



Anglophone East School District

A Better Future... Through Quality Education

MINUTES

ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL

November 19, 2024 - 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 live streamed on November 19, 2024, at 6:57 pm.

PRESENT:

KNOCKWOOD, JOLYNE

MACDONALD, DUANE

VAUTOUR, DOMINIC, VICE-CHAIR

CAVOUKIAN, KRISTIN

OWEN, MARK

HEBBLETHWAITE, IAN

OH, MATTHEW

MACLEAN, RANDOLPH J., SUPERINTENDENT & CEO

CHIASSON, JANIQUE, DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT & CEO

ALSO PRESENT:

JACQUI EADLE, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

STEPHANIE PATTERSON, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

AUBREY KIRKPATRICK, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

REGRETS:

MORTON, ALEX

FOLKINS, MICHELLE

DOYLE, HARRY, CHAIR



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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 student DEC member, Matthew Oh.

3. Agenda Approval

Moved by DEC member, Duane MacDonald, seconded by DEC member, Ian Hebblethwaite, 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 October 15, 2024

Moved by DEC member, Ian Hebblethwaite, seconded by DEC member, Mark Owen, to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion Carried

6. Correspondence

No correspondence was presented or discussed.

7. Business arising from the previous meeting

Nothing added for this agenda item.



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

8.1. Provincial assessment results

The Superintendent & CEO provided an update on the upcoming release of provincial assessment results, scheduled for public availability on November 20, 2024. These results are a key component of the district improvement plan, emphasizing literacy, numeracy, safety, and graduation. Any questions regarding the results will be addressed during the January meeting.

The Superintendent & CEO further noted that he will provide a brief walkthrough of the results, highlighting key successes and areas for growth. The results showcase both accomplishments and opportunities for ongoing improvement, aligning with the district's commitment to excellence as outlined in the improvement plan.

8.2. Artificial Intelligence guidelines

8.2.1. Canadian EDTECH Summit

The superintendent reported on the development of guidelines and processes for implementing artificial intelligence in schools. Jordan Smith, the coordinator for educational technology, played a key role in this initiative. The focus is on responsible use and support for students, teachers, and parents.

8.3. Wabanaki School Grand Opening

The Wabanaki School gymnasium opened last week, and plans are now underway for an official grand opening in the spring, taking advantage of favorable weather. Despite some challenges, the school opened on time, and the gym is now fully operational.

The Superintendent & CEO expressed his desire to begin discussions for the grand opening, proposing the involvement of Chief Rebecca Knockwood for her guidance, as well as Donna Augustine, one of our respected elders. Principal Kim Marr, the Director of Communications, and all relevant team members who wishes to collaborate in planning this event to ensure it is a meaningful and successful celebration.

8.4. December District Education Council Meeting

The council discussed whether to hold a December meeting. It was decided to maintain the status quo, with meetings called only, if necessary, particularly regarding court cases.

Decision:

Consensus to maintain the status quo for the December meeting.



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8.5. Youth Mental Health Summit

And on the same day as the opening, the Superintendent & CEO had the honor of participating in an event alongside Rob McKee, Attorney General, Minister responsible for Addictions and Mental Health Services. The event also included Cabinet of Support, one of our MLAs and now a Cabinet Minister, speaking on behalf of the Premier and the Minister.

The Superintendent & CEO wanted to extend his thanks to Heather Stordy for her continued support, as well as the guest speakers, community partners, along with students from across our schools.

During the event, the Superintendent & CEO had the opportunity to speak about what it means to connect—whether it's with oneself, with fate, or with a fellow student. We reflected on the connections between 1,451 students, and how these connections have evolved since pre-COVID times. It was a truly inspiring day and expressed that it is always an honored to be part of such an important initiative alongside dedicated speakers, the facility team, and all those committed to youth mental health.

8.6. School Improvement Plan meetings

By October 30th each year, schools submit their improvement plans. Afterward, the Superintendent & CEO, Director of Education, and team meet with school leaders to review the results and set goals for the following year. The Superintendent has visited 15 out of 40 schools and plans to continue these visits, where he asks principals: *"What do you need from me to help implement the plan successfully?"* Ongoing support is emphasized.

8.7. NBSLA 38th Annual Student Leadership Conference - "Stronger Together"

The Superintendent & CEO discussed the recent student leadership conference, highlighting student pride and engagement. Plans to gather student feedback for improving education and school culture were mentioned.

8.8. Franco-Vibes

The Franco Vibes event at Université de Moncton was attended by nearly 1,000 students, making it a highly successful cultural and educational experience that highlighted the significance of language and culture. The Superintendent & CEO, along with DEC member Kristin Cavoukian, were very pleased with the turnout, the quality of the event, and the enthusiasm of both the students and organizers.



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8.9. Enrollment update

Our district currently serves 20,300 students, and we continue to welcome new students into our schools. The Superintendent & CEO stated that as we grow, we are also expanding our staff to meet the needs of our community. It is truly rewarding to walk through the schools and witness the incredible work being done, especially as we've welcomed over 4,000 students in recent years.

8.10. Information items:

8.10.1. Indigenous Education report

8.10.2. Anti-racism report

8.10.3. Professional Support and Growth report

8.10.4. Enrolment Management & Newcomer Services

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

9. Director of Human Resources' Report – Jacqui Eadle

9.1. Department updates

9.1.1. Staffing

9.1.2. Working committee – Teacher staffing

The Director of Human Resources provided an update on recruitment efforts for the 2024-2025 school year, highlighting the work being done across various staffing categories.

Recruitment to Date:

- **NBTF:** 175 teachers recruited (111 supply, 64 contract/LTS)
- **CUPE 1253:** 20 casual custodians, 19 casual bus drivers
- **NBUPPE:** 12 Behaviour Intervention Mentors, 3 Speech-Language Pathologists, 2-3 Social Workers (in progress)
- **PSAC:** 1 Community School Coordinator, 2 Technical Support Specialists
- **CUPE 2745:** 3 Educational Assistants, 13 school admins, 8 student attendants, 50 EAs (tentative start in December)

Teacher Staffing Working Committee:

- Co-chairs: Director of Education and Director of Human Resources
- Members: HR Officer, Principals from various schools

The Superintendent thanked Jacqui and her team for their ongoing efforts.



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

10.1. Department updates

10.1.1. Q2 Report

As of October 31, the district is forecasting a balanced budget, despite challenges from transitioning to a new accounting and payroll system. The director of Finance and Administration stated that we are making progress in developing reports and accessing key information, particularly for payroll and benefits, which comprise 80% of the budget. Support from the ERP and SNB payroll teams has been invaluable.

Surpluses in instructional costs are due to timing differences in funding and teacher placements. However, there is a deficit in Education Support Services, driven by the lack of a formula for allocating Educational Assistants, particularly in light of our rapid growth. Similarly, deficits in Plant and Facilities are related to ongoing projects, and District office deficits stem from new staff hires.

10.1.2 Transportation

The district has managed to reduce the required distance for K-8 transportation to 1.8 km, despite significant growth and resource constraints. Overflow buses are full, and additional buses and drivers are being sought, particularly in high-demand areas such as the city center, Dieppe, and Shediac.

Bus Routes & Loading Sizes

- ASDE morning routes: 126 out of 186 routes (80%-135% full)
- Coach Atlantic morning routes: 51 out of 67 routes (80%-135% full)
- ASDE afternoon routes: 120 out of 198 routes (80%-137% full)
- Coach Atlantic afternoon routes: 51 out of 80 routes (80%-135% full)
- Total eligible students: 13,274 AM, 13,473 PM

10.1.2. Facilities

We're working with EECD/DTI on the preliminary architectural design for a new school in Shediac and will begin the educational specifications review for a new Salisbury school project in December.



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Health & Safety

- A Joint Health & Safety Committee Member Training session is scheduled for November 21, 2024, to equip staff with the skills needed to foster a positive safety culture.
- The AED Maintenance Project ensures all devices are deployment-ready, with a bulk order of replacement parts scheduled once survey responses from school principals are received.

Community Initiatives

- A food survey has been sent to schools to assess their support for breakfast, lunch, and snack programs, with needs at their highest.
- The "Fill the Bus" initiative starts next week.
- The Youth Mental Health Summit was a success, and youth mental health committees are now working in schools.
- "Reading is Wild" at Salem Elementary and Petitcodiac Regional begins at the end of November, with all schools now connected to the program.

11. Director of communications' Report – Stephanie Patterson

11.1. Updates

Last month, the CASE Annual Conference brought together over 200 communications professionals. It was a validating experience, reinforcing our presence and recognition in the field.

The Youth Mental Health Summit was a great success and received coverage (Payge/reporter).

