



SAC Meeting Minutes

April 5th, 2023

6:00 – 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Veronica Singer, Darci McCabe, Nicky Smith, Michelle Singer, Moira Peters, Kristyn Thoms, Jocelyn Paige. Sheila Campbell and Melanda Greene joined later on in the meeting.

Welcome & Call to Order: Nicky Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Review/Approval of Agenda: Veronica approved the Agenda.

Review/Approval of Minutes: Moira approved the Minutes.

Business Arising From Minutes:

- Moira asks for more information on how emotional needs are being supported within the school, and what resources are available for parents both within the school and community.
 - Millie explained how tier-2 supports are in place, friendship groups have been formed, focused on expressing emotions and dealing with conflict.
 - Veronica Singer continues to be the social emotional support within the school and explains that NS Department of Health has lots of resources available.

Principals Report:

- The winter carnival was a great success. There was great participation in the planned themed days, and the puppet making workshop and performance by the Maritime Marionettes was well received.
- The school dance was a huge hit, with great attendance
- All CDS students received a t-shirt with CDS logo
- The school mascot visited during spirit day. Special thanks for Nicky Smith for capturing photos.
- Professional Development on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy continues
- The SFNP (School Food & Nutrition Policy) grant that was received for purchasing culturally diverse food was spent. This was a great learning experience and was enjoyed by all.
- A new Grade 1 student joined the school after March break, bringing our enrollment from Pre-Primary – Grade 6 p to 71 students.
- Our IT Support Specialist was in the school this month setting up new chrome books carts. There is one located upstairs, and one downstairs.
- SLP support has been to the school on March 7th to do screeners with students, and further follow-up will continue with a caseload.
- Hot lunch was provided, free of cost for students on March 9th. Pizza was ordered from Sammy's. The next free hot lunch will be served April 14th and consist of hot chicken burgers and fruit smoothies. Special thank you to Sheila Campbell and Kanchana Thompson for preparing this for the students.
- Report cards were distributed electronically on March 28th to parents/guardians. Parent teacher was held the evening of March 30th and the morning of March 31st.
- Veronica Singer (Social Emotional Learning Support) along with Sara Landry (Community Outreach Support Worker) and Keira Dacey (Child & Youth Care Practitioner) both from SchoolsPlus continue to support students in our building.
- Literacy continues to be a school-wide focus; particularly phonological and phonemic awareness. Andrew Francis (Coordinator of Literacy Innovation and Special Projects) visited with our teachers March 10th. He will be returning on April 25th to model a lesson using the UFLI manual.
- MathUP Leadership continues at CDS. On March 31st, teachers attended a PD session at Kennetcook District for the 3 local schools involved in this. Focus included the different meanings of subtraction and how cuisenaire rods can be used to model this. A school set of cuisenaire rods have been ordered.
- Work Orders have been put in to put together the new soccer nets, and the gaga ball pit.
- Covid test kits and masks are available for students. Let the office know.

- The March monthly assembly was held March 29th. Our next monthly assembly will be April 28th.
- After School Technology Intramurals begins April 5th. It will alternate each Wednesday between grades P-3 and 4-6 until May 24th.
- After School Running Club is set to start April 27th and go until June 1st. This is open to all students in grades P-6 and is to promote physical fitness.

School Improvement Plan Update:

- Math Mentor comes in Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday to support teachers

New Business/Public Input:

- PD was a great experience for the teachers. The focus was on MathUp. The teachers enjoyed seeing and bouncing ideas off other teachers at the same grade level.
- MathUp only has 2 Grade levels, and not 3 Grade levels. For our 3 grade classrooms. There was talk about creating balance in the classrooms.
- Kristyn asked for more information on whether our current three-grade classrooms will return to a two-classroom split in the future. There seems to be an obvious disadvantage to both the students and teaching staff because of these 3 Grade classrooms. Extensive discussion followed this question, and the SAC members agree that we should take some form of action to address this.
 - Moira has volunteered to draft a letter from the SAC group and will email correspond with the SAC members to follow-up.
 - Nicky also mentions that there was a previous letter sent in the past and will have a look and share this with the group as well. There was no response back after the last letter attempt.
- The SAC has \$3343.96 to spend by the end of the school year.
 - Potential for buying new standing desks for the classrooms

Next Meeting Date: May 10th, 2023

Adjournment: Michelle adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.