

**West Bedford High School**  
SAC MEETING December 12, 2024

**Call to Order:** 6:00pm

**Attendance:**

Sean MacDonald, Allyson MacKay- *Administration*

Sarah Jeans (Co-Chair), Vaani Prathaban, Nkem Emezie-Ejinima (Co-Chair), Funmi Irabor - *Parents*

Vanessa Turner, Keith Demone (absent), Rebecca Ingram (absent), Peggy MacLean - *Staff*  
Conor Amero, Semilore Olaoye, Naira Batra (absent) – *Students*

*Guests:*

**Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2024**

Moved by: Vanessa Turner, Nkem Emezie-Enjinima

*Unanimous approval*

**Old Business**

- SAC Agreement and Membership:
  - As circulated
  - No additions or amendments made to the agreement as circulated
  - The Co-chairs will sign the agreement.
- Community Building Ideas
  - Administration is looking into ways and opportunities to have students present the announcements in different languages
  - Science Fair will be a focus for next year
  - There are a number of clubs which are running at this time
  - There are some options which may not require teacher leaders which could include students – consider activities which may be considered rights and rituals for the student body
    - Friday song – this is difficult to run at the end of the day due to the bus announcements. Perhaps we can consider other times of the day for this.
    - Founding Day – look at when was the “Ground Breaking” took place and hold an annual event.
    - Using the name “The Den” on social media to talk about events taking place in the gymnasium.
    - Perhaps having a chant/cheer for the school
    - Spirit Games in the gym – basketball, volleyball – this will come about as we start to host annual tournaments at the school
    - Invite guest speakers – for example – looking at Disability Awareness Month having persons with disabilities in jobs not traditionally seen as disability inclusive come to speak to motivate students.
    - Have a joke of the day.

- Have a daily question – and the answer announced on the announcements the next day.
- Earth Day challenge – be plastic free
- Look at having a library space that is closed. We do recognize that the library does not feel like a library space, but rather a central hub for students.
  - There is a space on the second floor which is very unused and quiet. Could this become the “Zen Den”

### **New Business**

- School Mascot
  - o We have received 3 quotes – they were all between \$5000 - \$8000
  - o There is one local company who we have received a quote from
  - o We are looking to have the SAC contribute \$3000 to this project. The West Bedford School SAC will also be asked to contribute \$3000.
  - o Currently the WBH SAC has \$6096 to spend.
  - o Are there other items which may need to be supported or funded by the SAC?
    - ♣ Currently the Junior High students have a 1:2 ratio for access to Chromebooks. We would like to improve this, which may need some support.
    - ♣ We recognize that we do not have enough resources for the Junior High students with respect to books, textbooks, and other such curriculum resources.
  - o What is the timeframe for the mascot?
    - ♣ We would like to have the mascot in time to participate in the High School Mascot Showdown which is in May.

BIRT the West Bedford High SAC contribute \$2000 to purchase a new Chromebook cart to be used for the Junior High students and \$1500 towards the purchase of the School Mascot.

Moved by: Nkem Emezie-Ejinima, Funmi Irabor

### ***Unanimous approval***

- SSP
  - o One of the strategies of having conversation with students about Math as a means of assessment, rather than just having paper and pencil assessments, is becoming more frequent.
    - Teachers noted that these conversations have allowed them to see where students are experiencing obstacles with a particular concept or idea.
  - o Literacy teachers are using free talk time prior to starting writing assignments. This allows students to hear about and talk about ideas prior to initiating their writing component. This came about as many students are slow to begin writing tasks and appear to be struggling most frequently with generating ideas.

- o We have taken much of the first cycle to find ways to incorporate the Junior High students into the High school, while still finding ways of maintaining opportunities for the High school students to experience high school.
- o Following the Q1 report card, we are now looking at using the UIT of teachers to help support students who are below the 65% (grade 9-11) and 70% (grade 7-8)

### **Principal's Report**

- As circulated
- Of note:
  - o Grade 7 and 8 intramurals happen on Monday and Fridays. This was done to find a location for the Junior High Students at lunch, especially with the weather change.
  - o Amy Patterson will be looking at creating a job fair in March for grade 11 students.
  - o Parent teachers went well with all the teachers in the same location.
    - Is there a means of having some indicator for when the 7-minute time slots are over? This could be very overwhelming and intrusive.
    - There were some difficulties with finding some of the teachers - especially with the "Humanities" Department as some parents were unclear on what subjects this included.

### **Students' Report**

- As circulated
- Of note:
  - o The lunchtime sports tournaments have a sign-up sheet for teams. They have been highly attended by students.
  - o Swishmas basketball tournament will be taking place next week.
  - o Door decorating contest – judging next week
  - o Food Drive challenge – next week. Students will be asked to bring in items to donate – food, gift cards, toys, etc. Student council will then make gift baskets to give to families in need in our community.
  - o Non-instructional day on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Students are excited to have an opportunity to catch up on work as needed prior to the holiday break.

### **Other Business**

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**NEXT MEETING:** February 6, 2025