



SCHOOL DISTRICT 17

DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL MINUTES (UNAPPROVED)

Tuesday, September 27, 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
Mark Noël – Sub-district 8
LeRoy Washburn – Sub-district 9
Anne Marie MacDonald – Sub-district 10 and Vice-chair
Shelley Sabattis – First Nation
Brooke Pilmer – Student Rep

Regrets:

Jason Randall – Sub-District 3
Tom Barrett – Sub-District 11

District Office Staff Present:

Philip Cliff - Manager of Facilities
Sue Haanstra – Director of Human Resources
Rick Demmings – Director of Education
David McTimoney – Superintendent
Cathy Buck – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
and DEC Secretary

Guests:

Media (1)

I. Routine Matter

- Marty Forsythe called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone.
- By consensus, the agenda was approved.
- By consensus, the June minutes were approved.

II. Council Election

- Chair:
David McTimoney took over the meeting in order that the nomination for Chair take place. LeRoy Washburn nominated Marty Forsythe. Marty accepted.

Three times, the question was asked: "Are there any nominations?"

By acclamation, Marty Forsythe was voted in as DEC Chair.

- Vice-chair:
Marty asked for nominations for the Vice-chair position. Anne Marie MacDonald nominated Elizabeth Nason. Elizabeth accepted.

Three times, the question was asked: "Are there any nominations?"

By acclamation, Elizabeth Nason was voted in as DEC Vice-chair.

III. Multi-year Infrastructure Plan

- **Capital Improvements** – As per the discussion that took place at the August 9th meeting, the Capital Improvement Project List was approved to go forward to the Department, with the understanding that a motion would be made at the September 27th Public DEC Meeting. Since that time and through discussion with DSS and EECD, the estimated costs for the sewage treatment system for Burton School was lowered to \$100,000.

Motion

...That the Capital Improvements Project List be approved, as presented with the revision, to go forward to the Department.

Moved: Mark Noël

Seconded: Elizabeth Nason

M/C

Discussion took place. Philip Cliff, Facilities Manager at District Office, explained that estimates are provided by the Department of Supply and Services. Estimates are based on a general calculation and can sometimes vary when specifics are requested. This is what happened in the case of the Burton sewage system. There was general displeasure stated on the estimates given by DSS vs the actual costs, although actual costs won't be known until the project goes to tender.

DEC members suggested a letter be sent to the Minister stating displeasure with the estimates being given by DSS.

- **Burton Elementary School Update**

David stated that the sustainability study continues. Public presentations will be given at an October 12th meeting. Invitations for presentations have gone home with Burton students, ads were placed in the Gleaner and the Post, and the website will be kept up-to-date. A reminder that the Blog is a good means of communication.

- **Lincoln Elementary Community School Update**

- The school has been completely demolished.
- The plans are in the hands of the architect.
- Construction is to begin in the spring for September 2013 occupancy.
- Lincoln Elementary is functioning as "a school within a school" with K-2s at Gesner (with the addition of 6 modulars) and 3-5s at Summerhill (with the addition of 2 modulars).
- Changes to layout of the new Lincoln school were required as \$1 million had to be found. The Committee made the choice to cut two rooms, as the function of those two rooms could be handled elsewhere in the school.
- Although disappointed in the delay, it is felt that the construction will now go ahead as planned.

IV. Budget

- The second quarter review has been submitted.
- 2.23% of the budget has been returned to government; any flexibility in spending has been lost.
- All Superintendents are saying that they will not be able to do a line-by-line reduction for next year.
- International students pay to come to school in New Brunswick. It is an area that should be encouraged and sought after.

V. Enhanced First Nation Education Programs and Services Agreement

- The agreement has been signed.
- A planning meeting will take place on October 17th.
- The funds received are applicable to on-reserve First Nation students
- A concern was mentioned about 4.7 and 4.8 of the agreement that talks about responsibilities of the DEC. Shelley Sabattis sits on this committee representing the DEC. Also sitting on the committee:
- Chief Roger Atwin and Superintendent David McTimoney are co-Chairs
- Karen Paul, the Oromocto First Nation Band Administrator
- School principals of First Nation students: Beth Ryder (K-2), Bev Loker-French (3-5), Wendy Dickinson (6-8), and Donna Shirley (9-12).
- David will update with any new information.

VI. Information Items

- Minister's Forum
 - The August meeting took place in Miramichi
 - The next meeting will take place in November
 - Policy 711 will be on the agenda
 - General comment that Marty, Carol, Mark, and David will be attending the Department Summit.
- School News – Handout distributed. David highlighted some school events.
- Playgrounds
 - Cambridge-Narrows Community School and Gagetown School are both receiving major upgrades to their playground equipment, mostly through fundraising done by the school and community.
- Superintendent's Report – David reported on the past month.
 - Staffing is complete
 - Significant enrolment decline but numbers will not be confirmed until September 30th.
 - Rick Demmings, Director of Education, is working on the District Improvement Plan for DEC input and approval. Any DEC members wishing to be a part of this process, should make it known. A focus is on the wellness of students.
 - Participating in the Department Summit: Rick (Shared Services); Mark Fisher (Infrastructure); and David (Governance).
 - Attended the NBSSA annual general meeting in Bathurst: PD on global citizenship.

- Government has given the same number of FTE for the school setting, even with the decline of 20 students. Hopefully will remain the same for next year which will make staffing schools easier given this year's significant decline.
- VersaTrans
 - The system is working within the District but is not available to the public. The Department is examining the possible risk to the IT system which is why there is a hold up to public access.
- Safe Schools Week - All schools are taking part from September 26-30.

VII. Self-monitoring Checklist – Form Completion

Members took a few minutes to complete the form.

VIII. Next Meeting – October 25th, 6:00 p.m., District Office, Oromocto.

IX. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

 Marty Forsythe, Chairperson
 District Education Council

 Date

 Cathy Buck
 Secretary, District Education Council

 Date