



# Anglophone East School District

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

## MINUTES

ANGLOPHONE EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL

**October 21, 2025 - 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 livestreamed, October 21, 2025, at 6:52pm.

**PRESENT:**

MACDONALD, DUANE  
VAUTOUR, DOMINIC, CHAIR  
CAVOUKIAN, KRISTIN  
HEBBLETHWAITE, IAN  
MORTON, ALEX  
FOLKINS, MICHELLE  
OWEN, MARK, VICE-CHAIR  
COTE, VERONIQUE, STUDENT DEC MEMBER  
MACLEAN, RANDOLPH J., SUPERINTENDENT & CEO  
CHIASSON, JANIQUE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT & CEO,  
DISTRICT EDUCATION SECRETARY

**WITH REGRETS:**

DOYLE, HARRY,  
KNOCKWOOD, JOLYNE

**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 Ian Hebblewaite.

### 3. Agenda Approval

***Moved by DEC Vice-Chair, Mark Owen, and seconded by DEC member, Duane MacDonald to approve the amended agenda.***

***Amendment to add in-camera decisions (between Items 7 and 8)***

*Mr. Harry Doyle has been granted a leave of absence for an indefinite period.*

*Mr. Dominic Vautour has been acclaimed as Chair, and Mr. Mark Owen as Vice-Chair.*

***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 on:

**5.1. September 16, 2025**

***Moved by DEC member Alex Norton, and seconded by DEC member Duane MacDonald, that the minutes be approved as presented.***

***Motion Carried***

### 6. Correspondence

No correspondence

### 7. Business arising from the previous meeting.

No business to report.



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### 7:00 PM – Reports

#### 8. Superintendent & CEO's Report – Randolph J. MacLEAN

##### 8.1. District Improvement Plan – Presentation (20 minutes)

The Superintendent & CEO introduced Jason Reath, Principal – System Improvement and Data Analysis, who presented the 2024–2025 Provincial Assessment Results. The presentation covered English Reading (Grades 4, 6, and 9), French Reading (Early, Late, and Post-Intensive programs), Mathematics (two assessments), and Science (three assessments). Jason clarified key definitions, explaining that a “W” represents a student not available within the assessment window (previously three days, now five), and that exemptions apply for reasons such as language level (A1/A2) or individualized programming. These exemptions affect reporting differently across assessments and can significantly alter success rates.

During the discussion, Ian Hebblethwaite, DEC member, inquired about how exemptions impact the results, and Alex Morton, DEC member, added contextual information regarding how the data is reported. Jason offered to return with a more detailed breakdown on the exemption data and its influence on performance analysis. When asked whether schools have access to all district results or only their own, it was confirmed that schools can view only their individual results.

In reviewing English Reading, results showed notable progress. Grade 4 performance improved beyond the provincial rate, with success rates tightening across 25 schools and 13 of 22 showing double-digit gains (+12–18 %). Grade 6 continued to trend upward, with 11 of 15 schools meeting their improvement targets. Grade 9 results also improved, with consistent outcomes across schools and no exemptions counted as unsuccessful.

For French Reading, strong district-wide progress was observed. In Grade 7 (Early and Late French Immersion), 10 of 11 schools showed improvement. In Grade 10, Early Immersion results displayed growth in 3 of 6 schools, including two with double-digit gains, achieving a district success rate of 78.5 %. Late Immersion showed a slight overall decline, though several schools reported individual gains. Post-Intensive French results aligned with expectations, reflecting the district’s broad participation in French programs (42 % of students).

Mathematics assessments remain in a calibration phase, yet the three-year trend showed steady improvement from 44 % to over 50 %, with a small dip this year while remaining above historical baselines. Twelve schools improved overall, with nine of fifteen showing gains and three achieving double-digit growth. The district reaffirmed its target of 100 % success.



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In Science, district performance was strong across all three assessments. One assessment recorded 100 % student success, and Grade 6 showed substantial improvement with gaps closing across 12 schools. Multiple schools achieved success rates of 80 % or higher, and most exceeded provincial averages. Overall, the district improved across all 15 assessments, marking a clear contrast with provincial trends that remained static or declined.

The Superintendent & CEO commended Jason and his team for their leadership in data analysis, school improvement planning, and the pilot calendar evaluation. The district currently uses more than 50 standardized indicators to ensure consistent and transparent data reporting across schools. Feedback noted that the data system is detailed yet accessible, supporting principals, school teams, and PSSC members in data-informed planning.

In closing, the Superintendent & CEO reviewed the slides and highlighted the district's collective progress, noting both the areas of success and those requiring continued attention. He emphasized that these positive trends reflect the dedication and hard work happening daily in classrooms and that student success is the direct outcome of that commitment. He concluded by thanking Jason, his team, school staff, and corporate staff for their efforts in driving continuous improvement and supporting student achievement.

The assessment results and analysis were well received. The district will continue to refine its data practices, monitor progress, and support schools in addressing targeted areas for improvement.

### **8.2. Staff Recognition**

The Superintendent & CEO shared background information on two teachers from within the district who have been recognized through the Prime Minister's Awards (2025) for Excellence in Early Education. Allison Butcher, an Early Childhood Educator from Sackville, NB, was honoured for her inclusive, engaging, and transformative approach to early learning, her strong connections with families and the community, and her leadership in advancing early childhood education. Julie Baillet, a French Immersion Teacher at Tantramar Regional High School and former vice-principal, was recognized for her ability to foster enthusiasm for language learning, create supportive classroom environments, and promote student success through innovative initiatives, including the co-development of language learning applications.



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### 8.3. Enrollment updates

The Superintendent & CEO provided an update on student enrollment, noting that as of September 2, total enrollment stood at 2,551 students. This represents a net change of three students within the system. The district welcomed 2,078 new students at the start of the school year, while nine students transferred between schools. Enrollment figures were reviewed by school, and it was noted that overall, September enrollment continues to trend upward across the district.

### 8.4. Update - 2025-2026 School Pilot Calendar

The Superintendent & CEO reviewed the results of a recent staff survey, noting strongly positive feedback from teachers, particularly in pilot schools. He explained that the data demonstrates the effectiveness of the pilot calendar model, and that all information is being uploaded to the district website for transparency. Survey comparisons showed that pilot schools consistently outperformed non-pilot schools, with 80 % of teachers reporting a positive impact on instructional practice (versus 44 % in non-pilot schools) and 72 % noting a positive impact on student learning (versus less than 37 %). Confidence measures were also above 90 % in pilot schools. The Superintendent emphasized that this data highlights the power of teacher collaboration and professional learning, and that early indicators suggest the pilot calendar is fostering engagement and supporting student achievement.

The Superintendent reaffirmed the district's commitment to transparency, noting that all professional development plans have been approved, vetted, supported, and posted on school websites. He thanked the District Education Council leadership for its partnership and emphasized a shared commitment to "trust and verify," with information shared openly in public session. Community feedback from pilot schools was minimal. Only one concern related to childcare was raised and resolved, prompting the comment that "the silence is deafening," signaling broad family support.

He also noted that next Friday will be an additional professional development day, with updated pilot and PD calendars referenced and included in the meeting materials. Overall, early indicators continue to show that the pilot calendar fosters collaboration, engagement, and measurable growth in instructional practice and student learning.

### 8.5. Update - New School updates

#### 8.5.1. Shédiac K-12, Salisbury Elementary, Dieppe K-12

The Superintendent & CEO provided updates on several capital projects currently underway. The Shédiac K-12 project is progressing well, with land cleared, signage



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installed, and construction preparation advancing. For Salisbury Elementary, land finalization is in progress, design work has been completed, and an official announcement is anticipated before Christmas to allow for a timely ground-breaking. Regarding the Dieppe K-12 project, the Director of Finance and Administration, and the Superintendent & CEO, recently met with project planners, and discussions on the final site location are ongoing, with an announcement expected soon. Thanks were extended to Ian Hebblethwaite, DEC member, for his ongoing work and support on the project. Coordination with municipalities remains active to ensure that all new facilities are strategically located and aligned with community needs.

### **8.6. 10-year Provincial Education Plan public consultations**

The Superintendent & CEO confirmed that the public consultation for Anglophone East will take place on Monday, November 3, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Moncton, and attendees are encouraged to arrive early. There will also be opportunities for online participation, and a memo will be distributed to PSSC chairs and parents the following morning with full details. While the date and day combination was noted as inconsistent, the information was recorded as presented.

