



LeMarchant-St. Thomas SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC): Minutes

January 20th, 2026

Members Present

Moira

Member	Position	Email	Present	Regrets
Moira Cavanaugh	Principal	mcavanaugh@hrce.ca	Y	
Kim Gallivan	Vice-Principal	kgallivan@hrce.ca	Y	
Kathleen (Kat) Porta	Parent Rep	Supernurse.kat@hrce.ca	Y	
Damon Cunningham	Teacher	Damon.cunningham@hrce.ca	Y	
Kim Healy	Community Rep	kimehealy@gmail.com	Y	
Maureen Mitchell	Community Rep	Maureenmitchell0@gmail.com	Y	
Hideyo Kawashima	Parent Rep	Hideyo.kawashima@gmail.com	Y	
Karen Masry	Parent Rep	Masry.family@outlook.com	Y	
Adele Pellerin	Teacher	apellerin@hrce.ca	Y	
Pearl Michael	Community Rep	pearlamatheson@gmail.com	Y	
Zeeshan Sheikh	Parent Rep	Zeeshan.Sheikh@dal.ca	Y	
Erin Collinson	Teacher	ecollinson@hrce.ca	Y	
Jen LeBlanc	Community Rep	Jen.leblanc@dal.ca		X

Last Meeting November 18th, 2025

1. Review and approval of minutes

Approved minutes, open the meeting se
welcome

2. Additions of any other business to the agenda

- Review and approve September's minutes
- Admin report
- Elect SAC chair
- November 28 SAC conference – choose SAC chair or alternate to attend
- SAC budget- explore ideas for expenditure of the \$5605.00
- Update to our P-2 Report card template

3. Discussion of New Business

Theme this month is Respect
welcomed Marissa Morin as a first-year teacher.

LMST

- **Student & School Achievements**
 - LMSTs youth running team placed 2nd overall, with several students finishing in the top three.
 - **Dance-a-thon** was a major success, raising **\$14,577**. Prize winners will be announced in the December newsletter; Moira awarded the “Chair for a Day” prize.
 - **Garden harvest** was successful after adjustments: a garden committee prepared baskets for classrooms with teacher leadership and parent volunteers. Upper elementary students made salads with dressing; lower elementary students prepared oranges and apples. Feedback from Erin and Damon indicated students enjoyed the experience.
- **Important Dates & Events**
 - **Remembrance Day ceremony**: Each class created a wreath, the choir led the ceremony, and Grade 6 leaders assisted with the assembly.
 - **Shopping Under the Stars**: Collecting recycled items from November 18–19 that can be used as toys; community members may donate in advance.
 - **Assessment and Evaluation Day** on November 21 (teachers writing report cards).
 - **Report cards** issued December 2.
 - **Parent-teacher conferences** on December 4, with online booking options. Lost and found items will be displayed during conferences.
 - **December concert/musical showcase** on December 9–10 for Primary to Grade 3; possibility of increasing tickets per family from two to three.
 - **Food Drive – “Stuff a Bus”**: Supported by Grade 6 students, with C100 and Santa involved; students help deliver donated food.
 - **Student Support & SAC Discussion**
 - Adaptations for students can be discussed at a future SAC meeting. Students follow the same curriculum but may need environmental supports (e.g., larger text, sitting closer to the teacher due to vision needs).
- **Other Notes**
 - Items remaining in the lost and found on the last day of school will be donated.

4. Administration Update & Student Success Planning Discussion

SAC Chair Election & Conference

- SAC chair role discussed, with the possibility of shared responsibilities (agenda-setting, SAC conference, and related duties) in collaboration with Kim and Moira.
- Hiyedo volunteered and was elected as SAC Chair.
- SAC Conference scheduled for November 28 (all day); the SAC Chair will attend with Moira.

SAC Budget & Spending Priorities

- Damon surveyed teachers and five classes (students and teachers) on budget priorities.
- Students felt technology levels were sufficient.

- Top priorities identified:
 - Playground maintenance and upgrades, particularly the aging yellow and maroon playground structures.
 - Library updates, including graphic novels and diverse chapter books.
 - Art programming, including sculpting, painting, and visits from a drama specialist.
 - Outdoor play equipment, such as additional classroom balls and possibly a volleyball or “wally ball” net.
 - Soccer net netting replacement.
 - Researching playground paint and stenciling options (e.g., four-square), (noting logistical challenges in obtaining the stencils).
- Past SAC funding supported science programming (Supernova) and affordable art specialists (historically have been teachers and affordable).
- Teachers can also apply for a program grant to bring art into classrooms at a reduced cost.
- Library funding discussed:
 - Library received **\$4,000 last year.**
 - Proposal to allocate **\$3,000 this year** toward updating library books and refreshing classroom libraries.

Next Steps / Decisions

- Allocating **\$3,000 of the SAC budget** toward the library.
- Investigating art programming with the remainder of the budget for each classroom (Kim).

Curriculum Update

- Report cards will now more accurately reflect the curriculum, addressing issues identified last year. Updated report card format was released today.
- Meeting adjourned.

Student success plan

- Focus areas: Improving literacy, math, and student well-being.
- 79% of students are meeting expectations in reading; 81% meeting expectations overall.
- Primary-Grade 3 teachers are focusing on phonics instruction, with French teachers supporting early literacy.
- Teachers participated in an activity to experience what learning is like for students with dyslexia, strengthening instructional empathy and strategies.
- Math: Computational data collection is taking place this week.
- Respect remains a school-wide focus, including respectful hallway behavior last week and bathroom respect as the theme this month.

Set date for next meeting

3rd Tuesday of every month (excluding December and March)

October 21st – Cancelled

November 18th

January 20th

February 17th

April 21st

May 19th

June 16th