



Anglophone East School District

A Better Future... Through Quality Education

Minutes

ASD-E DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL

May 16, 2023 - 6:30 PM

Livestreamed on the ASD-E District Education Council Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/asdedec>

6:30 PM

1. Call to Order

The business meeting of the District Education Council, Anglophone East School District, was held in person and live streamed on May 16, 2023, at 6:32 p.m.

PRESENT:

DOYLE, HARRY, CHAIR

HEBBLETHWAITE, IAN, VICE-CHAIR

KNOCKWOOD, JOLYNE

FOLKINS, MICHELLE

MACDONALD, DUANE

VAUTOUR, DOMINIC

CAVOUKIAN, KRISTIN

OWEN, MARK

RASUL, AREEB

MACLEAN, RANDOLPH J., SUPERINTENDENT/CEO

CHIASSON, JANIQUE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT/CEO

2. Land Acknowledgement

ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE UNCEDED, TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE MI'KMAQ PEOPLE. IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, WE EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR THE HISTORY, CULTURE, RIGHTS AND TRADITIONS OF MI'KMAQ PEOPLE AND COMMIT TO RECONCILIATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND HONORING THOSE THAT WERE HERE BEFORE US.

3. Agenda Approval

Moved by DEC member, Michelle Folkins, seconded by DEC member, Mark Owen, to approve the agenda.

Motion Carried.



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4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared.

5. Approval of April 27, 2023, minutes

Moved by Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by DEC Member, Dominic Vautour, to approve the minutes of April 27, 2023

Motion carried.

5.1. Business arising from the previous meeting.

Nothing to report or add.

7:00 PM

6. Superintendent/CEO Report – Randolph J. MacLEAN

6.1. School grade configuration and boundary – Next steps

Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, provided information about the process and results from the survey sent that was conducted, following the recommendation during the last DEC meeting. The results are:

41 - families were surveyed

26 - families responded

19 - not in favor the boundary change

7 - in favor of the boundary change (Some of the 7 are already out of bound students attending Dorchester)

Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, spoke of the May 4 meeting that was held with staff at Riverview East School and what was discussed and shared during that meeting. He mentioned that there is some anxiety, as to what the changes will look like, but with clarification provided, there were deep, rich, and long conversation. The following week, the senior administration team meet with the staff at Riverview Middle School and walked them through the coming changes and the work that is being done and will be done to ensure smooth transition. And finally, Superintendent / CEO,



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Randolph J. MacLEAN, spoke of the communications that will be sent to all families to Riverview East and Riverview Middle School.

Important dates -Scheduled events for:

- Riverview East school, Welcome Night - June 15, 5-7 pm.
- Riverview Middle School, June 15.
- Meet and greet, June 5, for both school staff.
- Activities/visits for students - Grade 6, 7 and 8 - June 14, 16 and 17.

DEC member, Mark Owen, asked a question related to transportation and the changes and if it would affect the students in any way. Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, confirmed by that there would be no problem or issues as there are already routes going towards Riverview High School.

6.2. Request for new schools

Presented 5 requests, not presented by priority:

1. Riverview Middle School - Midlife upgrade request
2. K-8 - New school request - North End of the city (Moncton)
3. K-8 - Additional school in the Sunny Brae and Forest Glenn area (2nd school in that area)
4. K-5 - Replacement school for Bessborough School
5. K-5 - Additional school in Dieppe

The Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite, moved to accept the requests put forth by the Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, and forwarding them to the Department of Early Education. This would be in addition to the request already on our list. The DEC member, Dominic Vautour, seconded the motion.

Motion carried

Following last month's DEC meeting, the locations for the Shediac school have been sent to the Minister of Education. And in terms of size, we will also be looking to have conversations around building a school that will be able to accommodate around 800 students.

District Education Council member, Dominic Vautour, provided information about the collaboration of the town of Shediac and their willingness to share data with us to better project what the rates will be and will also be sharing their municipal plan with the district. This will allow better accuracy and representative of the reality in 5 years. By doing such, we will be able to dial in for the school that we need.



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6.3. Government Governance announcement

The Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, elaborated on this matter, providing explanation and context.

District Education Council member, Dominic Vautour, moved that the Anglophone East District Education Council retain legal representation to challenge the changes to the Education Act. District Education Council member, Kristin Cavoukian, seconded the motion.

Motion carried

There was a conversation surrounding communication and open dialogue are crucial in addressing community issues. Talks and conversations foster inclusivity and democratic decision-making, ensuring diverse perspectives are considered. Local government representation is vital for advocating the needs of families. However, the proposed dismantling of District Education Councils (DECs) undermines representation, transparency, and accountability. DECs serve as watchdogs, ensuring policies align with local needs. Centralized decision-making may neglect local challenges, disconnecting families from shaping their children's education. Preserving DECs is crucial for meaningful representation and protection of community interests.

The Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite, moved that the District Education Council make a formal request to the government of New Brunswick to reimburse Anglophone East School District for legal representation for a legal challenge to the dismantling of the Anglophone District Education Councils. The DEC member, Michelle Folkins, seconded the motion.

Motion carried

Furthermore, during the meeting, the proposed committee alignment was a topic of discussion. DEC members actively engaged in addressing various concerns, including the potential impact on policy 409, the French Immersion program, and the loss of local representation. They emphasized the importance of speaking up as elected representatives of the communities they serve.



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The Superintendent / CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, added further details pertaining to the responsibilities of the PSSCs (role and support to the principals), DEC's (advisory capacity) in their new format.

6.4. Policy 713

The superintendent / CEO spoke of the memo that was sent today about May 17 being International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOTB).

Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite moved that the Superintendent / CEO sent a letter to the Minister of Early Education Childhood Education that is opposed to any form of dismantling of policy 713. Student DEC member, Areeb Rasul, seconded the motion.

Motion carried

It was also mentioned that the letter be sent to Kellie Lamrock.

6.5. Enrollment update

As of today, we are now at 18 520. That represents 60 additional students in the system.

6.6. Graduation reminder

Spoke briefly and reminded the members of the graduations and encouraged their participation.

6.7. Turn Around Awards reminder

Spoke briefly of the event and reminded the members that they are welcome to participate and to let the Executive Assistant, Janique Chiasson, know their attendance, to help the organizer be ready for their presence.

6.8. Administrative postings

Spoke of the available postings and affecting Principals, VPs and subject area coordinators.

7. Director of Human Resources – Jacqui Eadle

7.1. Staffing update

The HR department is focused on staffing for the fall and spoke of the YESS day.



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K-8 School received their projective enrolments and mentioned the usage the Beragard system used to help with projections, and conversations have begun.

8. Director of Finance and Administration – Aubrey Kirkpatrick

8.1. Year-end update

Aubrey provided explanation and update regarding year-end by using a PowerPoint presentation. Also spoke of major capital projects and mid-life upgrades.

8.2. Budget update

Aubrey Kirkpatrick spoke of the budget that was allocated at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year, the district ended with a slight surplus of \$ 683 000, and the district is allowed to keep \$ 300 000.

We presently do not have our budget. Fiscal year ends March 31 and begins April 1.

In June, we will be bringing to DEC a new budget for the upcoming year and for approval, by June 30. Next meeting, the super will be coming to the DEC with a proposed budget.

8.3. Facilities

Added this item into the presentation.

8.4. Summer capital projects

DEC member, Kristin Cavoukian, moved that the District Education Council submits the multi-year major capital list projects. Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded the motion.

Motion carried

DEC member, Michelle Folkins, moved to write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting a separate list and scoring system be setup for current infrastructure. DEC member, Dominic Vautour, seconded the motion.

Motion carried



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9. Member updates

9.1. Artificial Intelligence Presentation – *Areeb Rasul*

Student DEC member, *Areeb Rasul*, spoke about the impacts of AI and its opportunities.

As usual, he has been talking to student body through all the district and been gathering their thoughts and views.

Spoke about Earth Day, the recycling program at BMHS, mentioned that the arts sector is thriving in Anglophone East School District. He also shared information about the St Thomas, drama fest. BMHS hosted student blood drive in support of teachers. Caledonia had a great school formal.

Last DEC meeting for Areeb, as it the same night as is grad night. He expressed his gratitude to the members.

Harry Doyle – Was present at the PSSC at Riverview East School and mentioned he went to Riverside Albert and the federal project has been delayed but is doing well. Spoke of the repairs that need to be done. In Caledonia, one PSSC member drives from Alma. Spoke of a road that needs repairs, as a child was hurt due to the wholes on the road (roads on our properties of AESD).

Mark Owen – During the last PSSC meeting, Northop Fry had a few questions and concerns about the reconfiguration. Brought up that only 71 % of students feel safe at Northrop Frye.

Jolyne Knockwood – No update to share or details to bring forth.

Kristin Cavoukian – Talked about Edith Cavell and how lucky the school is to have a diverse student body. She also mentions that 49 % of the school is composed of students that come from outside of Canada. And due to that fact, it creates challenges for PLP.

The issue of the fencing was brought up and mentioned she had a conversation with the principal of the school and discussed the security issues. The DEC member proposes that when we have the MLA's meet with us, maybe we could have the discussion and ask the questions.

Kristin thanks Areeb for being an amazing voice on this council.



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Dominic Vautour – The DEC member talks about the 2 PSSC meetings, updates received on their school improvement plan, survey results, and his meeting with the new principals. Had discussion about how to better engage the community, and by doing such, security improves.

Duane McDonald – The DEC member speaks about 1 PSSC meeting, Riverview High School, school year coming to an end, and all that it entices. Spoke of a school in desperate need of replacing gym bleachers. Instead of replacing them, it will be repaired and refurbished. DEC member also brought up activities such as, the Dragon Boat festival and participation of students, a play on May 19, *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*, held at the Riverview High School. Today, we received the last installment of \$10 000 for the Rebecca Schofield Park and will be acknowledging the funds.

Michelle Folkins – No meetings with PSSCs and no additional information to share.

Ian Hebblethwaite – No PSSCs, but mentioned the Forest Glen, Night of the Arts, Thursday night. And finally, the DEC member spoke about the Dragon Boat Festival and all the participants.

8:30 PM

10. End of meeting

9:45 pm, motion to adjourn made by Vice-Chair, Ian Hebblethwaite.

Meeting adjourned

Original signed by Harry Doyle

Harry Doyle, Chair

Original signed by Janique Chiasson

Janique Chiasson, Secretary to the District Education Council