

Harrietsfield Elementary School

SAC Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2021

In attendance: James Neary, Christina Neary, Nicole McKeever, Holly Lake, Teri McGinn, Kathy Reinhardt, Brendan Maguire, Treena Biddington, Annie Miller

Regrets:

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes-approved minutes from January meeting.

Student Success Plan Goals

- Literacy-To improve student achievement in writing in the areas of ideas, organization and conventions.
- Math-To improve student achievement in number sense through problem solving.
- Well-Being-To improve student well being at our school through responsive practices.

Student Success Plan Update: 2020-21 HRCE Well-Being Student Survey

- We received a summary of student responses on the 2020-21 HRCE Well-Being Student Survey. This Micro-survey was for our grade 4-6 students. Students in 5/6 and 4/5 completed the survey, the grade 4 students in 3/4 did not complete the survey (so we had 42/59 possible surveys completed).
- Information from the survey will be used to assess areas of our well-being goal and strategies.
- A full well-being survey was completed provincially in the spring of 2019, not in 2020 due to the school closure, and is planned for spring 2021.

New items

- Welcome to Annie Miller who has agreed to fulfill the role of vice principal for the remainder of the year.
- Excel parent/guardian survey numbers were high. Excel will have a registration for HES in May. Hiring staff for the program will take place in June.
- School events coming up are Winter Walk/Outdoor Fun on Friday, February 19. Ms. Miller will plan events for students and the Breakfast Program volunteers are going to make smoothies. The school is registered for Inclusive Schools Read on February 26. There are recommended books and videos that teachers will share and use to generate discussion about gender diversity and inclusion.
- African Heritage Month activities and learning is taking place in every classroom. In addition to the focus during February, teachers are working to ensure racial diversity in authentic and meaningful ways through learning activities and resources.
- Hot Lunch with Subway has been popular and easy to manage at the school level. Looking into additional options for lunches for other days of the week through Healthy Hunger.
- The Breakfast Program is now being coordinated by Christina Neary. Christina reported that it has been helpful to have teachers picking up their breakfast baskets in the morning. This allows the volunteers to focus their time on food preparation. Additional volunteers are still needed. Requests for volunteers has been included in newsletters and could be included with weekly email updates.

- Three people have recently requested lunch monitor information. This will allow us to have a full lunch monitor team once processed.
- Discussion about requirements to make washrooms gender neutral. It was reported that major renovations would be needed to meet specifications. This could be included in the capital budget request. Another item that will be requested include a heating coil for our fresh air intake- Operations have made adjustments to accommodate.
- Parking lot concerns due to walkers not having access to a sidewalk so walking along Old Sambro Rd and through the parking lot while vehicles are travelling in and out. The crosswalk has snowbanks at each end, making access challenging. 3-1-1 could be contacted to report issues with snow removal. School areas are looked after by the contactor hired by HRCE. Discussion about whose responsibility it is to clear a walkway between the community centre and school. Teri will discuss this with the caretaker.
- Discussion about fencing along the Old Sambro Rd. along the stretch of wooded area beside the outdoor classroom. In addition, discussions about having a cleared parking area along the fence and path to get to the school. Brendan to discuss with Area 11 Councillor, Patty Cuttell.

Old Items

- SAC spending update-money allotted for technology and PE equipment has not been accessed yet. As fiscal year end approaches, the school may be able to cover these costs and SAC money would be reallocated to support learning in other ways.
- Playground slide has not been replaced yet. HRM and HRCE are aware, the slide has been ordered and will be installed when available. Concerns about student safety as there are jagged edges on the broken plastic.

Home and School Update

- Meeting scheduled to be after the SAC meeting. There have been efforts to recruit new members.

Meeting adjourned: 7:08pm

Date of next meeting: March 4, 2021 at 6:00pm