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Principal: Jacquelyn Reid **Vice Principal:** Emily Ripley-Davis **Admin Assistants:** Carol Sheldon and Gayle Griffen

SAC/PTG Meeting Minutes: Jan 14th, 2025

Present: Tasha Pitcher, Jacquelyn Reid, Christina Dorey, Emily Ripley-Davis, Tammy McMullin, Taralee Dubray, Karen Davis, Adrienne Kidd, Darlene Joyce, Doris Boyd.

Regrets: Nicole Evanson, Neelima Alam, Ramendeeep Dhillon, Jagdeep Singh Dhillon, Umot Bag, RYanne Hamblin, Justine MacDonald, Rose MacAuley

Call to Order: 6:03 pm

School Advisory Committee (SAC) Minutes

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

Student Success Plan:

The Student Success Planning (SSP) framework is developed to guide school communities in using an equitable and systematic way of planning school improvement by identifying measurable goals that are rigorous yet attainable. Below you will find a sample of the goals and objectives Hillside Park Elementary has worked on over the course of the past year. The SSP goals are directly used to enhance student learning and achievement; the development and growth of SSP goals are based on student needs. SSP goals are also deeply rooted in the inclusion policy and culturally responsive teaching practices

Literacy Goal: We will improve achievement in literacy for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

Cycle 2

High Impact Strategy...

Grades P-2 (Engagement in Writing)

- Teachers will provide opportunities for students to create meaningful texts that reflect their identities, cultures, communities, and families, encouraging them to express their unique voices and perspectives.

Grades 3-5 (Organization in Writing)

- Teachers will improve students' ability to organize their writing effectively across genres, including the use of transitions to connect ideas smoothly.

Mathematics Goal: We will improve achievement in mathematics for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

Cycle 2

High Impact Strategy...

- Teachers will strengthen students' conceptual understanding of number relationships, with a focus on place value and computational fluency
- Teachers will plan culturally and linguistically responsive lessons to meet students where they are through targeted instruction based on the analysis of evidence gathered (using the 3-part lesson format)

Well-Being Goal: We will improve well-being at our school for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

Cycle 2

- We will foster a school-wide culture of growth mindset to support student resilience and perseverance, aligned with Hillside Park's focus on well-being and the concept of Netukulimk (Respect, Responsibility, Relationships, Reciprocity)

Principal's Report

- **Indigo Grant & Library Makeover:** So far we have added 290 books (fiction & non-fiction) to our Library as of Jan 13th, 2025. We have spent \$3,315.91, with \$5, 684.09 remaining to spend before March 31st, 2025. Classes in grades 2-5 have been asked to identify books they would like to have purchased through the grant program. The Library mural has been completed with the support of the art specialist. The school carpenter has built and installed new cabinets and community member Linda Joyce has created an initial template for tree bookshelves.
- **Holiday Concert:** The sound system was borrowed from a community organization free of charge. Doris Boyd and Darlene Joyce worked on the background images. A huge thank you to all staff and community members for their support.
- **Mad Science:** Provided hands-on and interactive workshops and whole-school activities for all grade levels reinforcing the science curriculum.
- **Green Schools:** Presented to all classes showcasing the importance of adopting smarter energy habits and become more sustainable.
- **Halifax Wanderers:** The Halifax Wanderers soccer team worked with each class in PE, collaborating with Mr. Sutton to further student interest and skill development within the sport of soccer.
- **Choir to Sagewood:** With the support of Ms. Ripley-Davis and school staff, choir students walked to Sagewood and sung holiday carols for the elderly residents. Our schools' annual participation is greatly appreciated by both residents and staff.
- **Pre-Service ECEs:** As a school we have had the opportunity to host multiple pre-service Early Childhood Educators in Pre-Primary.

- **Additional Staffing Allocation:** EPA 50% Position. We want to welcome Li Qiling to Hillside Park.
- **Drum Club:** Throughout the months of January and February students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to participate in Drum Club. Djembe drums have been borrowed from Halifax Regional Arts. Students will learn the different parts of the djembe drum, as well as the history and methods to playing the instrument. Ms. Ripley-Davis will work with students once a week and at the February Hillside High Five Assembly students will be invited to showcase their learning with a final performance.
- **Town Hall:** Each term Ms Ripley-Davis meets with a diverse group of students from each grade level. Students are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas on how improvements can be made to enhance their school/learning experience and environment. Some key points from the discussion included that 96% of student participants shared that they can easily talk to multiple adults at school, students are happy and excited about the continued changes happening within the Library and they are eager to have more books in the Library to read, and students are looking for more opportunities to have hands-on learning experiences.

Upcoming Events:

- Maritime Dance Performance: Jan 14th
- Discovery Centre Field Trip Grades 2-5's - (Day Trippers Funding)
- Tattletales Campaign for Books - February (classroom books)
- Valentines for Vets
- Running Club
- African Heritage Month
- Keonte Beals Whole School Presentaion
- Movie Night - Jan 23rd
- Hillside 70th Anniversary (1956)

SAC Funds

- Each school is given \$5,000.00 plus a dollar for every student within the school yearly, which is approximately \$5200 for the SAC at Hillside Park
- This year's funding plus the carry-over from last year of \$1200 gives us approximately \$6700 to spend
- Vote: Members have voted to use the SAC funds for new tables and chairs for the Library.

Upcoming SAC Meeting Dates:

- Feb 11
- Apr 15
- May 13
- June 10

Parent-Teacher Group (PTG) Minutes

PTG New Business:

- School Events (building bookings)
 - Feb 27 - School Dance (Glow in the Dark Theme)
 - Apr 24 - Trivia (Jacquelyn will work on collecting questions)
 - May 29 - Spring Fling
 - June 20 - Ice Cream Social

PTG Upcoming Event:

- Family Movie Night
 - Movie Selected by the PTG: Despicable Me 4.
 - License has been purchased.
 - Kia Gero will provide a large inflatable screen for movie viewing.
 - It is a suggested donation of \$10.00/family.
 - Canteen will be available for snack purchases. All items will be \$1.00.

New Buisness:

- Families inquired about having a Yoga instructor come into PE classes and work with Mr. Sutton in connection with our schools' SSP wellness goal. Ms. Ripley-Davis will inquire about possibly booking a local instructor.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:34 pm

Submitted by: Emily Ripley-Davis