



## **SAC Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

**6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**In Attendance:** Darci McCabe, Denise Hilchie, Michelle Singer, Kristyn Thoms, Joslyn Paige, Millie Robinson, Nicky Smith, Christine Dickson, Ginette Johnson, Beth Gero, Amber Tanner, Melanda Greene

**Welcome & Call to Order:** Nicky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Review/Approval of Agenda:** Michelle approved the Agenda.

**Review/Approval of Minutes:** Christine approved the Minutes and changes were noted to the structure of council to remove names.

### **Business Arising From Minutes:**

- Changes were noted from the previous minutes and will be fixed and re-sent
- Nicky inquired about the mental health grant
  - Millie has checked with other schools to see how this grant was spent and in one instance it was put towards one individual from the school completing a mental health first aid course.
  - Millie is looking into this option; the grant money is still sitting on the budget and has not been deposited into the bank account yet.
- The two EA positions were filled. Shelly McLellan received the term position, and Nicky Smith was hired for the second position. Congratulations to Shelly and Nicky.
- There was an outstanding balance on the white board tables, so after this was paid out, the balance of the SAC account is sitting at \$111.87.

- The \$5000 allotment should be added soon for the new school year.

### **Principals Report:**

- Grade 6 Provincial Assessment- these have been completed. We will get results sometime in the new year
- Ordering for hot lunch has increased from September to October
- Principals across CCRCE attended Violence and Threat Risk Assessment PD Oct 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>
- Green Schools visited CDS on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and held 3 presentations for students about sustainable resources and taking care of our environment.
- Grade 3 Provincial Assessment Results from last Spring were shared with parents/guardians.
- A School-wide trip on Oct.25<sup>th</sup> to the Wildlife Park was a great success!
- Staff attended conferences on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> as part of Provincial Conference Day.
- Operations and Safety: Since our last meeting we have successfully completed a fire drill on Oct.20<sup>th</sup> and a Code Green drill Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - A relocation drill will be Monday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> when students attend Fire Prevention at the Noel Firehall.
- A Remembrance Day ceremony for CDS is being held Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. Joannie MacDonald from the Noel Legion will be attending. We have purchased a wreath for this event and are looking for students interested in placing it at the legion ceremony on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>
- Report cards will be distributed electronically on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. Parent teacher is Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> (3-5pm) and Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> (8-10am).
  - Staff will participate in PD on the afternoon of Nov.24<sup>th</sup> at KDS with staff from HNRH feeder schools.
- October was Mi'kmaq History Month- activities and learning opportunities took place throughout the school.

### **Agreements & By-Laws**

- The agreements and by-laws were signed by the principal and the SAC chair.

### **New Business:**

- Nicky and Millie will travel to the Regional Centre on November 9<sup>th</sup> as part of the SAC
- Millie is seeking approval from the SAC committee to bring in three author presentations to the school. The cost of this is \$175 per author visit, however the Writer's Association of Nova Scotia will pay half of the cost. The total cost from the SAC funds would be \$87.50 x 3 Authors = \$262.50.

- Melanie Mosher (Nov 20<sup>th</sup>)
- Jessica Scott Karen (Feb 12<sup>th</sup>): this presentation would be virtual
- Nancy Rose (Apr 8<sup>th</sup>)
- A vote was taken, all in favor of bringing three authors to Cobequid District Elementary for a cost of \$262.50. The SAC committee voted yes unanimously. Motion was approved.
- Kathy Clark has offered to paint the school's new logo in the foyer. Kathy is a very talented local artist and is also the current custodian at CDS. She will require 3 gallons of paint and staging set-up for this project. Millie is seeking approval from the SAC before she seeks further approval about safety concerns.
  - A vote was taken, all in favor of having the front foyer painted with the Cobequid Coyotes logo. The SAC voted yes unanimously, for this project. Motion was approved.
- Michelle asked who is in charge of cleaning the front entrance of the school. She feels it needs a good cleaning or pressure washing and isn't very welcoming.
  - Millie is going to look into this further
- Millie went for a meeting with the FOS about SSP (Student Success Plan)
  - Student Well-Being: the surveys that the students completed were reviewed and Millie wants to make sure the students know that their voice matters and their input was heard. The student well-being focuses on things like, how the students feel while they are at school, whether they feel safe, and what kinds of things they want to see happening in the school.
  - Here are examples of the results of the survey
    - 55% of students said that their teacher doesn't know what their life is like outside of school.
    - 28 % of students said they don't enjoy learning
    - 19% of students said they felt unsafe or threatened at school
  - Math: MathUp is using a visualization approach. This means that for the first 15 minutes of each Math class, the students spend their time visualizing.
  - Literacy: working with UFLI on sounds and letters. Examples: using magnetic letters on trays to create sounds and words.

### **Public Input:**

- Amber suggested that if Kathy was to complete her Fall Arrest training prior to completing the mural, this may help with the safety logistics around bringing in staging equipment.
- Nicky asks about what Millie means by 'focus groups'

- All students will be invited to discuss things related to their well-being in 'focus groups'. The students can either accept or decline the invitation. This will be a part of the student well-being initiative.

**Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** Joslyn adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.