

Approved School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes

11 February, 2016

Le Marchant St. Thomas Staff room, 4:35 pm

Members Present:

Jeanne Boudreau	Principal
Monica Stoilov	Vice Principal
David Jakeman	Chair, Parent
Judy Obersi	Co-Chair, Parent
Laura White	Secretary, Parent
Andrew Boyne	Parent
Jennifer McMillan	Teacher
Adele Beaton	Teacher
Nancy Beck	Community Representative
Claire O'Donovan	Community Representative

Members Absent with regrets:

Natalie Rosen/Matthew Snurr	Community Representatives
Kate McLeod	Teacher

1. Review and Approval of 14 January, 2016 Minutes: No changes.

2. Additions to Agenda:

a) Sportball advertising.

3. Old Business:

a) Student Support Plan (JB): We are still gathering classroom assessment data to input into our graph in order to compare first and second terms. Rubrix data will be available soon. The goal is to see improvement. We will compare all three terms in June and then compare students from year to year. More info to follow at our next meeting.

b) Summary of two SST meetings and the community meeting on 10 February: The SST meetings were held on 25 January and 4 February. The Minutes from these meetings are posted on the LMST and HRSB websites (<http://www.hrsb.ca/about-hrsb/operations-services/capital-projects/new-halifax-south-peninsula-p-6>). The Waverly Road new school (where the 4 February meeting was held) is already over capacity. The next SST meeting will be held on 16 February at LMST.

-JB recommends lunchroom tables with attached benches that can easily be folded up for the cafeteria.

- A large space to be used for a commons area, cafeteria and guest speaker presentations was discussed.

-AB and JM will poll the teachers for new school ideas before 16 Feb.

-Could build the gym 4 feet lower than the rest of the school to provide a stage. (There are accessibility issues with this option.)

-Want a separate music room with good acoustics (i.e. not on the stage).

-MS: A visual arts room could connect to the commons area.

-Councilor Wayne Mason is in favour of a larger gym to be used by LMST and the community. He is working to convince his fellow councilors to vote in favour of funding this enhancement.

-Enhancements that we (parent community) fundraise for i.e. an auditorium, will not be maintained by HRSB.

-We must fundraise if we want bleachers in the gym.

-Demolition is not part of the SST process. JB: The first step is abatement (remove asbestos safety etc.), the second step is demolition. Both playground sets will potentially be removed and re-installed when the new school is complete.

- There will be six SST meetings held.
- February 15, 7 pm: JO, AB, LW, NB & DJ to meet regarding summarizing and finalizing LMST parent/community/SAC design ideas to be presented at the SST on 16 February.
- Who pays for the Waverley Road school stage rentals?

4. New Business:

a) Transition school (Beaufort building) and operation plan (JB): Classrooms are mapped out. Some of the classrooms are smaller. LMST staff are happy with the transition school plans. Recess and lunch (grades P-3 and 4-6) will likely be staggered as the playground area is much smaller than the current space. The move will happen the last week of August/16. No new information on where gym class will be held. The Kings College gym, the Beth Israel Synagogue and a double wide portable are potential sites. Will follow up in person with Dan Sheehan (HRSB Coordinator, Property Services - Maintenance) this coming Tuesday, 16 February.

-A discussion regarding access to the current playgrounds revealed that the safety risk is too great to consider having the children continue to use the LMST playground structures during demolition/construction.

b) Teacher recognition (NB/JB): We want to continue to recognize teachers for the excellent work they do. JB recommended that teachers should be recognized as a group, rather than individually. We will recognize teachers as a group rather than individually. We currently recognize teachers with the Home & School luncheon, on Twitter, on the school sign and the administration provides ongoing thanks throughout the year. Topic moved to the next meeting.

c) SAC requested to review school site selection policy by Ron Heiman (HRSB Director – Operations Services) by 31 March (DJ): SAC members to review at home and provide feedback to DJ by 18 March.

5. Administration Update (JB):

a) New Primary registration: 29 students so far (flexible registration deadline is 16 February).

b) We won our first Battle of the Books. The second battle is tonight at Wozzles.

c) The Tattletales Coin Campaign runs 1-28 February. The final LMST activity will not be duct-taping, but instead a dance off on the Xbox dancing program between the administration with students following along.

d) Constable Sara Carter has been involved with LMST regarding the stranger danger incident two weeks ago. Plain clothes officers have been working in the school area. The offender has not been apprehended.

e) Destination Imagination will take place 9 April at Auburn Drive High School. It is a problem solving challenge for students in grades 4-12.

f) The call for Boys Club members went out over the PA system twice as a general call for boys who may be interested in joining the club with a description of the purpose. Applications were given to all interested boys. We are awaiting the return of a few applications and parent signatures, but the club has already built a clubhouse and had lunch and a movie together. The first general full club meeting is planned for next week. Then the club will divide into two smaller groups to meet, with full group activities planned for every few weeks.

-Mr. Blackburn and Ms. LeBlanc and MS have grant money to use for two bowling outings; one day at lunch and one day after school.

g) The multicultural event is scheduled for 26 Feb. We will have 27 cultures represented. Students will

rotate in and out of the gym throughout the day. Classes have been integrating multicultural activities into their outcomes and are creating the flags that will line the hallway to the gym.

h) LMST Spelling Bee – 19 Feb at 1:15 for students in spelling club.

i) Winter music night at Gorsebrook will include the 45 cello students in grade 4.

j) The Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) from Gorsebrook will give an optional info session for grade 6 students and parents 24 Feb at 3:30pm

k) LMST has partnered up with St. Vincent's Nursing Home. Once a month a class goes to do crafts with seniors. They sang together and made cards at Christmas.

l) AB's class will be focusing on empathy and giving by delivering Valentine cookies to Hope Cottage.

m) Technology (MS): We are Chromebook leaders, using Google Apps frequently. There will be a PD day on MakerSpace (3D printing). MS is attending an Innovation in Teaching PD day session. We use Google Read & Write (an add-on to Google Apps) to support struggling readers and writers. The child speaks and the software writes out their words. The child writes and the software types out the text. Families can use this software at home too.

-HackerClassroom webinar is offered by Microsoft.

6. Other business:

-Sportball may put up posters on the main office bulletin board for advertising to parents.

7. Items moved to next meeting's agenda:

-Discuss teacher recognition further.

8. Actions:

-SAC members to review school site selection policy at home and provide feedback to DJ by 18 March/16.

-JB to follow up on what the plans are for gym class at the temporary school.

9. Next meeting: 7 April, 4:30 pm