



Anglophone East School District

1077 St. George Boulevard, Moncton, NB, E1E 4C9

MINUTES

ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL

April 15, 2025 - 6:30 PM

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

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

1. Call to Order

The business meeting of the District Education Council, Anglophone East School District, was held in person and livestreamed, 2025, at 6:44 pm.

PRESENT:

DOYLE, HARRY, CHAIR

KNOCKWOOD, JOLYNE

MACDONALD, DUANE

VAUTOUR, DOMINIC, VICE-CHAIR

CAVOUKIAN, KRISTIN

OH, MATTHEW

HEBBLETHWAITE, IAN

OWEN, MARK

MORTON, ALEX

FOLKINS, MICHELLE

MACLEAN, RANDOLPH J., SUPERINTENDENT & CEO

CHIASSE, JANIQUE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT & CEO,
DISTRICT EDUCATION SECRETARY

ALSO PRESENT:

STEPHANIE PATTERSON, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

JACQUI EADLE, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

AUBREY KIRKPATRICK, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



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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.

The land acknowledgment was read by Mark Owen.

3. Agenda Approval

Moved by DEC member, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by DEC member, Michelle Folkins, 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. March 18, 2025

Moved by DEC member, Mark Owen, seconded by DEC member, Duane MacDonald, to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion Carried



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6. Correspondence

6.1. Capital letter

A response letter to the Council's February correspondence was received on April 14, 2025. The Superintendent & CEO addressed the contents of the letter.

Council engaged in a discussion regarding the Minister's response, which outlined funding allocations for various school infrastructure projects, including roofing, ventilation systems, and modular classrooms.

6.2. 2024 Exit Survey Letter

The Superintendent & CEO provided remarks regarding the letter, noting that it will be available shortly and posted online once finalized.

6.3. Letter from the Hillcrest School PSSC to be designated as a school

DEC member, Kristin Cavoukian, provided context regarding the letter, explaining the circumstances that led to its creation and the reasons behind the request and the need for a motion.

Motion:

That the District Education Council recommends that Hillcrest Pathways be designated as a designated school and supports this designation moving forward.

Moved by: Kristin Cavoukian

Seconded by: Dominic Vautour

Motion Carried

7. Business arising from the previous meeting.

No business to report.



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7:00 PM

8. Superintendent/CEO's Report – Randolph J. MacLEAN

8.1. Presentation – English Literacy Provincial Assessments

The Superintendent & CEO began by acknowledging and commending the critical contributions of Julie, Carleen, Terry Smith, and Jason Reith in supporting the system's improvement efforts. Their work in data analysis, leadership, and coordination has had a direct impact on school planning and instructional responses across the district.

The presentation focused on a longitudinal analysis of student achievement in English Literacy, tracking a cohort of 1,204 students who wrote the provincial assessments in Grade 4 (2021–2022) and again in Grade 6 (2023–2024). In Grade 4, 54% of the cohort were successful, while 46% were not. Of those who were unsuccessful in Grade 4, 54% demonstrated improvement and achieved success in Grade 6. Meanwhile, 94% of students who were successful in Grade 4 remained successful in Grade 6, with only 6% seeing a decline.

The team also examined Grade 9 results by tracing students' achievement back to their Grade 6 performance. This longitudinal tracking approach provides deeper insight than traditional year-over-year comparisons. It illustrates clear patterns: early interventions, particularly in Grade 4, strongly influence outcomes in Grade 6, Grade 9, and ultimately high school graduation.

Additional insights included the importance of sample size in data variability, noting that larger schools experience minimal variance (3–5%), while smaller schools show greater fluctuations. Trends across the district reveal a steady increase in student success rates over recent years. Moreover, the ability to disaggregate data by identity factors such as gender or ancestry allows the district to design more equitable and targeted interventions.

The presentation highlighted increased collaboration across school levels, where elementary, middle, and high school staff now examine shared student data to strengthen system-wide strategies. This initiative, a first for the district, equips principals and leadership teams with meaningful, actionable data to support instructional decisions and improve outcomes.

The team also clarified how “do-not-write” students are handled in assessments. In Grades 4 and 6, they are excluded from the denominator. In Grade 9, students who are unsuccessful have additional opportunities to write in Grades 11 and 12, and successful results are retroactively applied to their Grade 9 cohort for tracking purposes.

In closing, the members commended the team for their innovative work and the clear connection between early literacy development and long-term student achievement. The presentation was described as exciting, insightful, and a significant step forward in using data to inform system-wide improvements.



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8.2. Enrollment updates and staffing

As of last Friday, district enrollment stands at approximately 20,395 students, with fluctuations due to seasonal movement and transfers. Staffing updates were provided, highlighting several recent administrative appointments. Jocelyn Young was appointed VP (1-year term) at Tantramar Regional High; Josh Hebb and Amy Burke are continuing as VPs for five years at Salisbury Regional and Bernice MacNaughton High, respectively. Megan Wilson becomes principal at Claude D. Taylor, while Mark Merhebi (Maplehurst Middle), Erica Traikov (Sunny Brae Middle), Adam Trider (Magnetic Hill), and others have accepted five-year VP roles. Martin Degg transitions into a new HR role, creating a principal vacancy at Bernice MacNaughton. Additional appointments include Kevin Jones (Riverview High), Heather Davis (Forest Glen), CeCe Cannell (Northrop Frye), Assan Maidal (Shediac Cape), Deirdre Riddle (Salem), and Matt Ripley (Marshfield Middle). Staff adjustments will continue as vacancies emerge due to retirements and internal movements. The Superintendent noted that while some appointments are five-year terms, others are contextual or temporary based on evolving school needs and succession planning.

