

**LMST School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2018
LeMarchant St. Thomas School staff room
4:35–5:45pm**

Members present:

Moira Cavanaugh	Principal
Graeme Gunn	Chair, Parent
Steven Beyea	Parent
Daniel Makhan	Parent
Karine Babineau	Teacher
Adele Beaton	Teacher

Members absent:

Michael Zhang	Parent
Lynne MacKinnon	Vice-Principal
Emily Thompson	Teacher
Nancy Beck	Community rep
Columba McParland	Community rep

Participants:

Judy Obersi	Parent/past SAC & SST member
Lily Gosine	Former student/community rep
Carina Rolfe	Former student/community rep

1. Additions to agenda

None.

2. Review and approval of September 11, 2018 minutes

Approved. (1st: Steven, 2nd: Daniel)

3. Old business

SAC by-laws and letter of agreement to be discussed in new business.

4. New business

a) Proposed art project presentation by Judy Obersi

- There are two options: 1) a floor mosaic in the entryway and, 2) wall art in the library.
- Priority goes to the floor, and planning needs to be done before end of February.
- Contractor has built it into the design tentatively.
- A grant has been applied for, and we are waiting to hear back.
- We may ask students to give design input into the floor design (ask them what LMST means to them) to try and create a theme, but likely they won't directly help in the actual creation of the artwork.
- For the wall one, which can be done later, we will try and see if the students can help in a more hands-on way.

- Lily and Carina talked about how they wished that there was some historical aspects recording when they were there (e.g. class photos on walls, etc.).
- Before next meeting we should define the artist's role (just create or also install?), have an artist proposal, and get an update on where we stand with the proposal and understand how much money we actually have to spend.
- Judy will talk to architects/contractor to get answers to some questions about the details.

b) SAC roles

- Moira asked Constable Carter to be a community rep; she said she couldn't commit but could attend sometimes.
- A discussion on roles for SAC members (co-chair, secretary, etc.) will be deferred to next month because not everyone could make this meeting; Graeme will email group for thoughts on roles.

c) Letter of agreement by-laws

- These will be discussed at the upcoming PD training session on November 8 at JL Isley High School.
- SAC budget and how it is to be managed will also be discussed.
- Moira, Graeme, and Steven plan to attend the session.
- People who want to attend but can't make it to that session can potentially attend the Nov. 1 session if they inform Moira.
- Moira gave a general overview of the new roles of the SAC.

5. Administration update

a) Theme for October is gratitude. Work in the classes on what gratitude looks like (e.g. 6H doing skits on this subject to present to other classes).

b) Math student success plan is focused on deeper comprehension in Literacy and Problem solving and communication in Math. Staff are in the process of creating uniform grade-based rubrics. They looked at resources available for reading and assessing reading comprehension during the PD day. At most recent PD day there was a great presentation by Dr. Sharroky Hollie called "Journey to Responsiveness," talking about meeting kids where they are and making school welcoming, tapping into their interests and culture.

c) All teaching staff have been working on their professional growth plan. Most goals are tied to student success plan, with additional individual goals as well. Daniel asked for clarity on whether Student Success Plan is at school or province level, and Moira stated that each plan is at school level but is provincially mandated. Daniel asked if the plan can be circulated. Moira talked about how she communicates/reports in the newsletter on the Student Success Plan, which is intended to have a continuous improvement aspect.

d) On Oct. 26 teachers will take part in PD by the NSTU on topics including dyslexia and anxiety, as well as reading and math strategies.

e) There are a number of extracurricular activities currently including Battle of the Books, Gr. 4 Ukulele, a musical (Little Mermaid), Running Club, Puzzle Club, running club (just finished) etc. Green club is starting soon.

Cross country meet was on October 10th with approximately 45 students in grades 3-6 participating.

f) Grade 6 provincial assessments happened in Oct. and went very well.

g) Terry Fox Walk/Run also went really well and raised \$490.50.

h) Walk to school week is this week and has had a great turnout (260 students walked yesterday, and 240 today).

i) Litterless lunch was today, and included having Halifax Waste come in and talk to students about recycling. Laura White & Trisha looked at what we have for waste management and have made some suggestions.

j) Moira gave a school travel planning update, and the focus is the iWalk (walk to school week) and there are discussions around the new school and the fact that it doesn't have a dropoff loop which was deemed to have more negative effects than positive ones. The School Travel Planning committee was created to support and promote active transportation while at the same time working on traffic calming initiatives. There was also an initiative around a Walking School Bus that could organize parents taking turns walking groups of kids to school.

k) Walkathon is on Oct. 31, as fundraiser for the school. Graeme raised the fact that the route will have to change because of the sidewalks being torn up, which Moira will take as an action item.

l) The holiday concert will be held at the Spatz Theatre again. No firm plans yet. It will be paid for out of one of the fundraising campaigns.

m) Because of school travel planning, they have added a new crossing guard at Oxford/Jubilee intersection, and parents have been sent an info sheet home on traffic rules in the school zone. Some discussion was held on what the traffic plan will be for the new school.

6. Items moved to next meeting's agenda

Filling SAC roles (e.g. secretary, co-chair?).

7. Action Items

- Moira will follow up on art grant and update SAC with news
- Moira and Judy will get more details on what aspects the art project budget covers
- Judy will secure artist proposal and get more detailed info from architects

8. Next meeting

November 20, 2018, 4:30pm