



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

May 19th, 2026

Members Present

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		X
Karen Masry	Parent Rep	Masry.family@outlook.com	Y	
Adele Pellerin	Teacher	apellerin@hrce.ca		X
Pearl Michael	Community Rep	pearlamatheson@gmail.com		X
Zeeshan Sheikh	Parent Rep	Zeeshan.Sheikh@dal.ca		X
Erin Collinson	Teacher	ecollinson@hrce.ca		X
Jen LeBlanc	Community Rep	Jen.leblanc@dal.ca		X
Rochelle Egan	Parent Rep		Y	

Last Meeting April 21st 2026

1. Review and approval of minutes

Motion to review and approve the minutes

2. Additions of any other business to the agenda

Playground update

3. Discussion of New Business

- Theme of the month is *Acceptance*
- Currently there are **60** French primary students and **2** English students registered for the next school year
- Primary info session: May 14, 6:00 pm (Zeeshan and Hideyo attending as SAC)
- Grade 6 transition meeting in development. Dates for the grade 6 students to visit Central and Gorsebrook JH in the works
- Teacher appreciation lunch: April 16th sponsored by H&S- thank you from the staff!
- Musical has it's first full run-through today! Has been a big buzz within the school
- Grade 5 Home Alone program completed
- Battle of the Books: LMST champions after defeating Bedford West
- Public speaking: Concours d'art Oratoire, LMST has 2 students advancing to provincial competition Saturday
- Chess club starting
- Heritage Fair: April 10 (LMST only HRM school participating this year)

- Garden Week: May 4–8 (students planting nasturtiums or sunflowers)
- Run club starting
- Grade 3 provincial assessment: May 11 (French students and grad 3—math only)
- April 29th PD Day

Photographer Interview:

- **2nd Interview – Photomaster (John):**

- Jonathon interviewed for Calnen Photography
- Calnen is the oldest school photo company in NS, Halifax-based and Canadian
- Strong focus on detail (correcting awkward smiles, hair issues, etc.)
- Two poses per student, with variations to give parents a choice
- Up to 50 different background options (Photos are not entered into AI systems, is a closed input system) Photo themes reflect sports, nature, or each child's personality
- One-day shoot with 3–4 photographers
- Extras included at no cost: event coverage (e.g., Spring Fair), wall composites, class composites, and drone aerial photo of school
- Family portraits offered at school (evening option); 10% commission to the school
- Multiple HRM studio options available for family photos (staff and family discounts 25%)
- Preset packages and à la carte options; lowest package \$33 (includes class photo—composite or full class)
- Digital images included with packages
- Proofs emailed to parents within 3–4 days after photo day
- Retakes available within a month or at studio if school retakes aren't possible
- Data storage compliant with NS government requirements

- **2nd Interview – Photomaster (John):**

- Previously worked with the school in the old building
- Three poses per child
- Photos posted online the same day, all ordering online
- School receives photos within ~6 days (maximum 10 days)
- All retakes completed by November 15th
- Over 80 backgrounds, changeable online
- Password-protected photos
- Class photos available (full class or composite)
- Full school photo boards available
- Extras include birthday cards and event coverage (Christmas, Halloween)
- Late-order policy: 1% per day penalty paid to the school
- \$1,200 signing bonus plus 10% annual sales commission (3-year contract)
- Student directory book with names/numbers available
- PowerSchool disc available next day
- Affordable packages; digital files available with optional add-ons
- Printing completed in Photomaster's office (not outsourced), allowing for fast retouching
- Data storage compliant with NS government requirements
- Two days required for LMST student volume
- Security checks up to date for photographers
- **Final interview:** current photographer from Pineapple Studios

Playground update:

- fundraising campaign underway to replace and repair equipment. The committee is looking at replacing the maroon/yellow structure which is over 22 years old.
- Funding received from city grant and previous playground fundraising
- Home & School and adult event funds from last year allocated to playground fund
- Sponsorship outreach planned with gold, silver, and bronze donor packages
- Christine (Home & School) appointed chair of the playground committee
- Zeeshan to contact Spatz for potential sponsor
- Fundraising goal: \$600K- this will replace the oldest part of the playground. We already have closet to 100 000 of the 600 000 goal.
- Recognition options for families (plaque or tree planting)
- LMST not currently on the list with HRM for a new playground, so will not receive funding from city for replacement for many years
- Natural playground elements not lasting as long as expected; typical structures last ~20 years

4. Student Success Planning Discussion

N/A

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