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**Principal:** Jacquelyn Reid     **Vice Principal:** Emily Ripley-Davis     **Admin Assistant:** Carol Sheldon

### SAC / PTG Minutes for Tuesday, January 24th, 2023

**Present:** Christina Dorey, RYanne Hamblin, Jacquelyn Reid, Emily Ripley-Davis, Cheryl Brann, Alison Hakkert-Sly, Rose McAully, Amani Alzubair, Nicole Evanson,

**Regrets:** Stephanie Dube, Tammy McMullin, Tasha Pitcher

**Call to Order: 6:02pm**

### School Advisory Committee (SAC) Minutes

#### **Student Success Plan:**

**Literacy Goal:** We will improve student achievement in Literacy

**Strategies:** (*assessment for learning, instruction and learning team focus*)

**High Impact Strategy 1:** Teachers will use formative classroom assessment (conversations, observations, products) to develop responsive lessons for the whole class, small groups, and individual students.

**Teachers will:**

- Use mentor texts as springboards for reading and writing workshop
- Widen our scope of genres in the writing workshop

**High Impact Strategy 2:** Teachers will use formative classroom assessment (conversations, observations, products) to develop responsive lessons for the whole class, small groups, and individual students. (\*\*\*\*Typo)

**Teachers will...**

- Use formative classroom assessment to create flexible small groups
- Make responsive instructional choices to meet readers' needs

**Action Steps:**

- Data walls updated
- Reading support blitz grade 1 and 2 Jan
- Reading support blitz in grade 3 Feb
- Data due by Feb 1- due by Jan 27
- Sub release time to collaborate
- Book resources ([UFLI](#), Book Bureau, decodable books)

## **NOTE:**

-Currently the admin team and the Librarian, Ms. Somers are working together to revamp the Library. Action steps include: completing a book audit to ensure all texts are culturally responsive, creating a collection of teacher resources & materials. The goal within the learning commons area of the Library is to purchase flexible seating (floor rockers, benches, cozy rugs), add a makerspace, and overall transform the spaces to be more learner friendly.

-Questions arose from parents about EAL support and the process for school allocations. The majority of allocations are based on student need or school population.

-R.I.O (Remote Interpretation Ontario - online translating services) was a suggested resource to help better translate between staff and students as well as from school to families. The admin team will inquire further about the program and its availability to be used within Nova Scotian schools.

Link: <https://accessalliance.ca/access-alliance-language-services/our-language-services-solutions-without-borders/remote-interpretation-ontario-network-r-i-o-network/>

-Another app. that was suggested was Dual-Lingo. to again, further support EAL learners and newcomer families.

### **Mathematics Goal: We will improve student achievement in Mathematics**

**Strategies:** (*assessment for learning, instruction and learning team focus*)

**High Impact Strategy:** Teachers will use formative classroom assessment (conversations, observations, products) to develop responsive lessons for the whole class, small groups, and individual students.

#### **Teachers will...**

- Provide students opportunities to show their understanding in a variety of ways (interview, manipulatives, paper/pencil)
- Use the HRCE rubrics and interview tools in their assessment practices
- Form flexible small groups for explicit instruction based on classroom formative assessment
- Adjust small groups depending on student need

#### **Action Steps:**

- Data Collection on Unit 5 (number sense)

### **Well-Being Goal: We will improve student wellbeing at our school.**

**Strategies:** (*assessment for learning, instruction and learning team focus*)

#### **High Impact Strategy:**

Teachers will implement whole group lessons around self regulation strategies and problem solving.

