

ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting – December 10, 2025

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met virtually on Wednesday, December 10, 2025. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Council Members:

Roger Nesbitt, Chair; Amanda Hamm, Vice-Chair, Jennifer Sheils, Ginny Hooper, Wayne Spires, Beth McQuinn-Nixon, Elisa Gaudette, Jon Barry, Joe Cormier, Jamie Munroe and Amanda Henderson-Matthews.

Absent Members:

Kelsey-Ann Seeley, Teresa Sewell and Shane Borthwick

ASD-S Staff:

Derek O'Brien, Superintendent; Angela Marr, Director of Schools; Rosemary Southard, Director of Schools; Mike Wilson, Director of Schools, Susan Moffatt, Director of Human Resources; 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.

Mr. Nesbitt began the meeting respectfully acknowledging that New Brunswick is situated on the unceded and unsundered territories of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaw, and Peskotomuhkati peoples. We seek to repair and rebuild meaningful relationships with Indigenous peoples and honour these lands which hold the hopes of future generations.

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. Ms. Hooper moved that the Agenda be approved as presented. Seconded by Ms. Hamm. Motion carried.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Minutes of the November 12, 2025 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. Hooper moved that the Minutes be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Barry. Motion carried.

2.3 Public Comment

No members of the public were present

3. Superintendent's Report & Update

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

Mr. O'Brien began his report by highlighting the first Academic Support Teacher data sweep. This data includes the number of reading and math skills being worked on with learners, the number of skills met, and time spent supporting math skills versus reading. He mentioned the use of Artificial Intelligence to support instruction, and assessment will be a focus with the goal of building capacity in our system leaders and further engaging schools with support in the use of AI.

He mentioned that support services and many of our leads attended the Hope Restored Trauma Conference recently. A Violent Threat Risk Assessment refresher was offered to educators and community partners. He also mentioned that 50 teachers and EA's were trained on Non-Violent Crisis Intervention and there is continued work going on with personal wellness training for middle school teachers. Another important training that was provided was the applied suicide intervention training.

Mr. O'Brien highlighted the Antiracism Summit, where high school students reviewed our Antiracism Policy to make it more "student friendly", connected with community partners, and developed plans for their schools.

He had a number of school visits in November: Kennebecasis Valley High School, Champlain Heights Elementary School, Bayview Elementary School, Bayside Middle School, Seaside Park Elementary School, St. Stephen High School, Centennial Elementary School and Sussex Regional High School.

Mr. O'Brien concluded his report by indicating a meeting was held with the principals of the School Calendar Pilot to get a sense of how they were doing with their additional professional learning days. Schools continue to report very positive outcomes such as improved levels of attendance for students and staff, a decrease in student behaviour incidents, more collaboration regarding individual student plans, more collaboration between schools, and preliminary indications of improved student achievement. We are supporting the collaboration, professional learning, and data reviews.

4. Business Arising from Minutes

4.1 Sub District #5 and #7 Welcome

Sub-District #5 – Joseph Cormier was sworn in as a new council member.

Sub-District #7 – Jamie Munroe was sworn in as a new council member.

Mr. Nesbitt welcomed the two new DEC Members.

5. New Business

5.1 Governance Policy

11 Code of Conduct

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed this Governance policy.

5.2 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

Ms. Hooper voiced her concerns again regarding the overcrowding at Seaside Park School and that she had received a letter from their PSSC Co-Chairs.

Mr. Spires mentioned that Sistema was having a concert at St. Stephen Elementary School. He attended the Milltown Elementary School PSSC meeting and that due to the Christmas season things are slowing down and speeding up all at the same time.

Mr. Munroe indicated that at Saint John High School there was also a Sistema concert.

6.2 Chair's Report

Minister's Forum

Mr. Nesbitt, along with Vice Chair Amanda, attended the Minister's Forum held here in Saint John at the Holiday Inn on Monday, December 1, 2025. We had the following presentations during the morning: Deputy Minister, Ryan Donaghy spoke on Artificial Intelligence in Education and then on Recruitment and Retention and did an update on the New Education Plan. Assistant Deputy Minister Tiffany Bastin gave an update on Chronic Absenteeism. Also, ADM Christine Gilbert-Estabrooks gave an update on Policies 322, 323, and 715. The afternoon session was with Minister Claire Johnson who addressed the following 3 topics and answered questions: Breakfast and Lunch Programs, Infrastructure and Policy 409 and Budget Process.

Spring Election

Flyers to go out to PSSC members in the case of those who know at this time that they will not be re-offering in the hope of interesting a member from that group to offer.

Capital Budget 2026

Released last week. While \$68 million is being allocated to ASD-S, there are no new projects at this time. The money is allocated for the furtherance of the projects that we have approved i.e. new schools for the north and south end of the city and for Grand Bay-Westfield.

DEC Self-Evaluation

The focus this Fall is the CSR policies and how we as a council stack up against them. For the January to June term, we will give attention to the GP policies and DEC Self-Evaluation. He has a template form that he will summarize the reports on and then it will be posted to the website so that you and anyone can track our progress over time.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Nesbitt thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and reminded Council the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 beginning at 6:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Nesbitt, Chair

Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary