



Anglophone East School District

A Better Future... Through Quality Education

MINUTES

ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL

June 18, 2024 - 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 June 18, 2024, at 6:51 p.m.

PRESENT:

DOYLE, HARRY, CHAIR

KNOCKWOOD, JOLYNE

HEBBLETHWAITE, IAN

MACDONALD, DUANE

VAUTOUR, DOMINIC, VICE-CHAIR

FOLKINS, MICHELLE

CAVOUKIAN, KRISTIN

OWEN, MARK

MORTON, ALEX

CHAISSON-BUTLAND, GAVIN, STUDENT DEC MEMBER

MACLEAN, RANDOLPH J., SUPERINTENDENT/CEO

CHAISSON, JANIQUE, DISTRICT EDUCATION SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT/CEO



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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, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by DEC member, Kristin Cavoukian, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No declaration of conflict of interest was presented.

5. Approval of the minutes from the meeting held:

5.1. May 21, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Moved by DEC member, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by DEC member, Michelle Folkins, to approve the minutes as amended.

Motion Carried



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6. Correspondence

6.1. Letters to and from the Minister.

Superintendent/CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN provided an update and discussed the following letters received:

- **May 28** – Letter from Friends of the Royal, expressing interest in collaboration with us on the development of a synthetic field.
- **June 3** – Letter from the River of Pride Association, inviting the Superintendent/CEO to participate as Grand Marshall in the August 31st celebration at 2 p.m. With the support of the DEC, the Superintendent/CEO accepted and confirmed his attendance.
- **June 7** – Letter sent to the Minister regarding the boundaries for Forest Glen and Sunny Brae schools.
- **June 7** – Letter of proposal regarding the boundaries for Mountain View School.
- **June 7** – Letter sent to the Minister concerning capital and major capital projects.
- **June 18** – Letter received from the Minister concerning the engagement and investigation into the Anglophone East finances.
- **June 18** – Letter received from the Minister regarding the special appointment of an investigator under section 40.2.1.a.
- **June 18** – Letter received from the Minister confirming the appointment of the investigator for the above-mentioned investigation.



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7. Business arising from the previous meeting.
Nothing added for this agenda item.
8. Superintendent/CEO's Report – Randolph J. MacLEAN
 - 8.1. DEC meeting schedule for 2024-2025
The members, by consensus, approved the proposed schedule for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - 8.2. Administrative announcements
The Superintendent & CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, provided the names of the newly awarded positions for principals, vice-principal, and coordinators.
 - 8.3. New Dieppe K-12 school
The Superintendent & CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, expressed his gratitude to everyone involved in the process, including the city of Dieppe. He presented the proposed specifications and urged the members of the DEC to approve them.

Ian shared his experiences and expressed the honor he felt in being part of the process. Daniel Fournier, representing the department, was also acknowledged for his efforts in guiding the group towards a common goal. The new school, designed for K-12, will accommodate 1,204 students, with a maximum capacity of 1,843 students.

District Education Council Member, Ian Hebblethwaite, moved that the presented educational specifications for the new Dieppe K-12 School be accepted. District Education Council Member, Duane MacDonald, seconded the motion.

Motion carried



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8.4. New West End school (update)

Superintendent & CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, reported that he had recently toured the construction site and confirmed that the project is on schedule to be completed by the end of July. At that time, they expect to receive the keys, with only a few minor tasks remaining. The school will be ready to open as planned. The name of the school will be announced once the proposed name is approved by the Minister.

Additionally, Superintendent & CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN briefly mentioned the Shediac adjacency studies, expressing his pleasure in collaborating with the department on this project. While the final location has not yet been determined, efforts are ongoing to resolve this matter. He also discussed plans for a synthetic field that will be adjacent to the new school.

8.5. Enrollment update

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN provided an update on student enrollment, stating that as of yesterday, we have 19,740 registered students. This reflects an increase of 18 students in the past week. Enrollment continues to grow, and we currently have more kindergarten students enrolled compared to last year.

8.6. High School graduations

The Superintendent & CEO, Randolph J. MacLEAN, briefly spoke of the graduations and provided the dates and locations.

8.7. Journey to Excellence - Summer Learning Institute

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN discussed the upcoming event taking place from July 2 to July 5 at Bernice MacNaughton High School. The event will feature the 100 Blanket Exercise, with 192 new teachers registered, and over 200 participants signed up in total. He extended his gratitude to everyone involved in the logistics and planning for making this event possible.



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8.8. Auditor General's Report – Transportation

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN highlighted that over 12,000 students are transported daily without incident. He emphasized the vital role bus drivers play in students' lives, acknowledging their contributions and expressing gratitude for their dedication. He also mentioned the hiring of a second transportation assistant to support driver training and recruitment efforts, allowing for more real-time operations.

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. thanked the Auditor General for their valuable work.

Aubrey added that, despite the millions of kilometers driven each school year, incidents are minimal. He expressed full confidence that all bus drivers have undergone the necessary checks. Aubrey also commended the work of Dave and the entire transportation team. Following the Auditor General's report, he expressed eagerness to collaborate further with the department to explore additional improvements across the district.

8.9 Child and Youth Advocate's Report

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN addressed the provided report, noting that he had the opportunity to discuss it with the Child and Youth Advocate. He acknowledged the thoroughness of their work and expressed satisfaction with the district's performance. However, he emphasized the importance of continuously improving in areas identified for growth. Moving forward, the focus will be on reviewing and enhancing administrative procedures, processes, and resources to ensure ongoing improvement, with a commitment to providing inclusivity for every child and parent.



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8.10 Minister's Forum

On May 27, Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN attended the forum and acknowledged Dominic's representation of the DEC, noting that he made a presentation on behalf of the organization. Dominic then provided a brief overview of the events that occurred that day.

8.11 School year calendar (update)

Superintendent & CEO Randolph J. MacLEAN discussed the proposed calendar, which has been submitted and is currently awaiting ministerial approval.

8.12 Information items:

- 8.12.1 Indigenous Education report
- 8.12.2 Anti-racism report
- 8.12.3 Teacher Support and Growth Team report
- 8.12.4 Student Welcome Center report

These items are accepted and approved in a consent agenda format.

9. Director of Human Resources' Report – Jacqui Eadle

9.1. Teacher staffing update

We are well underway with the recruitment process, having posted 100 positions. We are still managing recalls and appointments for teachers. I would like to commend my team for their collaboration with the directors of schools. Our staff is dedicated and continues to work through the summer, and we will be receiving support and recruitment assistance from EECD.

For our CUPE 2745 Educational Assistants, we are hosting a large job fair this Thursday during the Year-End Staffing Session (YESS Day), with 52 EA positions available.



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It was mention and emphasized that we are not cutting back; we have been allocated the same funding as last year, with no reductions.

For anyone interested in submitting their resume or reaching out to a member of the HR team, please contact us at: asde.hrinfo@nbed.nb.ca.

10. Director of Finance and Administration's Report – Aubrey Kirkpatrick

10.1. Budget

10.1.1. Presentation and approval of the 2024-2025 budget.

We are approving a budget for the period from April 1 to March 31 of the following year. Last year, we began with a budget of \$203,000,000 and ended with \$233,000,000. This year, we are starting with a budget of \$230,000,000, with the expectation of receiving additional increases throughout the year. We have strong support from the Department for any emerging needs. Aubrey mentioned that we can carry a surplus of up to \$500,000.

Additionally, there has been a change in how budgets are prepared; we will now use data from the end of February instead of September 30. This adjustment will be beneficial from a budgeting perspective.

Are all districts funded at a rate of \$130 per student? Yes, that is the case for general funding. However, when it comes to facilities, the funding varies. Aubrey and Randolph provided provide further details on the differences in funding across districts if needed.

The Director of Finance and Administration provided an overview of each department's budget at a high level. Aubrey proposed a balanced budget based on current knowledge, emphasizing that we are not considering any reductions or cuts. Instead, we continue to expand, although the challenge lies in having more positions than available candidates.



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The budget reflects an increase of \$27 million, with \$23 million of that amount allocated to collective agreement increases and the hiring of new teachers.

A slight deficit has been observed concerning Educational Assistants (EAs), with funding allocated for 522 positions while planning is in place for 542.

Alex Norton, DEC member, inquired about potential risks and what could potentially go wrong. The response highlighted that supply and replacement costs are not controllable expenses, although they are closely monitored. Another area of concern is fuel costs, which are also under constant review. However, historically, the department has been supportive in providing additional funding when necessary to address these challenges.

Moved by DEC member, Kristin Cavoukian, seconded by DEC member, Duane MacDonald, to approve presented budget.

Motion Carried

10.2. Department updates

Nothing further to add at this time, as the matter has either been addressed or discussed under a previous agenda item.

11. Director of communications' Report – Stephanie Patterson

11.1. Leadership modules

On May 18 and June 8, Stephanie and the Director of Secondary Schools delivered training modules to the aspiring educators, providing an overview of the training process. Each module consists of 15 hours of instruction.



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12. Members' Updates

Gavin Chaisson-Butland - will be at Dalhousie university in the fall and thanked the group for the opportunity.

Mark Owen – He discussed the PSSC meetings and expressed concerns about the uncertainty surrounding early dismissals. He noted that he was not included on the invitation list for some of these meetings and emphasized his desire to be invited to all of them. Additionally, he mentioned that we have an outstanding crossing guard, Patrina, who will be retiring this Friday.

Kristin Cavoukian - attended Hillcrest's final PSSC meeting and commended the school for how well they handled a recent lockdown incident. She also discussed the student improvement plan and a student survey, noting the insightful questions from students. The school expressed their appreciation for the supply music teacher, who successfully led their holiday concert, emphasizing the value of supply teachers and their contributions.

Kristin also attended Harrison Trimble High School's final PSSC meeting, where they discussed their progress with the IB program, which is set to launch in the fall of 2025. The principal noted a 90% reduction in incidents since the implementation of private security and expressed gratitude for their work. Kristin also mentioned that they are formally requesting the continuation of security services for the next year. The Superintendent acknowledged the request.

Dominic Vautour - shared that the Inspire Awards were a fantastic event. He also highlighted the great discussions held as part of the district's Anti-Racism Coalition. Additionally, he attended the Minister's Forum and a PSSC meeting at Moncton High School. Dominic received a thoughtful gift from Joe Petterson, a book titled Riley the Runt, based on a true story. He mentioned that a copy of the book will be distributed to each member of the DEC. Lastly, he gave a special shoutout to Sandra Savard, acknowledging her as a loyal listener.



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Michelle Folkins was unable to attend the recent PSSC meetings but reached out to the Tantramar PSSC to discuss concerns about the washrooms and the tender process for the next phase, including the boys' locker room and the carpentry shop. Although she couldn't address all issues, her efforts were appreciated. She also inquired about why certain items on the capital improvement list do not automatically carry over, requiring them to be requested again. The Superintendent & CEO provided explanations, and Michelle expressed her satisfaction with the response.

Duane MacDonald – I had the pleasure of attending and hosting the Inspire Awards, and it was an enjoyable event for everyone involved. Additionally, I attended 4 out of 5 school PSSC meetings, where Nick Mattatall, the incoming principal, was also invited. Riverview Middle School and Riverview High School have a lot of activity happening. Claude D. Taylor, while typically experiencing a decline, currently has 21 students attending and 45 registered for next year. A special shout-out to Kim Marr, one of our dedicated listeners!

Ian Hebblethwaite – Expressed his gratitude to all for approving the educational specifications for the new school—it is truly an honor to be part of this exciting initiative. Ian also mentioned that he had the pleasure of attending the Inspire Awards and extended his gratitude to the staff for their exceptional organization. Congratulations to everyone for thriving under pressure and making the event a success!

Alex Norton – Attended a PSSC meeting. Had the opportunity to visit Havelock, where they invited members to experience the sense of community firsthand. They emphasized the value of outdoor activities and shared their excitement about the upcoming pirate musical. Additionally, the Salisbury community is eagerly anticipating the educational specifications, which are expected in September.



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Harry Doyle – Mentioned that he has learned a great deal this year, especially through his work with the Superintendent & CEO, and was expressed that he got involved to make a difference for all kids. I'm incredibly proud of the members for their dedication, hard work, and the way they collaborate. No matter what happens in the days ahead, we will continue to move forward with the situation involving the government, and the chair is hopeful that we'll come through it.

The chair can't guarantee that he will be back in the fall, as he's dealing with some personal health issues and challenges at home. Harry wanted to thank Dominic for stepping in and providing additional support during this time. The chair declared that this has been the best group that he had the pleasure of working with, and extended his deepest thanks to the Superintendent & CEO for his exceptional leadership.

13. End of meeting

8:55 pm, motion to adjourn made by 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