

DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT 1077 ST. GEORGE BOULEVARD, MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK BUSINESS MEETING JUNE 15, 2021.

The meeting of the District Education Council, Anglophone East School District, was held at the Holiday Inn Express and was not open to the public due to Covid 19 Restrictions. It was live streamed on the DEC Facebook.

Present:

DOYLE, Harry
FOLKINS, Michelle
LAWSON, Angela
HEBBLETHWAITE, Ian
BREWER, Roberta
MACMULLIN, Roy
MAWHINNEY, Brenda
MCCONNELL, NORVAL
LEGER, Emma
SHORT, Sarah
KINGSTON, Denise, Council Secretary
GREBENC, Kathy, Acting Superintendent

The Regular Business meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair Harry Doyle.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Doyle noted the error in item 4.0 Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2021, and directed the secretary to correct the item to read 4.0 Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2021.

2.0 AGENDA APPROVAL

Moved by Angela Lawson, Seconded by Roberta Brewer to defer Item 5.1 Monitoring Report 4.1 Staff Treatment. Motion Carried.

Roberta Brewer requested an addition to the Agenda: 5.3 Washroom updates

Moved by Brenda Mawhinney, seconded by Michelle Folkins to approve the Agenda as amended.

Motion carried.

No conflict of interest was declared.

3.0 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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The chair then called for approval of the Minutes. Member Hebblethwaite directed that a correction be made to page one of the Minutes listing the attendees to spelling the name of the Acting Superintendent, Kathy Grebenc. The Secretary noted the change to be made.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MARCH 16, 2021 MINUTES

Moved by Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by Roy MacMullin to approve the Minutes of May 18, 2021 as amended.

Motion carried.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

Monitoring Report 4.2 Budget/Financial Condition was received and reviewed by the DEC members prior to the meeting.

5.1 MONITORING REPORT 4.2 BUDGET/FINANCIAL CONDITION

Moved by Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by Roberta Brewer to receive and accept Monitoring Report 4.2 Budget/Financial Condition.

The DEC members received and reviewed Monitoring Report 4.2 Budget/Financial Condition prior to the meeting. Aubrey Kirkpatrick, Director of Finance and Administration advised that the Budget from EECD for 2021-2022 was \$171,108,600.00 compared to \$166,320 last year. The largest portion of the Budget is Instruction (64%) followed by Educational Student Services (13%), Facilities and Operations (9%), Employer related costs (7%), Transportation (4%) and Office of the Superintendent (3%). He noted that there was again a shortfall in the amount budgeted and the amount forecast for Education Assistants (EA's). He explained the process of adjustments necessary to be made to various Budget categories to make up the deficit in funding for EA's. He noted that it was helpful that EECD was not penalizing Districts for the students withdrawing to homeschooling due to Covid 19. There was discussion surrounding concerns in the constant underfunding of EA's, projected enrolment for September 2021, International Student enrolment, the lack of proper funding for maintenance and repair of facilities and the inequity of the present funding model.

Chair Doyle called the question.

Motion carried.

As requested at the May 18, 2021 regular meeting, Aubrey Kirkpatrick investigated the state of repair and condition of school washrooms and submitted a report on his findings to the DEC members prior to the meeting. It was noted that there were 63 minor repairs to be done and requisitions have now been sent to the facilities department. Regarding washrooms requiring major work, Mr. Kirkpatrick recommended that this or the next DEC utilize funds from the Department 19 account to upgrade some washrooms. He noted that the cost of renovation is approximately \$180,000 for one set of male and female washrooms. Most schools have 3 to 4 sets of male and female washrooms and so to do a school would be in the range of \$540,000.00 to \$720,000.00. Mr. Kirkpatrick proposed that \$500,000.00 per year over the next three years be spent from the Department 19 account (providing there are sufficient funds in the Department 19 account) to renovate the washrooms that are most problematic.

5.3 WASHROOM UPDATE

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The Facilities Department has determined that the priority order for the renovations to be: Port Elgin Regional School, Hillsborough Elementary and Riverview Middle School.

After discussion, the following motion was made:

Moved by Roberta Brewer, seconded by Angela Lawson that the DEC accept the recommendation that \$500,000.00 per year over the next three years be spent to renovate school washrooms and that these funds are not to come from the maintenance budget, rather the funds in the Department 19 account will be utilized (providing there are sufficient funds in the Department 19 Budget).

Motion carried.

- Michelle Folkins noted that it was a very different year for schools and she was pleased
 with the social emotional workshops at Salem Elementary and would like to see programs
 like this continue. She expressed that she has enjoyed her time working with the present
 DEC and looked forward to working with the newly elected DEC.
- 6.0 DEC MEMBER
 UPDATES AS PER POLICY
 2.8 COMMUNICATIONS
- Roberta Brewer reported on the results of the JMA Armstrong Salisbury Middle School
 committee's results in selecting a new name for the School. Several names were selected
 and the name which rose to the top was Salisbury Regional School. This selection was
 sent to the Superintendent who then submitted it to the Minister of Education and Early
 Childhood Development. She expressed her thanks Kathy Grebenc for all she has done as
 Acting Superintendent and thanked District Office and Staff for all their work to protect
 and educate students.
- Chair Doyle announced that Lise Richard is the new Budget and Account Manager. He
 noted that he will be attending the upcoming Caledonia Regional High School graduation.
- Emma Leger shared that it is extremely beneficial for students when there is an indigenous
 presence in the school. Moncton High has had the benefit of experiencing visits from
 Elders and students feel safe and engaged in the talking circles.
 She also noted that passion projects brought much positivity as students become
 empowers to become a voice for change. She feels this would be beneficial for all schools.

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Kathy Grebenc, Acting Superintending, shared that the District Superintendents and Department of Education and Early Childhood Development recommend a one-year District Education Plan focusing on learning gaps and safety and wellness. This will include staggered entries and an emphasis on mental health and general well-being. Recently, three meetings have been held with Principals on School Improvement Planning and 67 sliver linings of working under Covid restrictions were noted. These can be used to improve the way of doing things going forward. She advised that the staffing process is ongoing.

7.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received by consent Agenda.

- 8.1 Letter to EECD re. Major Capital list
- 8.2 Letter to EECD re. capital Projects list
- 8.3 Letter to Minister of EECD re. First Nations DEC Representative
- 8.4 Letter to MLA's re. First Nations DEC Representative

Chair Doyle adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

District Education Council Chair

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District Education Council Secretary