

SAC Meeting

February 21, 2024

In Attendance:

Eleanor Sperry (VP)
Scott MacMillan (Parent)
Emilie Tsirigotis
Lacey Legere (Parent)
Jennifer McManus (EPA)
Gillian Fougere (Teacher/Parent)
Holly Cook (Parent)

Absent:

Emilie Tsirigotis (principal)
Rebecca Sharkey (Parent)
Paul Russel (Councilor)
Tim Wamboldt (Parent)

Agenda:

1. Principal's Report
2. Finances and SAC Spending
3. OHS updates
4. Bench and Gaga ball court
5. \$10,000 grant to apply (Lacey)
6. Review of school Wellness goal: belonging
7. Review of math pilot and pending video
8. Photographers

Principal's Report:

- January was a busy month. We had 4 new registrations of new comers. Our school population is becoming more diverse. We are doing some work with our older grades to build more global awareness and empathy around how war and trauma may impact on new classmates. New registrations for the 24-25 school year: PP 3-4 PR 2 outside of pre primary
- The Family Literacy Day event was a success. The gym was full with family members and it was a good move to put the students on stage. Many families did choose to leave for the reading portion of the afternoon.
- Family Literacy Day is anticipated to shift for next year. If Jen Smeltzer returns as Music teacher, she has agreed to do a December Holiday Concert instead of a cultural concert. It can be challenging to get permission for song access for some cultural songs. Does the SAC have any suggestions for Family Literacy? Stations? Keep Art displays?
- We used about \$2000 from the instructional budget for math manipulatives. Tina Egan checked our inventory and advised.

- The Art installation had to be placed on hold. Quinten Syliboy has some personal issues so we will be working with Stacey Allen the HRCE art specialist to work on a mural with us. We are back on track with Sackville Rvers bringing an aquarium to the school and classes invited to learn about the lifecycle of a trout. This will shape into the art installation.
- The Heritage fair will be in the afternoon of February 23rd. The students have been working on their projects. Grade 3/4 will be doing projects on animals and Grade 4-5 on more general topics of Canadian Heritage.
- SSP goals are short cycle. We have been looking closely at math data with Tina Egan, the pilot project and trends in classroom assessment. This term the P-2's will be working on partitioning and the 2-5's story problems. We are allocating time in each staff meeting to look at ongoing assessment collection during guided practice and computational fluency time.
- The focus for literacy will be integrating the Phonological awareness skills from UFLI practice into reading and writing for P-2 and vocabulary comprehension in 3-5.

Old items

- Lunch monitors: The last newsletter request helped us in obtaining 1 full time monitor. A parent will soon start to cover one lunch a week. Schools Plus is going to run soccer intramurals one day a week. Yoga instruction is a possibility.
- The Gr. 5 hoodies and staff shirts came in. We have been frustrated with Headline with poor communications and delays. Jillian has been asking other schools for names of companies that they are using for spirit Wear to look at for next year.
- Elevator needs a new motor but the wrong motor was ordered. The school does not have the amperage needed.
- The river out back will be addressed in the spring or summer.
- We missed the cut-off to apply to join a pilot whereby the street is closed during the school day.
- 50th Anniversary - possibly creating a song or using the old chant. Students will receive a special cookie and a former student may address the school about his memories.

New Items:

- Bench and gaga ball court. There isn't room on HRCE grounds for a gaga ball pit. Gillian will call HRM to ask permission for the gaga pit placement and to ask about a buddy bench. There should be space at the back of the field where the benches were. Unsure whether it could impact the ball

field. Call 311 to find out who to call. Thinking about laying crusher dust and the click mats. Gaga pit might be pushed to next year.

- Letter from EECD came out last week about the SAC grant. Lacey is asked to inquire deeper into accessing the grant. If information comes out, we should pursue bumping Kaitlin up hours to do small group instruction for P-3 math. The coaching that she is receiving through the pilot would be beneficial.
- The belonging survey has been completed with favorable results. We chose to look closer at the number of adult contacts students have within a week and any trends to note.
- Next year's Literacy Day - give kids a passport as they go to different stations.
- We need to have JOHSC inquire about the cameras
- Lacey Legere will look after the SAC grant which will be used for Trauma Informed Practice. Subs will be brought in to give teachers time to train.
- SAC has recommended we price alternate photographers.
- \$7091 is our current budget. We need to save money for our end of year SAC dinner 😊
- East Hants Aquatic Centre - SAC suggestion for end of year school trip. Possibly split the school into two groups and have the field day on the same day. Jen McManus is calling about the Aquatic Centre

To Do

- Date for end of year trip needs to be decided
- Check with staff about the end of year trip.