

ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting – December 11, 2024

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met in-person on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Council Members:

Roger Nesbitt, Chair; Amanda Hamm, Vice-Chair, Jennifer Sheils, Ginny Hooper, Ché Greene, Matthew Martin, Wayne Spires, Jon Barry and Shane Borthwick.

Absent Members:

Amanda Henderson-Matthews, Sarah Craig, Teresa Sewell and Beth McQuinn-Nixon.

ASD-S Staff:

Derek O'Brien, Superintendent; Jessica Hanlon, Director of Communications; Allan Davis, Director of Schools, Hampton Education Centre; Mark Blucher, Director of School and Data & Accountability; Rosemary Southard, Director of Schools, St. Stephen Education Centre (on-line) Jennifer Grant, Director of Education Support Services, and Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary.

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Regrets

Mr. Nesbitt Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. He advised that he received regrets from Sarah Craig, Amanda Henderson-Matthews and Teresa Sewell.

Mr. Nesbitt began the meeting respectfully acknowledging the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaq and Peskotomuhkati peoples. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

2. Approvals

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Agenda for the meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the Agenda be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Greene. Motion carried.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Minutes of the October 16, 2024 meeting and asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. There being no questions or concerns Ms. Shiels moved that the Minutes be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

Approval of Notes - November

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Notes of the November 13, 2024 meeting and asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. There being no questions or concerns, Mr. Greene moved that the Notes be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion carried.

2.3 Public Comment

Members of the public were present; however, no comments were made.

3. Superintendent's Report & Update

Mr. O'Brien advised that his report was posted last week for Council to review.

Mr. O'Brien highlighted the Resource Teachers Training specifically around individualized Behaviour Support Plans. He also noted the Behaviour Autism Leads are still offering online sessions for Resource Teachers.

He spoke about the Witness Blanket Exhibit which is being held at Millidgeville North School. This exhibit allows students to explore the items and stories carried by the Witness Blanket by using their devices. He continued

by mentioning the “Change Agents” workshops that Egal Canada has presented to students from our high schools. The students are learning how to become active change agents in their school community and beyond.

He commented that 90 teachers have expressed interest in participating in the Assessment Leadership with the first 30 will begin in February. He also mentioned the Transition Coaches who support schools’ work with their students to develop the new Career Life Plan which is now a graduation requirement.

Mr. O’Brien attended the Student Leaders’ Council meetings in November along with the New Brunswick Social Pediatrics Clinic. He had school visits at St. John the Baptist/King Edward on November 20th which was the International Day of the Child. He also visited Simonds High School and Prince Charles School. He is part of the Long-term Recommendation Executive Steering Committee which met in November allowing this professional learning to glean from other Districts around their talent and recruitment processes.

He concluded his report by mentioning the retirement of Ann Hogan, a Healthy Learner Nurse, who has been an integral part of the district community by helping guide us through challenging health related situations.

4. Business Arising from Minutes

4.1 Sub District #6 Update

Mr. Nesbitt indicated there were two applicants for this Sub District. The names have been forwarded to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development who makes the appointment.

4.2 Governance Policies:

4.6 Effective Communication

4.7 Public Comments and Presentations

4.8 Student DEC Member

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the updated Policies from the November 13, 2024 meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Ms. Hamm moved that the current policies be rescinded and replaced with the updated version. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

Ms. Hamm made a motion to appoint an adhoc committee of DEC members to draft a procedural document as an appendix to Governance Policy 4.7 that provides the public a clear procedure for participating in Public Comments and Presentations. Jennifer Sheils and Roger Nesbitt agreed to work on this committee. Seconded by Mr. Spires. Motion carried.

5. New Business

5.1 Quarterly Budget Report

Mr. O’Brien mentioned an amendment to the Quarterly Budget Report regarding the amount for the Educational Assistants will exceed our allocation, therefore a deficit budget will be submitted. However, funding from EECD for the Educational Assistants is to come to the District allowing the budget to be balanced.

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the amended Quarterly Budget Report from the November 13, 2024 meeting and asked that if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. Mr. Spires moved that the amended Quarterly Budget Report be approved as presented. Seconded by Ms. Shiels. Motion carried.

5.2 Governance Policy

11 Code of Conduct

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed this Governance policy.

5.3 Council-Staff Relationship:

1.0 Global Governance

1.1 Unity of Control

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed these Council-Staff Relationship policies.

6. Information Items

6.1 Member’s Notebook

Mr. Spires attended a PSSC meeting at Lawrence Station School and the parents are concerned about nutrition and the reduction in their budget for nutrition.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Nesbitt thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting and reminded Council the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 beginning at 6:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Nesbitt, Chair

Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary