

SAC Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, January 31st, 2023

Attendance: Brendon MacGillivray, Ashley Matthews-Coons, Jemima Perks, Kristen Bishop, Mazen Houdrog, Zack Swick, Megan Brocklehurst, Courtney Williams, Kathryn Morse

Regrets: Marion Gates

Call to order: 5:39pm

Approval of the agenda:

1st - Courtney Williams

2nd - Brendon MacGillivray

Approval of October, 2022 meeting minutes:

1st - Ashley Matthews

2nd - Jemima Perks

Principal's Report

Student Success Planning

- School psychologist has conducted assessments on five students in our school and is ahead of schedule.
- SSP report/data portal and teachers can update as they see fit.
- Some support English as an additional language who supports our newcomers and resource support. (1.5 Full-time teachers)
- Early Literacy Support and Reading Recovery. We were recently given a Beth Stewart for 14 weeks to aid in literacy support.
- Conducting our staff meetings in a different fashion by grade level and small groups to enhance the overall student support. These meetings are being done to highlight areas of support that's needed for specific students.
- We have been tracking and focusing on P-2 grade level and their literacy data to report to the board. We are seeing an overall increase in students meeting the monthly benchmarks and have been able to access support for those students who need that additional intense support time.

- Grade Six Provincial Assessments were written in Fall and results will be given to families next week.

Operational

- February is registration month and will be sent to our families.
- A lot of the professional development that is available to teachers has since been suspended due to the teacher shortage.
- Bussing - our traffic committee has been assisting with the congestion and how our buses are accessing Downing Street.
- Traffic is always an impediment at the start and end of the day which is furthering some of the congestion on Downing.
- Kathryn and Ashley are discussing problem solving techniques to support traffic safety.
- Reconfiguration happened in September, but classes already approaching beginning of year levels due to new registrations
- Pavement brought additional parking spaces. New challenges with traffic and parking within lot though (watching from safety perspective)
- Absentee rates up to December: 151 students missing for 10% of time (8+ days). Sometimes external factors (COVID, trips, etc.). Many students were absent in December, probably due to illness. Teachers are reaching out to parents about this.
- African NS Support Worker: Jakara Beals (term position)
- 4 Pre-Primary classes (including Grosvenor and Rockingham). 10 students on the waitlist. Looking for additional space for them currently.

Extra-Curriculars

- Cross-Curricular
 - Trips (bussing) more expensive than in the past
 - September: Terry Fox
 - Nourish Your Roots brought in \$800
 - Halloween Dance brought in \$1500
 - Running Club (well attended)
 - Remembrance Day (2 ceremonies to accommodate large school population)
 - Jingle Bell Breakfast brought in \$7000

- Holiday concert for Primaries-grade 2s
- Stuff-a-Bus
- Family Literacy Week last week
- Next week is PTG led Bingo
- Rue: Therapy dog comes every Thursday for an hour for the rest of the school year. Began just before the holiday break
- MakerSpace: used for cross-curricular activities
- Aren Morris (drama/movement) along with French speaking song/dance group came
- African Dance group coming on thursday
- Health and well-being grant and create an inclusive educational experience.

Financial report

- Health and well-being grant and create an inclusive educational experience. There is \$5000.00 to access to enhance student overall well-being.
- SAC Grant - \$5000.00 to access funds to support resources for teachers' programs.
- Student Support Grant - \$5000.00 to support students in their activities, extra-curriculars, class trips. etc.

Old Business:

- Traffic Sub-Committee: a few SAC members to assist and mitigate the overall congestion and traffic issues at the school. Kathryn and Ashley participated in an active school travel roundtable to discuss the cause and effect of the congestion as well as the associated risks to the students during the school day.
- Under Five Playground: Was an initiative at the start of this year and we don't have any playground equipment that is suitable for them to play on. Kathryn said there is government funding available for school's to do upgrades for a playground for students under the age of five.
- SAC Funding: To receive the funding which is \$5000.00 plus \$1.00 per student for teachers to access funds that are based off of our SSP goals.

New Business:

- Zack, Brendon and Jemima went to the SAC learning session to support student success on math, literacy and well-being.
- Student Success Survey Report - the voluntary well-being survey was conducted 21/22. 149 students from Grosvenor participated in the data collection. Overall the data collected reflects well for our school given the changes that occur. The one area that students reported on was that if they are having a tough time, they have at least one adult in our school that they can go and talk to.
- Funding requests - Jackie Buckland (EAL, Alphabet sounds and teaching tubs). 90 newcomer students that require the basics of language acquisition to help support the building of the English language.
- English Reading Library (4-6). Guided instruction is something that has been a cornerstone of our lower elementary and we are recognizing a lot of the benefits of work in those guided groups. We are going to do an electronic vote on these two items as we currently do not have a quorum because we are missing our community member.

Next Meeting Dates: March 28th, 2023 at 5:30pm

Adjournment:

1st - Ashley Matthews

2nd - Courtney Williams