

School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes

11 September, 2018

LeMarchant St. Thomas staff room, 4:35 - 5:40+ pm

Members Present:

Moira Cavanaugh	Principal
Lynne MacKinnon	Vice Principal
David Jakeman	Chair, Parent
Graeme Gunn	Vice-Chair, Parent
Laura White	Secretary, Parent
Emily Thompson	Teacher
Karine Babineau	Teacher
Nancy Beck	Community Representative

Members Absent:

Claire McParland	Community Representative
Andrew Boyne	Parent
Adele Beaton	Teacher

Participants:

Steve Beyea	Parent
Michael Zhang	Parent
Daniel Makhan	Parent
Christine Donnelly-Moan	Parent
Kurt Streit	Parent

1. Additions to Agenda:

None.

2. Review and Approval of 4 June, 2018 Minutes:

Deferred. Weren't sure if we had the latest version. (Verified that draft Minutes were posted to website after the meeting. Draft Minutes are reviewed by DJ and MC before posting.)

3. Old Business (MC/DJ):

a) Logo:

MC reviewed the copyright issue regarding the school logo contest and the winning logo that included a stock image of a lion. The revised logo does not infringe on any protected work. The logo has been sent to Krista Ranahan at the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (DTIR) for use in the new school.

b) SAC elections:

-DJ, AB and LW are finishing their three year terms in September/18.

-Seven parents are interested in joining the SAC this year. MC will email these parents again to let them know that an election will be held on curriculum night and to request short biographies. Voters will select their top three choices.

-NB will attempt to recruit more community representatives.

-MC and CD-M will recruit high school students to the SAC.

-MC will ask if Constable Sarah Carter would like to join the SAC.

4. New Business (LW):

a) Legislative changes to SAC mandate:

At this time of year, the SAC by-laws and letter of agreement are normally revised. The by-laws as-written were discussed briefly, and recommended edits will be sent to DJ via email. MC will inquire

with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) to see if the by-laws will be changed substantially as a result of the new legislation.

-The SAC budget is now \$5000 + \$1 per student. It was discussed that student input could potentially be used to determine how to best spend this budget. The allocated funds must be spent annually.

5. Administration Update (MC):

a) Theme for September is respect. Lou the lion continues to be a hit, visiting classes on a weekly basis by draw. Students compete for Lou by demonstrating the monthly theme and earning a ballot to enter the draw. Even the grade sixes love Lou!

b) 2018/19 new staff:

Lynne MacKinnon: Vice Principal, hired the last week in August after Monica Stoilov accepted a position at another school.

Sarah Englehutt: Grade 2 French Immersion (FI)

Susan Oakley: Grade 2/3 English (job share with LM)

Connor Trach: Grade 4 FI

Anna Labarias: Resource/Learning Centre (0.5)

Donna Nelson: Resource (0.5)

Mary Lou Fraser: Learning Centre until mid-January (fill-in for K. Woodley)

Nicole Delory: Guidance Counsellor (0.6, English, supports all teachers, parents and students)

Lynn Fralick: Library Support Specialist (0.6 LMST and 0.4 Tupper)

Maria Bartholomew: strings

Jessica Nagle: Core French

Nova Slaunwhite: Educational Program Assistant

Lindsay Graham: Educational Program Assistant

Satie Borden: School Social Worker - Monday afternoons and as needed

Selina Fortier: Speech Language Pathologist - Tuesday afternoons and all day Wednesday

Brittany MacGregor: School Psychologist - Tuesdays and some Monday afternoons

c) Enrollment:

-Have 20 classrooms and 452 students.

-The cap for grades P-2 is 22 students. We have 23, 23 and 24 students in our Primary FI classes. Teachers are OK with these higher numbers. As the year progresses, the class size often drops as a few students transfer to English. The SAC agrees that the class sizes are acceptable.

d) Caring Schools Community (CSC) is coming to LMST

-is a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum

-a program that fosters caring relationships and builds inclusive and safe environments

-complements the restorative approach philosophy previously adopted at LMST

-teachers will be trained for 1 day on this topic and throughout the year as a part of professional development (PD)

-we have the equivalent of two full time resource teachers at LMST to help support and implement this program

<https://www.collaborativeclassroom.org/programs/caring-school-community/>

e) art:

-fine arts support specialists (band, choir, strings, percussion) will support our music teacher

-Ms. Karyn Harrison will be our visual arts specialist. She will be invited to a meeting regarding the art installation for the new school (\$5k budget from DTIR).

f) safety drills:

-are ongoing in the fall

-successfully held our fire drill last week

-will be holding lock-down and hold and secure drills next week

g) stand up against bullying day (13 Sept):

-teachers have been emailing MC/LM to let them know what they are doing for this special day (reading stories, class discussions, art activities)

-students encouraged to wear pink/red/light colours

h) School Travel Planning (STP):

-met with Natalia Diaz-Insense from the Ecology Action Centre who is leading the program at LMST (started last year)

-will do the iWalk to school week again

-will have a booth at curriculum night to inform parents about what the STP does (encourages active transportation through education and action requests) and to recruit volunteers

i) 9-21 Sept: Nourish Your Roots Campaign (veggie boxes)

j) 13 Sept: curriculum night & ice cream social 6:30-7:30 pm

k) 18 Sept: Home & School meeting 6:30 pm all welcome

l) 20 Sept: grade 4-6 choir begins (a permission form/letter will be sent home soon)

m) 24 Sept: picture day

n) 27 Sept: Terry Fox walk and orange shirt day (in the spirit of reconciliation and in commemoration of the residential schools system) <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

o) 28 Sept: Professional Development day (no school)

p) 4 Oct: ukulele (grade 4 only) classes begin after school & bus evacuation training

q) 10-19 Oct: grade 6 English/FI provincial assessments

6. Items moved to next meeting's agenda:

None.

7. Actions:

a) NB will attempt to recruit more community representatives.

b) MC and CD-M will recruit high school students to the SAC.

c) MC will ask if Constable Sarah Carter would like to join the SAC.

d) All: send recommended edits to the by-laws to DJ via email

e) MC: inquire with the HRCE to see if the by-laws will be changed substantially as a result of the new legislation

8. Next meeting: October 23 at 4:30 pm (tentative)