On Monday, the "Fill the Bus" campaign will kick off, an initiative started by Aubrey. This year, we are running a virtual campaign, which will continue until December 31.

12. Members' Updates

Kristin Cavoukian – The Franco Vibes event was a great success, and since our last meeting, I've had the chance to visit a few schools. At Wabanaki, there's a safety concern with the garage doors, which, while a great idea for allowing classes to work together, are slow to close during a lockdown due to the hand-crank mechanism. The Superintendent & CEO have



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discussed this and are looking at ways to address the issue as this is the first test case of this design. The goal is to ensure maximum use of the space while maintaining safety.

At Lewisville Middle School, things are going well. Students recently picked apples from their trees and made jelly. Two new portables will be arriving soon to accommodate growing numbers.

In terms of transportation, we're facing delays and bus cancellations, compounded by the mid-year entries into French immersion, which is creating logistical challenges.

At Bernice MacNaughton High School, there are ongoing challenges with linguistic insecurity in the French immersion program. They've made progress on several initiatives, but some issues are still pending, including the need to relocate the main office for security reasons. They've done their part, and now they're just waiting for further action. The administration could use additional support, and we should discuss potential solutions for that. Randy will also verify details related to their PSSC.

At Hillcrest, the principal is taking a very hands-on approach, fostering strong connections with students. The school's PSSC includes community members, and they are making great strides with Indigenous programming. Students are working on a podcast that will be presented to Bessborough students, demonstrating their commitment to Indigenous learning.

Mark Owen – Visited several schools and discussed their school improvement plans.

Matthew Oh – The Tantramar football season was a success, and the Student Leadership Conference was a great experience filled with activities focused on the ins and outs of running a student council. Awards were given, and feedback about the Franco Vibes event was shared, with a suggestion to offer it next semester for students taking French who missed it this time. There was also discussion about a fair, friendly competition game that schools could use as a fundraiser and community-building event.

Harrison Trimble raised \$440,000 for Moncton High's Relay for Life, and the Fill the Bus campaign is underway with schools and student bodies actively participating. Tantramar is eager to contribute, and if not to Fill the Bus, they plan to organize a charity event. Winter formal is also approaching.

It was noted that some school auditoriums are becoming too small for assemblies, and schools are getting creative with ways to bring students together. Many schools are launching new clubs, fostering student engagement.



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Jolyne Knockwood – The first meeting is tomorrow, so updates will be shared with the members at the next meeting.

Duane MacDonald – The DEC member mentioned that he had the chance to visit most of the schools in Riverview and is looking forward to returning. There's a lot happening in Riverview, particularly with population growth, which is starting to impact schools. Frank L. Bowser is

already at capacity, and with five major apartment buildings being built nearby on Pine Glen Road and White Pine, this will add further strain on the school. In contrast, Claude D. Taylor has 11 empty classrooms. Mentioned that it might be time to consider adjusting school boundaries to accommodate these changes and ease the pressure on Frank L. Bowser.

The map presented was meant to help members visualize potential solutions for the congestion. While the issue isn't apparent on nice days, concerns arise when the weather turns colder and rainier, which could exacerbate the situation.

Ian Hebblethwaite provided his thoughts on how this issue could be resolved. But as The Superintendent & CEO mentioned that the less cars are present, the better. Fewer cars around schools would be safer for students. We are more than happy to work with the Town of Riverview. We can look at bussing, but we do not want more cars around schools.

DEC member Duane MacDonald provided additional feedback, mentioning that the Riverview Middle School boys' volleyball team will be playing at Wabanaki School. Regarding the ongoing teacher and staff shortages, a teacher suggested that when administrators are needed outside the school, the Vice Principals should not be pulled at the same time to ensure adequate staffing.

Riverview High School made it to the finals, achieving notable success. The school is also very pleased with the new cellphone policy.

Ian Hebblethwaite – Mentioned that St. Stephen won the 9-man championship. The DEC member also had the chance to attend the Forest Glen School PSSC meeting, although other PSSCs were meeting at the same time. Ian was impressed by the parents' interest and the administration's enthusiasm. Additionally, the DEC member shared that his wife recently had a health scare and expressed gratitude for the flowers sent by the Superintendent & CEO and DEC, which she greatly appreciated.

Dominic Vautour – I've had several meetings with the Superintendent & CEO, including a PSSC meeting in Shediac. It's been a busy time.



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13. End of meeting

8:25 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