present:

Debbie Blyth – Sub-district 1
Stephanie LeFait – Sub-district 2
Blair Cummings – Sub-district 4
Marty Forsythe – Sub-district 5 and Chair
Carol Ward – Sub-district 6
Elizabeth Nason – Sub-district 7
LeRoy Washburn – Sub-district 9
Tom Barrett – Sub-District 11
Shelley Sabattis – First Nation
Dustin Taylor – Student Rep

Regrets:

Jason Randall – Sub-District 3
Mark Noël – Sub-district 8
Anne Marie MacDonald – Sub-district 10 and Vice-chair

District Office Staff Present:

Sue Haanstra – Director of Human Resources
Mark Fisher – Director of Finance and Administration
Rick Demmings – Director of Education
David McTimoney – Superintendent
Cathy Buck – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
and DEC Secretary

Guests:

Margie Goodin, Teacher, CNCS
Kendra Ferris, Student, CNCS
School Staff
Public
Media – Daily Gleaner

Note: There was a delayed start in calling the meeting to order because the DEC Chair was returning from Halifax.

The meeting, therefore, began with a presentation

I. Presentation – “A Legacy of History”; Margie Goodin and Kendra Ferris

David McTimoney, Superintendent of School District 17, introduced Margie Goodin, a teacher at Cambridge-Narrows Community School responsible for the literacy based social studies project designed to establish “A Legacy of History”. Margie and Grade 9 student, Kendra Ferris, spoke about the 5-month experience of interviewing senior residents from the area and capturing the historical stories. Grade 9 students partnered with community members to collect biographies. An iDVD and a booklet have been developed to preserve the community's history and these precious times with residents of the area.

II. Call Meeting to Order

Marty Forsythe called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m., welcomed everyone, and explained his delay.

III. DEC Student Representative - Election

Students from each of our four high schools expressed an interest in sitting on the DEC:

- Cambridge-Narrows – Kayla Cummings
- Chipman Forest Avenue – Brooke Pilmer
- Minto Memorial High – Hailey Dickenson
- Oromocto High – Nicole Murphy

This year's student rep, Dustin Taylor, met with them ahead of time to share his experience. The students then chose Brooke Pilmer to represent them.

IV. Routine Matters

By consensus, the agenda and the May minutes were approved.

V. Monitoring Reports

- **III.D – Staff Treatment** – No changes to the policy. Sue Haanstra, Director of Human Resources, presented a report that demonstrated the Superintendent is in compliance.
- **III.G – Asset Protection** – No changes to the policy. Mark Fisher, Director of Finance and Administration, presented a report that demonstrated the Superintendent is in compliance.

- **III.F – Financial Condition/Budgeting and Forecasting – Expenditure Plan**

Discussion took place with the following comments:

- Marty reminded members and public that the District was asked to find 2% from this year's budget - \$840,000 imposed and \$99,000 targeted; this was done with a lot of hard work and minimal impact on the classroom.
- Discussion and concern with SD01 and their non-compliance with the 2010-2011 budget year. Budget is assigned by student enrolment; if enrolment increases, so does the budget. Francophone districts also receive money from Heritage Canada.
- The Department will be setting up three committees in the near future to look at
 - Infrastructure
 - Shared Services
 - Amalgamation
- Department 19 funds and what this money can be used for.
- Recommendation to the Minister that any new schools should be equipped with certain things, i.e. theatres, playing fields, proper parking areas.

Motion

...That the expenditure plan for the 2011-2012 school year be accepted as presented.

Moved: Tom Barrett

Seconded: Dustin Taylor

M/C

VI. Major Capital Construction

The suggested list was presented in the following fashion:

- 1) Geary Elementary Community School
 - Oromocto High School
 - Gagetown School

Motion

...That the list of Major Capital Project Priorities be approved and sent to the Department of Education as presented - with Geary Elementary Community School listed as #1, and Oromocto High School and Gagetown School to appear as bulleted priorities with no numbers associated with them, but in that order.

Motion: Dustin Taylor

Seconded: LeRoy Washburn

Discussion took place with the following comments:

- Before anything is approved and any construction is done, feel a sustainability study needs to be completed; policy 409 needs to be in place.
- Need to ensure that any new schools have adequate space for growth.
- There is a yearly requirement to report on schools and their information which is why the SD17 infrastructure binder is updated annually. Keeping the binder updated is a form of sustainability plan.
- Would like to know how the government makes a decision that a new school is required.
- Suggestion that a project team be formed to look at the binder.

The DEC returned to the motion. All in favour? **With one abstention, the motion was carried.**

VII. Information Items

- Lincoln Elementary Community School Update
 - Open House on June 9th was attended by many, including Marianne Limpert. The new school floor plans were unveiled.
 - Last day for students is June 22nd so that the teachers have time to pack up.
 - No date planned yet for the “wrecking ball” but will keep the DEC informed.
- School News – Handout distributed. David highlighted some school events.
- Superintendent’s Report – David reported on the past month.
 - Staffing
 - Teacher movement
 - District Office vacancies and loss of positions
 - Fewer educational assistants (formerly known as teacher assistants)
 - Administration changes – currently down to 2 acting positions rather than 14
 - No physical education mentor this year
 - Literacy leads in all elementary schools

- School Calendar – Handout
- DEC Meeting Schedule - Handout

VIII. Farewell to Dustin Taylor

On behalf of the DEC, Marty thanked Dustin for his time as the student rep, for his invaluable input and participation, and for continued success in his future endeavours in the culinary arts.

Dustin spoke of his experience on the DEC and thanked all for their support.

IX. Self-monitoring Checklist – Form Completion

Members took a few minutes to complete the form.

X. Next Meeting – September 27th, 6:00 p.m., District Office, Oromocto.

XI. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Marty Forsythe, Chairperson
District Education Council

Date

Cathy Buck
Secretary, District Education Council

Date