

# SAC MEETING MINUTES (17 April 2024)

## ATTENDANCE

- **Present:** Katrina Longard, Ryan Rodrigues, Kate Macleod, Andrea Cordoba, James Martin, Ben Deutsch, Shaza Gameel, Melissa Marr
- **Absent:** n/a

*All items approved by Chair for today's agenda*

### 1. Principal's Report– Katrina Longard

- Upcoming Grade 3 NS Provincial Assessments:** Grade 3 students across the province will be writing a standardized test in Reading, Writing and Mathematics in the month of May. Information regarding the testing will be communicated to families in early May. If students will be exempt from the testing, this will also be communicated by our Grade 2/3 teacher, Ms Chisholm. Students will only be tested on relevant outcomes. Results for each student and our school will be released at some point in the Fall. Our school site has chosen the following four dates of testing:
  - Literacy (Reading and Writing): May 15 and 16
  - Mathematics: May 22 and 23
- NSTU update:** Katrina reiterated the results of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union's voting results to authorize a strike mandate as they continue to negotiate the terms of a new contract with the province. This equips the NSTU to communicate the sentiment of teachers across the province, and does not confirm that strike action will take place. Any information regarding confirmed job action will be communicated to families as this information becomes available, following appropriate legal timeframes.
- Grade 6 Transition to Gorsebrook Junior High for 2024-2025:** in the month of May, our Grade 6 teachers and students will be prepped for the transition to Grade 7 at Gorsebrook Junior High next year. This includes:
  - Grade 6 tour of the Junior High: on May 9th, students will have the opportunity to listen to an informative presentation and participate in a tour of the building to get them ready for the next year.
  - Staff from our school will hold a transition meeting with GJH: on May 29th, our team will meet virtually with the Gorsebrook team to discuss each incoming Grade 6 student in-depth. This helps us to effectively communicate

any support that may need to transfer to help our students be successful next year.

- d. **School Enrollment Update and upcoming initial class configurations for 2024-2025:**
- i. Current enrollment as of April 17: 161 students
  - ii. 2024-2025: estimated 145 students for September 2024. In May, more information regarding initial class configurations for our school next year will be discussed. Katrina will share with SAC as this information becomes available.
  - iii. Out of Area requests for next year: applications have opened. Decisions to approval or denial will be made in June 2024.

## **2. New Business**

- a. **Diversity and Inclusion collaboration project with Melissa Marr of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia:** our school will participate in a school-wide art project, led by Melissa. Students will consider a symbol that relates to their identity/culture, and will be given the opportunity to silk screen print these symbols on tote bags and banners. Students will have the opportunity to learn about one another and share their identities. Materials for the art project have now arrived and Melissa will begin reaching out to classroom teachers to schedule these workshops toward the end of April/beginning of May.
- b. **School-wide field trip:** On June 26th, our school will attend the *Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo*. This trip has been funded through our SAC and has now been paid in full.
- c. **SAC request for funds:** the SAC has been requested to fund the purchase of kidney/conference tables for classrooms next year. Katrina will shop the different available products and communicate to SAC which product has been chosen at our next meeting.. An estimate of \$1500 to \$1800 of SAC funds will be needed for this. **This request was approved tonight.** As well, an update of our balance will be made available soon by Katrina, either through email or at our next meeting.
- d. **Community Feast and Art Display Event:** our SAC will be planning a collaborative potluck with our school community in late May 2024. This feast could be a great opportunity to display student art from the Saint Mary's-AGNS project and build interest in membership for next school year. SAC members will dedicate planning time for this event at our upcoming meeting. Details will be communicated with our school community.

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY MAY 8TH, 2024 @ 6:30 PM ON ZOOM**