



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

1135 Prospect Street • Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 3B9 • www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca

December 12, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students at Coles Island School,

On October 23, 2014, the Anglophone West School District Education Council (ASD-W DEC) voted in favor of engaging a sustainability study of Coles Island School, under the process outlined in the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Provincial Policy 409: Multi-year Infrastructure Planning. This policy serves as a foundation for determining the sustainability of a school, taking into account many aspects, such as:

Enrolment	Health and Safety	Quality Education and Services
Transportation	Impact on Community	Finances
Economic Development	Impact on Other Schools	

In line with the direction of the policy, the DEC hosted the first of three public meetings focused on this study on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at Coles Island School. At that time, I presented a factual look at Coles Island School, guided by the categories mentioned above. I also outlined the process for this sustainability study. This presentation was made to the DEC, some school and district staff, and about 95 members of the public.

The second of the three public meetings focused on this study will take place on **Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the Coles Island School, with a 6:30PM start**. This meeting will serve as a forum for parents of Coles Island School students, community members and other stakeholders to present to the DEC, district staff and the general public regarding their thoughts on the sustainability of the school.

To form an organized agenda, we are asking presenters to register at least one week in advance of this meeting. Presenters can be individual or as a group and we can offer a laptop computer, an in-focus projector and a screen if you require these items to support your presentation. To register, please complete the registration form that can be found on our website (www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca, then follow the prompts to the sustainability site) or at the school. These registrations need to be submitted to Carol Clark-Caterini (Executive Assistant to the Superintendent) by email at carol.clark-caterini@gnb.ca, fax at 444-5264, or by mail to 1135 Prospect Street, Fredericton, NB, E3B-3B9. These registrations must be received no later than **Thursday, January 8, 2015**. The required information is outlined on the registration form.

While we hope to allow for as much time as needed for any presenter, a reasonable timeline may need to be established based on the number of registrations received.

Public Meeting #2 is not the only manner in which interested parties may share their thoughts on the sustainability of Coles Island School. We have established an electronic discussion board on our district website and we also welcome emails to asdwsustainability@nbed.nb.ca. You can also write to us at the above address.

We encourage you to visit the "Sustainability Site" on our website. At this time, a number of relevant letters and documents are posted to the site. We hope that you will find it useful as you reflect on this process. We are also happy to post accurate and relevant materials submitted by stakeholders, including presentations at the January 15th meeting.

The District Education Council has an important responsibility in making one of three decisions in this sustainability study. To do this, they require an opportunity to hear the thoughts of parents, business leaders, and community members, regardless of the stance that may be held.

At the third public meeting, the District Education Council will discuss the study and vote on a final conclusion, which will be one of three possibilities:

1. Maintain the status-quo at Coles Island School
2. Recommend to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to invest dollars into the infrastructure/programming at Coles Island School.
3. Recommend to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to close Coles Island School and move the students to another appropriate location.

The third public meeting will occur on **Thursday, March 19, 2015**, at Priestman Street Elementary School in Fredericton. An opportunity for people to watch the meeting virtually will be made for the location of Coles Island School.

Policy 409 can be found by going to the Government of New Brunswick website (www.gnb.ca) and choosing the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development site under "Departments". Under the title "Information", you can choose "Policies", and this will bring you to a selection of policies, including Policy 409. The direct link to the policy is: <http://www.gnb.ca/0000/policies.asp>. The Policy can also be found on our website, under the sustainability study section.

We look forward to seeing you as either a presenter or member of the audience at our January 15th meeting. Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David McTimoney". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David McTimoney
Superintendent