#### **Teachers will...**

- Learn and use students' names
- Dedicate time getting to know students (see School Connectedness doc)
- Reflect on Inside/Outside activity to ensure we are connecting with students who may not be on our radar

#### **Action Steps:**

- Network Schools Grant \$3600 (A Little Spot of Feelings)
- Next purchase will be break bins and calming areas

**Continued focus on wellbeing and equity (anchored in the Inclusive Education Policy)**

- ★ 4.1 Every student can learn with enough time, practice and equitable and responsive teaching.
- ★ 4.5 Every student deserves to belong (affirmed, validated, and nurtured), to be safe, and feel welcomed in all aspects of their daily experience.
- ★ 4.6 Inclusive education is a commitment to honour and respect each student’s cultural and linguistic identities and knowledge systems

**HRCE P-2 Literacy Initiative**

End of September

Total # of Students (P-2)	Total # of Students Meeting	Total # of Students not there yet
78	49 (63%)	29 (37%)

End of October

Total # of Students (P-2)	Total # of Students Meeting	Total # of Students not there yet
79	59 (75%)	20 (25%)

End of November

Total # of Students (P-2)	Total # of Students Meeting	Total # of Students not there yet
76	49 (79%)	29 (21%)

**NOTE:**

As a school community we are utilizing all individuals in the building and being very resourceful with time to better support learners. Ex: Admin team is working with learners in Gr. 2 to provide them additional reading practices and to build upon their general literacy skills.

**SAC Meeting at Sackville High:**

Christina and Jacquelyn attended the SAC PD opportunity held on Nov. \_\_ The PD focused on the Inclusive Education Policy and how it connects to SSP. Overall, it was an informative session which highlighted the

lack of wellbeing & safety/trust learners in High Schools feel; specifically individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. This demonstrated the importance of providing our elementary students with the tools, language and resources they need to problem solve and cope with their emotions in a positive manner.

### **SAC Funds:**

- Current SAC Balance - \$13,607.76
- So far, new books have been purchased for learners in Gr. 3-5, which cost approximately \$2500.
- The admin team will be purchasing new leveled books for Gr. P-3 at an approximate cost of \$3000. Book Bureau money has also been invested into leveled books for learners in Gr. P-3 as well.
- Ideas for future spending:
  - Makerspace materials & resources
  - Flexible Seating for classrooms & library
  - Chromebook cart for downstairs classrooms; estimated cost of \$1700.

### **Principal's Report:**

#### **Recent Events:**

- **Professional Development Days**
  - December 1st: Treaty Education/Land Acknowledgment and Student Success Planning: Ms. Ripley-Davis lead staff in the singing of the Mi'kmaq friendship song, sharing of teacher resources, discussion of the Land Acknowledgement and importance of the word 'unceded'. Staff discussed the Student Success Planning (SSP) goals and action steps.
  - December 2: Literacy (P-3) and Mathematics (4-5): Gr. P-3 teachers collaborated with Ms. Reid, discussing our learners strengths and areas for growth, as well as, the 6 Pillars of Effective Reading Instruction, and Phonological Awareness.
- **Holiday Concert** - Students from Pre-Primary to Grade 5 participated in the school concert. Risers and sound equipment were rented to assist in the facilitation of the concert. Families donated \$386.45 towards the music program. Overall, there was a lot of positive feedback from families & the community. Families were excited to be participating in school-wide events once again.
- **Author Visit (Jacqueline Halsey)** - Our second author visit took place on Dec 8th, 2022. Jacqueline Halsey showcased two of her books; (P-2) 'The Terrible Horrible Smelly Pirate,' and (3-5) Explosion Newsie. Learners enjoyed meeting the author, experiencing her texts and gaining some knowledge of her career as a writer.
- **Mad Science** - Students in all grades experienced Mad Science on Dec 15th, 2022. Mad Science provided learners with an opportunity to enhance their scientific knowledge..
- **Breakfast Program** - The majority of our fruit deliveries for the school breakfast program have been purchased from the Vegetorium. Learners are really enjoying the apples, pears and oranges. Students are encouraged to take items from the breakfast bins and always have access to the fruit bowl in the main office.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Taekwon-Do Workshop (Wednesday Jan 25th):** Hiltz Taekwon-Do provided free workshops to all classes.

Each workshop focused on mental and physical fitness and martial arts techniques.

- **Family Literacy Day (Fri, Jan 27):** Each class will enjoy a fun filled day of reading. Students are invited to wear their PJ's and bring their favorite stuffie to read with. Ms. Reid will visit each class and share a read-aloud, some classes will participate in additional literacy activities/games and the admin team will provide all staff and students with Hot Chocolate and Candy Canes.
- **Maritime Centre for African Dance Workshop (Friday Feb 3rd):** Each class will take part in a session of African dance and music.
- **Rocks n' Rings (Curling - Wednesday Feb 15th):** Students will participate in a variety of relays and team-building activities while learning about the sport of curling.
- **PERFORM** - African Dance (Monday March 6th) & Physical Theatre (Tuesday March 21 - Tuesday April 25 @ lunch): PERFORM is a subsidy program that helps connect schools with professional artists. By integrating performing arts into educational programming students can further develop their confidence, creative thinking and problem solving.
- **Drum Club** - (Tuesdays & Thursdays @ recess) Ms. Ripley-Davis has organized a djembe drum club for students in Gr. 2-5; playing a variety of rhythms in hopes of performing at the Feb. High Five Awards assembly.
- **Great Big Crunch Grant** - Application has been submitted. Notification of grant approval will be sent in mid Feb.
- **Breakfast & Books** - Nutrition Month Grant application has been submitted (\$750.00). Breakfast & Books will occur on March 10th. It will include a whole school breakfast and books being read to students either during the meal on the projector or in small reading groups afterwards.
- **African Heritage Month** - Classroom teachers will collaborate with learners to develop great understanding of African Nova Scotian and Black history within Nova Scotia and Canada.
- **Nova Scotia Heritage Day** - Feb 20th, 2023 (No School)
- **Valentine's Day** - Students will participate in stations that will focus on wellbeing and friendship. Each class will have a celebration in the afternoon.

### **Grants:**

- **Pitsco Grant (\$350)** - Application Submitted. Kubo Coding ++ Single Bundle was requested to build upon our school's makerspace.
- **Active Smart Kids (ASK) Grant** - \$500.00

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## **Parent-Teacher Group (PTG) Minutes**

### **PTG Funds**

- **Classroom Wish List Funds:** There is still a balance of \$1,265.06 as some staff haven't purchased items for their classrooms yet (\$150/teacher).

### **New Business:**

- The school building is booked for school events - February 9th, April 13th, May 18th
- Feb 9th Event - Bingo 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm (Bingo license already obtained)
  - Digital Bingo Format: Link -
  - Eight Bingo games will take place. Bingo game cards will be color-coded in single card groups for students and triple card groups for adults.
  - Entrance Fee - \$5.00 per family, additional cards would be an additional \$2.00/card. All funds will be placed within the PTG account for future events.
  - Estimated 130-150 ppl will attend based on previous events.
  - The Bingo game will have both Parent/Guardian & student prizes.
  - The PTO will host a canteen for families before the game starters and after the fourth game. All canteen items will be \$1.00 (chips, chocolate bars, candies, water, etc.)
  - Tables will be set up in the gym, about 8 individuals per table. We may need to source tables from other areas of the school.
  - Families will be asked to bring a marker/highlighter/dauber to play. Extras will be provided by the school.
  - Brown art paper will be placed on the tables for students/families to color on and protect the tables from the markers/daubers.
  - **Action:** Jacqlyn will create the poster & send the info. to families advertising the Bingo night
  - **Action:** Christina offered to staple bingo booklets together if needed.
  - **Action:** Emily will create a donation letter for PTG members to ask local businesses to donate \$25.00 gift cards for parent prizes. Letters will be printed and sent home.
  - Community Businesses: Pizza Town, Sobeys, Home Hardware, Giant Tiger, Superstore, Subway, Tim Hortons, Cobs, Mediterra, Super Bowl, Cineplex, Sports Complex, Swiss Chalet
  - Follow Up Meeting: (prior to event) Virtual Meeting Tuesday Feb. 7th
- **Possible Future Events** - (April 13th, May 18th) Spring Fair, Spring Tea
  - Ideas:** Baskets based on themes from each class

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:** *Feb 21st, April 25th, May 30th, June 20th (Restaurant)*

**Next Meeting:** *Feb 21st*

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**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:29 pm

**Submitted By:** Emily Ripley-Davis