8.3. Update - New Salisbury Elementary School, Shediac K-12 School, and Dieppe K-12

An update was provided on the New Salisbury Elementary School project. Two design committee meetings have taken place, confirming the school will be a K–5 facility, as originally requested by the District Education Council. It was emphasized that any change to the grade configuration (e.g., requesting a K–8) would result in the project being withdrawn and re-entered into the capital queue, potentially delaying it by a decade. Although land has not yet been secured, discussions are underway. Thanks were extended to Alex, Aubrey, Candace, Sarah, and members of the Salisbury community, including local principals and PSSC chairs, for their active involvement. The project has been highly collaborative, with detailed conversations around enrollment projections, gym and community space, and potential for future additions such as childcare or theatre facilities. The committee has learned from previous design experiences (e.g., rejection of "learning stairs") and continues to consult with provincial representatives. A site visit to Wabanaki School is being planned to explore features suited for flexible school design.

8.4. Update - 2025-2026 School Calendar

An update was provided on the ongoing consultation regarding the proposed 2025–2026 school calendar. Trustees were thanked for attending PSSC meetings and actively engaging in discussions with school communities. Feedback from staff and PSSC members has been overwhelmingly positive. While no final decision has been made, the process remains in the consultation phase, with one final meeting pending. Once all the input is gathered, recommendations will be submitted to the department and Minister for consideration. The



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Superintendent and CEO emphasized that this initiative began over two years ago with the goal of reimagining learning and system support, particularly in light of substitute teacher availability and system needs. Appreciation was expressed for the thoughtful questions, feedback, and advocacy throughout the process, which has fostered a strong sense of connection and trust within the community.

8.5. Update - 10 Year Education Plan

The Superintendent & CEO provided an update on the renewal of the provincial 10-Year Education Plan (2016–2026). Trustees will soon receive a survey to provide feedback on the 52 existing indicators, with a request to narrow them down to a prioritized list of 20. This follows a similar process already undertaken with school leaders to ensure alignment with the district's curriculum and improvement priorities. Background materials, including the current plan and district improvement goals, will accompany the survey. The aim is to submit a cohesive and focused response to the department that sets the system up for continued success.

8.6. Update – Inspire Awards

The Superintendent & CEO shared an update. The Inspire Awards will take place on Monday, May 26th at the Riverview High School Auditorium. Despite earlier miscommunication, the confirmed date is the 26th. The event promises to be a memorable and meaningful evening, celebrating student success and community spirit. All are invited to attend, and preparations are underway to ensure a positive and uplifting experience.

8.7. Wabanaki School Grand Opening

The official grand opening of Wabanaki School will take place on June 10th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the format of an open house celebration. All members are invited to attend. The event will feature performances, including dancing and singing, with invitations extended to local leadership and community members. Stephanie has played a lead role in organizing the event, with support from Tracy. The celebration marks a significant milestone for the school and community.

8.8. Information items:

- 8.8.1. Indigenous Education report**
- 8.8.2. Anti-racism report**
- 8.8.3. Professional Support and Growth report**
- 8.8.4. Enrolment Management & Newcomer Services**

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



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8.9. Miniter's visits (Education Minister)

The Superintendent & CEO spoke of the visit and the Minister of Education who visited two district schools on April 7th—Hillcrest and Riverview East School—with Dominic Vautour, Vice-Chair, providing remarks on the Hillcrest visit. The Minister also toured Wabanaki School more recently, where she engaged meaningfully with students and staff, asking insightful questions and observing the school's design and daily operations. Special thanks were extended to Principal Kim Marr, the administrative team, and Director of Education Adam Rogerson for hosting. The Superintendent & CEO commended the Minister for her consistent presence in schools and her commitment to understanding classroom realities, an approach that distinguishes her from many predecessors. She has also expressed interest in visiting Youth Cavell School in the near future.

8.10. Graduation and prom dates

The Superintendent & CEO went over the list of proms and graduation for each of the schools. Prom and graduation dates for high schools have been confirmed. Proms: June 16 – Caledonia, Harrison Trimble, Riverview High, Salisbury Regional; June 17 – Bernice MacNaughton, Petitcodiac, Moncton High; June 19 – Tantramar Regional. Hillcrest prom date is still pending.

Graduations: June 18 – Harrison Trimble (Tidal Church) and Salisbury Regional (school gym); June 19 – Bernice MacNaughton, Riverview High, Petitcodiac; June 20 – Caledonia Regional; June 21 – Tantramar Regional (Mount Allison); June 23 – Moncton High (final ceremony). Graduation for Indigenous students is forthcoming; details will be shared once scheduled.

Council members will receive an invitation to confirm attendance and whether they wish to speak at ceremonies, so seating and acknowledgments can be arranged accordingly. DEC members in attendance will be formally recognized.

8.11. DEC symposium

The DEC Symposium will take place in Fredericton on May 30–31 (Friday and Saturday). The agenda has been shared, and members are encouraged to make necessary arrangements with Janique Chiasson, Executive Assistant and DEC secretary. The Superintendent will be in attendance. After receiving Ian Hebblethwaite suggestion, hotel accommodation for Saturday night can be arranged for those wishing to stay. Again, members are asked to inform Janique Chiasson of their preference. Additional details will be shared as they become available.



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8.12. Horizon's Student Leadership Conference

The Superintendent & CEO attended the Horizon's Student Leadership Conference held at Salisbury Regional, which welcomed over 400 high school students from across the district. The event was exceptionally well-organized, with student-led leadership activities and strong engagement throughout. Special thanks were extended to Tammy Constantine, Salisbury Regional staff, school principals, teachers, and volunteers for their support and dedication. The event was a vibrant celebration of student leadership and energy.

8.13. High School Career Expos

Career Expo events were held at Salisbury Regional and Tantramar Regional High School on April 8th and 10th, respectively. These expos hosted over 100 students from Caledonia, Petitcodiac, Salisbury, and Tantramar, offering opportunities to explore future career pathways. The events aimed to expose students to a wide range of career options and possibilities. Both events were highly successful and engaging for students.

8.14. Hillcrest School Designation

This item was discussed earlier.

9. Director of Human Resources' Report – Jacqui Eadle

9.1. Updates

Due to travel and then illness, Jacqui was unable to attend. The Superintendent & CEO invited any questions related to her report.

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

10.1. Finance

10.1.1. Monitoring report

The Director of Finance and Administration provided a brief update, noting the fiscal year officially closed at the end of March, with two weeks remaining to finalize all outstanding payments. The finance team is working diligently to complete the process. Preparations and tenders for 2025–2026 summer projects are already underway.



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10.2. Transportation

Aubrey Kirkpatrick responded, as he shared that we have received an additional 7 new buses and will be deployed when ready.

10.3. Facilities

Aubrey Kirkpatrick responded to inquiries regarding ongoing work at Riverside-Albert School. The exterior siding is currently being removed as part of planned maintenance. Concerns about cracked front steps and single-pane windows were acknowledged; repairs are being reviewed, and the team is actively working on addressing these issues.

10.4. Community

Nothing specific was added.

11. Director of communications' Report – Stephanie Patterson

11.1. Updates

An update was provided on the district's new branding initiative. The finalized design, including bilingual elements, has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from staff, the public, and government stakeholders. The branding, which includes a QR code and updated letterhead, was described as a meaningful and emotional project driven by a deep sense of purpose and pride. Communications was commended for her dedication, creativity, and passion throughout the process. The project was characterized as authentic, impactful, and a strong reflection of the district's identity and values.

12. Members' Updates

Harry Doyle – Visited Caledonia Regional School and was thoroughly impressed with the newly updated home economics room—it's truly outstanding. Also appreciated the opportunity to take part in the meeting regarding the school calendar; it was a valuable and engaging discussion.

Dominic Vautour – Attended the PSSC meeting at Harrison Trimble, chaired by Arnold H. The discussion primarily focused on the proposed school calendar. The ongoing consultation with communities was well-received and greatly appreciated.

Michelle Folkins – Nothing to report.

Duane MacDonald – Was able to go to all five PSSC meetings.



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Alex Morton – Was able to attend two of the PSSC meetings.

Ian Hebblethwaite – highlighted a strong presentation on the United Way program, which has had a positive impact on school attendance. At Lou MacNarin, the principal specifically praised the program's effect on reducing absenteeism. Principals from both schools expressed enthusiasm about recent reports and calendar planning. One principal confidently stated their school has the best resource teachers in the district. Educational assistants also contributed valuable feedback. And, attended a few PSSC meetings were attended.

Matthew Oh – Spoke of the report card day, and therapy dog present. Was part of the tour at the neonatal, as the trojans work and impact that they have.

Kristin Cavoukian – Shared that the student DEC member has received a scholarship and highlighted the wide range of activities taking place at Hillcrest School. At Bessborough, it was noted that as of March 27, the school is in the process of converting its current computer lab into a laptop lab. Air quality has improved this year, and a question was raised about whether the district will be retesting. This matter will be followed up with Aubrey. There was a meaningful discussion around the potential new school calendar. On April 1, the member attended the first joint PSSC meeting between Wabanaki and Bernice MacNaughton High School.

Mark Owen – No member's update.

Jolyne Knockwood – No member's update.

13. End of meeting

8:21 pm, motion to adjourn made by Mark Owen.

Meeting adjourned



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Original signed by Harry Doyle

Harry Doyle, Chair

Original signed by Janique Chiasson

Janique Chiasson, Secretary to the District Education Council