### **8.7. Information items:**

- 8.7.1. Indigenous Education report**
- 8.7.2. Anti-racism report**
- 8.7.3. Professional Support and Growth report**
- 8.7.4. Enrolment Management & Newcomer Services**

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

The Superintendent & CEO reviewed the inclement weather plan, noting that full details were included in the meeting package. He reiterated the government's commitment to the approved approach, under which schools may close for weather, but teachers are expected to continue working. He expressed his strong opposition to traditional snow days, emphasizing the impact on instructional time. Alex Morton, DEC member, noted that the FAQ section was missing, and the Superintendent confirmed that this information will be added to the published document. Additional reports were also referenced, as indicated above.



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### 9. Director of Human Resources' Report – Jacqui Eadle

#### 9.1. Department updates

##### 9.1.1. Staffing update

The Director of Human Resources provided an update on staffing and recruitment activities across the district. As of September 1, there were 47 new hires, including 17 certified teachers and approximately 300 local permit teachers. Staffing efforts remain ongoing, with a continued focus on individuals who are pursuing or have completed a Bachelor of Education. The partnership with Crandall University continues to be highly positive, supporting recruitment and professional development initiatives.

The director noted that the career fair season has begun, with district representatives attending several universities to promote employment opportunities. The volunteer program also remains active, with over 500 volunteers processed to date, as part of the district's annual onboarding and renewal cycle.

In collaboration with Jason Reath, the HR team developed a new data report showing notable improvements in fill rates and reduced absenteeism. Current fill rates exceed 95% for custodians and educational assistants, with school administrative assistants nearing 99 %. Absenteeism has dropped by one percentage point since last year. Members commended the HR department for maintaining high fill rates, ensuring continuity of student services, and avoiding bus route cancellations despite budget pressures.

The director also commended other departmental teams for their contributions, noting that the success achieved reflects a collective, system-wide effort. The Superintendent & CEO further acknowledged the cross-team collaboration, including staffing, transportation, and facilities, that allows for rapid adjustments and redeployment to meet the district's evolving needs.



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

#### 10.1. Department updates

- 10.1.1. Finance
- 10.1.2. Transportation
- 10.1.3. Facilities
- 10.1.4. Community

The Superintendent & CEO provided a summary of key financial updates, with the Director of Finance and Administration offering further details regarding the Q2 budget report and the current deficit position. Q2, which covers April through June of the previous fiscal year, serves as a primary performance indicator, while July and August are used for system recalibration before rebuilding for the new year. The Director explained that the current deficit of approximately \$325,000 represents 0.13 % of the total budget, emphasizing that this figure is not concerning given the adjustments and departmental negotiations already underway with the Department of Education. It was noted that Q3 will offer a clearer financial picture, and other districts are reporting similar or larger short-term deficits. Alex Morton, DEC member, asked whether the team would be informed if projections change, to which Randy confirmed, "Yes, absolutely."

Discussion also included an update on Fusion, the district's data management system. While implementation presented some early challenges, the system is described as powerful and data-rich, with continued optimization expected as the district adapts to its unique operating environment.

On the operations and safety front, National Bus Safety Week was acknowledged, noting ongoing reports of approximately 10–12 near misses per day. A recent incident involving a perceived threat was also discussed; it was confirmed there was no real danger to students, and leadership was commended for its swift and effective response.

Additional updates included the successful delivery of Policy 701 training for transportation and facilities teams, as well as the rollout of other training opportunities tied to the pilot calendar. Finally, it was announced that the district is adding a new position under the leadership of Aubrey Kirkpatrick, and Luc Malenfant will oversee the food program, and that the district is awaiting EECB approval for a new Occupational Health and Safety resource to further support workplace safety and compliance.



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### 11. Director of communications' Report – Stephanie Patterson

#### 11.1. Communications updates

The Communications Director shared highlights from a recent conference she attended, which focused on Indigenous teaching practices and the integration of AI in education. She also connected with the Communications Director from Horizon Health, and both agreed to explore future collaboration opportunities between organizations.

An FAQ document has been posted for each school participating in the pilot calendar, ensuring transparency and accessibility for staff and families.

It was also noted that the band Foreigner will be performing at the Avenir Centre, and students from Harrison Trimble High School will have the opportunity to perform with the band during the event.

Finally, during National School Bus Safety Week, it was reported that bus drivers continue to experience 10–12 daily incidents of vehicles failing to stop for flashing red lights, emphasizing the need for ongoing public awareness and enforcement efforts to ensure student safety.

### 8:00 PM

### 12. District Education Members' Updates

Ian – No member's update.

Duane MacDonald – The Superintendent & CEO shared updates from recent school visits, beginning with Riverview High School, where he noted that operations are running smoothly and the new Hall Pass system is functioning exceptionally well. He also reflected on the recent lockdown event, emphasizing that while it provided important lessons, the overall response was a success, with Heather and her team performing above and beyond expectations.

At Claude D. Taylor School, he shared a note of appreciation: former DEC member, Mrs. Brenda Mawhinney, generously funded a new school sign in memory of her late husband, after noticing the old one had deteriorated. Mrs. Mawhinney then donated the new sign to the school on his behalf. Additionally, a local company donated a washer and dryer to support the school's cleaning needs.



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Finally, at Hillsborough Elementary School, the Superintendent noted that a group plans to donate \$5,000 toward the Timothy Steeves Playground project and has requested a meeting and photo opportunity with the principal and Superintendent to mark the occasion.

Michelle Folkins – There were no formal member updates, but shared reflections from attending a recent Meet the Teacher event. Parents expressed how much they enjoyed connecting directly with teachers and appreciated the opportunity to learn more about classroom expectations. At the high school level, the event was organized differently, allowing parents to follow their child's daily schedule, which many found to be a unique and insightful experience in their child's learning environment.

Dominic Vautour – The member reported attending a meeting at Shediac Cape School, where discussions focused on the new school project and included a presentation of the architectural drawings. The member also participated in a PSSC meeting at Birchmount School, which provided an opportunity to connect with staff and parents and discuss ongoing school initiatives.

Alex Morton – The member provided updates from several school visits. At Salisbury Regional School, discussions centered on testing and math instruction, with input from experts from Ontario who shared insights into program implementation. The school has also adopted a new approach to addressing tardiness, resulting in a noticeable decline in late arrivals. At Havelock School, the member expressed appreciation for the strong sense of community and the close-knit atmosphere of the small school. During a visit to Riverview East School, the member commented on the welcoming environment and highlighted positive feedback about the Indigenous mural. The Terry Fox Walk was a success, and the school is actively fundraising for a new inclusive playground. The member concluded by noting that two additional PSSC meetings are scheduled for the following day.

Mark Owen – The member reported attending several PSSC meetings and participating in a photo opportunity related to the Breakfast Program. On October 7, the member attended the Maplehurst PSSC meeting, and on October 14, visited Evergreen School, where discussions focused on assessment results and identifying areas for continued improvement. While some progress was noted, the team is also exploring strategies to address absenteeism and lateness, with an emphasis on helping students attend regularly and arrive on time. The member added that two additional PSSC meetings are scheduled for tomorrow and plans to attend one of them.



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Veronique Cote – No member's update.

Kristin Cavoukian – The member reported visiting several schools over the past weeks. At Beaverbrook School, discussions focused on school safety, and it was noted that the recent fire drill was conducted successfully, marking a significant achievement for the team. The school is also working on the “Tackling Tough Text” literacy initiative. The member also visited Bessborough School and Bernice MacNaughton High School (BMHS). At Bessborough, staff proudly shared their 100% graduation rate and discussed the launch of a new breakfast program that follows a different, more flexible format than in previous years. With 1,087 students enrolled, BMHS continues to address issues related to washroom congestion by allowing students to use facilities during class time rather than only at recess, a change that has proven effective.

On October 3, the member visited Edith Cavell School, where kindergarten students were participating in a community walk attended by the Minister of Education and the Superintendent & CEO. The member concluded by noting plans to visit Wabanaki and Lewisville Middle Schools the following day.

**8:30 PM**

**13. End of meeting**

***8:34 pm, meeting adjourned, Ian Hebblethwaite.***

*Original signed by Dominic Vautour*

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Dominic Vautour, Chair

*Original signed by Janique Chiasson*

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Janique Chiasson, Secretary to the District Education Council