

SAC Meeting Minutes

Date: February 8, 2024

Location: Bedford West High School

In Attendance: Vice Principal Alison Walker, Sara McManus, Keith Demone, Glenda Lush, Gaurav Garg, Connor Amero, Sarah Jeans, Vanessa Turner, Tina Parker

Meeting Commenced: 6:00pm

Meeting Concluded: 7:20pm

Minutes:

The meeting began with everyone approving the minutes of the previous meeting. Principal Sean McDonald sent his regrets and Sara McManus chaired the session until Alison arrived.

New Business

- School Mascot update
 - Choosing The Wolves as the school mascot was shared with the community with little negative feedback received.
 - The school is working with John Austen's on logos and color schemes, with input from students on the final design.
- SAC money update
 - A small percentage of the money has been used and waiting for clubs to make their investments and purchases.
 - Ideas were discussed for school spirit wear, including T-shirts, scarves, and bandanas, with a focus on inclusivity and student choice. To be discussed further at a later date.
- SSP data update
 - Teachers focused on consistency of text features in Learning Guides to help students handle large amounts of content.
 - Students in grade 10 wrote a midterm assessment that mirrored the provincial exam format to prepare for the end of year test.
 - Data is being analyzed to identify strengths and weaknesses in student performance with the goal of developing strategies to improve achievement on the provincial exam.
 - The team is using a "bull's eye" approach to identify individual students who are struggling with specific outcomes, and to develop targeted interventions to help them improve.
 - The school's well-being goals were shared, including improving students' sense of connection to the school and teachers knowing about students outside of school.
 - The school is continually assessing student well-being through surveys and focus groups to identify areas for improvement.
- School Food and Nutrition Policy feedback
 - Discussed provincial survey results on school food nutrition, with a focus on healthy options and economic feasibility.
 - The school's breakfast program is not where it can be, with limited fresh options and often relying on packaged snacks.

- School Choice Survey feedback

- The survey shows a small number of students may leave for other programs, but the grade 9s are staying, and the school is happy with the progress.

- Principal's Report:

- CPA is predicted to have 1850 students next year. The school's growth plan mentioned a split grade next year and potential overcrowding in the future given announcements of further development in the area.
- There are challenges of the school's newness, including a lack of familiarity among teachers, but emphasizes the teachers' outstanding dedication and the school's potential with use of outcomes-based assessment across all courses supports well-being and growth mindset.
- The school has planned activities and events for African Heritage Month with a motivational speaker, Michael Earl.
- The Instagram page is active
- A new scoreboard was installed, donated by Graves Electrical.
- Plans to recognize academic achievement with certificates for honors students.
- Yearbooks are selling with a goal of 100 at \$40 each, currently 80 are sold.

Students' Report: Feedback from students is positive with increased interest in school culture and belonging.

Other Business:

- School safety and security measures.
 - Concern was expressed with lack of cameras in the building, particularly in hallways and stairwells to address safety concerns but no action is planned this year. Particularly of concern is the school's safety protocols in light of potential incidents and the need for evidence.
 - Public relations around the uniqueness of the program for our High School needs to be addressed. This needs to be a discussion at our next meeting.

Next Meetings:

- April 11, 2024 at 6:00 pm
- May 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm