

Approved School Advisory Council (SAC) Minutes, Oct 7/15
LeMarchant St. Thomas Staff room.

Members present:

Jeanne Boudreau	Principal;
Monica Stoilov	Vice Principal
David Jakeman	Parent, Incoming chair
Shannon Black	Parent, outgoing Chair
Laura white	Parent, incoming secretary
Matthew Schnurr	Community Rep
Andrew Boyne	Parent
Jennifer McMillan	Resource Teacher
Derick Honig	Parent, outgoing Chair desig
Judy Obersi	Parent, incoming Chair desig
Kate Macleod	Teacher

Members Absent: Claire Mcparland and Nancy Beck Community Reps.

1. **Welcome with introductions.** Welcomed new parent members: Laura White, David Jakeman and Andrew Boyne. Introductions by new parent members, as well as by returning members, Judy and Matthew.
2. Review and approval of September minutes, with minor corrections.

3 Admin Report by Jeanne:

- Spectacular Presentation by Astronaut Jeremy Hansen, October 5
- Bus evacuation drills, October 8
- Reptile show for Primary to grade 3 on October 9
- Walkathon, October 9 at 1 PM
- PD for new Library common, October 20
- Halloween dance on October 22
- Provincial mandated PD day on October 23
- Youth running series on October 24
- Library update: Purchased tables and bean-bag chairs to help the library become more like a real library. The students will now go every other week and will spent 45 minutes in the library. More information can be found on the website.
- 10 more ipads and cases were purchased for P-3 in every classroom. Grade 3-6 got new ones last year.
- We are short one more LCD.
- Discussion about items that get to go to the new school versus items that go to the school board for redistribution.

Old Business:

- a. We need a new chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. Descriptions were given of the various roles. Chair meets with the principal one week ahead to come up with the agenda. Co-chair is a supporting role for the chair. Only the chair has to be a parent rep. The secretary doesn't have to be one.

- Shannon moved for David to be the incoming Chair, Judy to be the Vice-Chair and Laura to be the Secretary. This was seconded by Kate.

New Business

- a. Laura will collect feedback on the school boundary policy via email. Andrew pointed out that it would be nice to see the pages and procedures that are mentioned but not included. Andrew had questions about the vagueness of the policy. It seems too general. We concluded that perhaps this is done to leave some wiggle room, but they would like to know what the SACs feel about it and if there are any deal breakers. This policy might matter more to schools that could undergo a boundary review. We agreed to state our main message as being: we feel that it is very vague and leaves a lot of room for interpretation. Laura will formulate an email response and run it by Jeanne.
- b. SAC PD on October 22nd is the same night as the Halloween dance. Monica will be going and Matthew will consider going.
- c. David and Jeanne signed the letter of agreement.
 - Regarding the bylaws that Shannon send for review via email: There was a motion made to change the September 30th deadline for elections for SAC members, to say no later than the first meeting in October. Motion made to change the wording under 'decision making structure', to start with the word Quorum (and remove 'For the purpose of a vote'). SIP to be changed to SSP (Student Support Plan). Motion for the changes made by David and seconded by Laura.
 - David will Change the bylaws and send to Jeanne. Jeanne will update the letter of agreement and will send both to the board.
 - The bylaws and letter of agreement can go on the school website.

Shannon and Derick had to leave by 5:15, they were both thanked for their former role of Chair and Co-chair.

Other business:

- Judy, Laura and Andrew to be on the discipline committee. Judy made the motion and Laura seconded.
- With the exception of October and November, we typically meet the second Thursday of every month, so as to give a report to the H&S after our meetings.
- We are required to have a minimum of 6 meetings. There are no meetings typically in December and March.

Regarding the new school:

- The SST (School Steering Committee) will be established in the next few meetings (?). David and Judy will be on the SST (along with Jeanne).
- We will try to establish a parent SST body led by Derick who can relay information to the SAC.
- We will have to find out what is negotiable at the first SST meeting.
- Issues that have come up: A proper size gym is non-negotiable for us.

- Excel and the Y have no proper space for after school currently.
- Wondering who's talking to HRM about community space.
- What student numbers are we working with and projections, as lots of families are currently being turned away from out of area.
- Jeanne recommends we go there with questions.
- Jeanne recommends we meet at least once with the steering committee, before sending out for information to parents, so as to have some answers.
- Jeanne and Monica are HRSB board members and therefore will be neutral in the meetings. They will not be taking sides.
- This leaves David and Judy to be the voices as parents.
- Cindy Littlefair was the school board rep and was part of the site selection committee, along with Shannon, Derick and Bonnie.
- As SST decisions are made, we have to ensure the parent community has a voice.

Proposed date of next SAC meeting: November 4, at 4:30 PM.

Adjournment: Laura Motioned and Andrew Seconded.

TO DO LIST:

- a. Laura to send Jeanne an email with feedback regarding the school boundary policy.
- b. Shannon and Judy to Interview the Y and Excel still regarding new space requirements.
- c. David to update the bylaws.
- d. Jeanne will send updated letter of agreement and Bylaws to the board
- e. PD SAC October 22nd at 6:30.