

ANGLOPHONE SOUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT (ASD-S)
DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting – January 14, 2026

The District Education Council (DEC) for Anglophone South School District (ASD-S) met in-person on Wednesday, January 14, 2026. The following Council members and staff were in attendance:

Council Members:

Roger Nesbitt, Chair, Amanda Hamm, Vice-Chair, Beth McQuinn Nixon(on-line), Ginny Hooper(on-line), Jonathan Barry, Jamie Munroe, Joe Cormier, Wayne Spires, Shane Borthwick, Amanda Henderson-Matthews(on-line), and Elisa Gaudette(on-line).

Absent Members:

Teresa Sewell, Jennifer Sheils and Kelsey-Ann Peterson

ASD-S Staff:

Derek O'Brien, Superintendent; Mike Wilson, Director of Schools, Rosemary Southard, Director of Schools, Susan Moffatt, Director of Human Resources, Ryan Price, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Angela Marr, Director of Schools(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 7:00 pm.

Mr. Nesbitt began the meeting respectfully acknowledging we respectfully acknowledge that New Brunswick is situated on the unceded and unsurrendered 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. Hamm moved that the Agenda be approved. Seconded by Mr. Borthwick. Motion carried.

2.2 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nesbitt referred to the Minutes of the December 10, 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. Hamm moved that the Minutes be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Cormier. Motion carried.

2.3 Public Comment

No public in attendance.

3. Superintendent's Report & Update

Mr. O'Brien advised that his report had been posted for Council to review.

He indicated that the Education Support Services Team reviewed their 3-year improvement plan and ensuring there is continued support for new Resource Teachers and School Counsellors that ensures their work aligns with the District Improvement Plan. The Academic Support Teachers completed six-week sprints supporting specific learners, identifying math and reading goals, providing intervention, and assessing progress.

Mr. O'Brien highlighted various professional learning opportunities for administrators and teachers from the principal meetings, Violent Threat Risk Assessment training, and Early Development for Growth in Education that has nearly 200 teachers registered.

He shared that all curricular areas are focusing on embedding AI (Artificial Intelligence) tools into instruction, prioritizing the use of AI tools to support lesson planning, diversifying instructional resources, and meeting Personal Learning Plan goals.

Mr. O'Brien attended the "Alice" production at Rothesay High School in December and "Home for the Holidays" production by Harbour View High School at the Imperial Theatre. He also visited Lawrence Station Elementary School and Loch Lomond School.

He highlighted that the district received \$93,000 from the department just prior to Christmas for some projects going on in the district (\$30,000 to Sussex Regional High School for upgrades to their metal shop, \$23,000 for the culinary lab at Harbour View High School and \$40,000 to Sussex Middle School for a new dust collection system in their industrial area).

Mr. O'Brien publicly acknowledged that Debbie Fisher, who has been a partner of our school district for a number of years, retired at the end of December. Debbie would have been the very first hire that Irving made when they launched the PALS program 25 years ago.

4. Presentation

4.1 AI for Learning

Mr. Darren White presented the use of Artificial Intelligence for learning in schools. He spoke about the ASD-S Guidelines for artificial intelligence and how it can be used as a supplementary tool not only for the teachers but also for the students.

Following the presentation DEC members asked specific question so Darren.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

5.1 Report of the Policy Committee

Committee to review and ensure alignment between our Ends Policies and the current District Improvement Plan.

The Committee has done the review as requested and proposes the following motion:

MOVED THAT, the current Ends Policy 2.2 titled Student Engagement be rescinded and replaced by a new Policy 2.2 titled Student Achievement to be worded as follows on our website:

Policy Statement

Student success is a shared responsibility involving the Minister of Education, District Education Council, Superintendent, teachers, parents and students, all with defined roles and expectations outlined in the Education Act and regulations.

ASD-S will use research-based opportunities so that all students experience high level achievement. Students are expected to be interested, motivated, and actively participate in their learning.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Best practices in instruction
- Diverse and innovative learning environments
- High achievement on provincial assessments
- Collaboration between home and school
- Students regular and punctual attendance

Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were no questions or concerns that a motion be put forward to approve. There being no questions or concerns, Mr. Spires moved the current Ends Policy 2.2 titled Student Engagement be rescinded and replaced by a new Policy 2.2 titled Student Achievement. Seconded by Ms. Hamm. Motion carried.

6. New Business

6.1 Council-Staff Relationship

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed:

- CSR-1.2 – Accountability of the Superintendent
- CSR-1.3 – Delegation to the Superintendent
- CSR 1.4 – Monitoring Superintendent Performance
- CSR 1.5 – Reappointment of the Superintendent

Mr. Nesbitt reviewed the Council Staff Relationship Policies which were posted as part of the meeting materials. There are no changes.

7. Information Items

7.1 Member's Notebook

Ms. Hamm mentioned that she is part of the Design Committee for the new Grand Bay School. The committee had a meeting in December and they looked at three key points, the project scope, planning steps and responsibilities, and the student enrolment projections.

7.2 Chair's Report and Update

Spring Election

Just a reminder that the elections will happen this May. Nominations open March 23, 2026 and close April 10, 2026 with May 11, 2026 being election day for all DEC's and municipal councils. You will need to decide pretty soon if you are re-offering. Election flyers are available for you to give to your PSSC's and especially to those you think might be candidates for election.

Tracking DEC Self-Evaluations

The summary of the evaluations for the CSR policies is now on the website. Check it out. Thanks to all those who completed the online forms. The Governance Process policies will be done later in the Spring. The summary form can be found in the "Policies" folder.

Minister's Excellence Awards in Education

The information for this year's awards will be out soon. Our district will have the opportunity to present 3 outstanding educators at a ceremonial dinner in June in Fredericton. He will be looking for some volunteers to read the nomination papers with him to arrive at our candidates.

7.3 Correspondence

Posted for this meeting and dealt with.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Nesbitt thanked all who attended this evening's Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Nesbitt, Chair

Susan Cunningham, Recording Secretary