

West Bedford High School
SAC MEETING November 14, 2024

Call to Order: 6:07pm

Attendance:

Sean MacDonald, Alison Walker - *Administration*

Sarah Jeans (Chair), Vaani Prathaban - *Parents*

Vanessa Turner, Keith Demone, Rebecca Engram, Peggy MacLean - *Staff*

Conor Amero, Semilore Olaoye – *Students*

Guests: Natalie Angelopoulos (student),

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2024

Moved by: Peggy MacLean, Sarah Jeans

Unanimous approval

Old Business

- A discussion regarding the changes to the schedule which took place in October occurred. It was discussed that the gym is the major obstacle to creating a schedule, particularly with the needs for the physical education courses at the junior high level.
- It is hoped that moving forward there will be fewer teachers who are cross-teaching courses at the junior high level and the high school level. This is also impacted by the fact that we are 65% junior high and 35% high school students. The grade 9 student population is the largest proportion of this.
- How does the HRCE look at the population growth occurring in the community to eliminate the number of schools, including ours, which are experiencing dramatic changes in the student population after the staffing deadline in May.

New Business

- SAC Agreement and Membership:
 - Welcome Vaani Prathaban as a parent representative – she is representing the Junior High parents
 - We still need to fill the Junior High student representative
 - We also still need to fill the Community Member positions; these are typically more challenging to fill as they do not have a connection to the school through either a student or staff at the school
 - The membership agreement cannot be signed as the other co-chair is unable to be present this year.
 - The only amendment from last year to the document was to increase the number of members from each group (4 for parents, 4 staff, 4 community, and 3 students). The membership agreement is a set document developed by the DoEECD.

- The signing of the agreement will be signed at the next meeting. The document will be distributed to members prior to the next meeting.
- SSP Goals
 - We are participating in a short cycle planning process. Teachers collect data to make decisions to move forward throughout the year.
 - Literacy Goal – teachers are currently collecting data. We are in the first round of the short cycle planning.
 - Math Goal – teachers are currently collecting data. We are in the first round of the short cycle planning. Mr. Malick (Dept Head) and Sean MacDonald met with the HRCE to review the data we have currently. This includes the Grade 8 Provincial Assessment and the Grade 10 Provincial Exam.
 - Well-Being -
 - Math 10 results – 65.9% of the Grade 10s were at level 3 or above. Across the HRCE this number was 67.6%
 - English 10
 - Reading – we scored with 84.4% at a level 3 or above, compared to the HRCE at 74.3%
 - Writing -
 - Ideas – we scored with 76.1% at a level 3 or above, compared to the HRCE 71%
 - Organization – we scored with 70.7% at a level 3 or above, compared to the HRCE 65.9%
 - Language – we scored with 71.7% at a level 3 or above, compared to the HRCE at 66.8%
 - Conventions – we scored with 66.3% at a level 3 or above, compared to the HRCE at 62.4%
 - Following the mid-year exam there was a higher focus on the components of writing. This translated to many of the other courses students were taking including the Social Studies courses.
 - The grade 8 assessment now includes a component where students talk about their writing prior to writing the piece of work. This supports students to have a higher level of thinking about their writing. This supports the diverse range of our students.
- SAC Conference Information Sharing
 - Principal's and the SAC Chairs attended in September.
 - Student resiliency – and how to build community to help students feel connected to school
 - What are some things the SAC could do to support community building
 - Ideas shared included:
 - Friday song – selected by groups of students

- Big cookie day – Friday before school breaks
- Science Exhibition, Heritage Fair, Passion Project displays
- Gardening group to the harvest food for the community
- Reading of the announcements in their native language
- This could be presented to the Student Council to come up with new ideas which could be done.
- Getting a school mascot – need to get some quotes, designs, and then secure funding – Sean plans of bringing this information forward at the next meeting
- Stickers – the logo, Mi'kmaw wolf paw prints

Principal's Report

- As circulated
- Of note:
 - Breakfast program is running through the cafeteria
 - There was supposed to hold a Non-Instructional Day this week. This was postponed as there was a need for instructional time with students, especially following the schedule reconfiguration.
 - There are a number of students taking advantage of using the Fitness room on their FLEX times to get in a work-out.
 - Grade 9s are also getting the opportunity to use their FLEX time to meet with teachers to do alternate formats for assessments.
 - Video Announcements have begun. This is a student led project.
 - There are 2 new Chromebook carts. After the cart is purchased, they are filled by the company. These carts are going to be used for the Junior High students.
 - Sean has also ordered some Tech tubs.

Students' Report

- The bathrooms are very disgusting. How do we address this issue.
- Perhaps we can have public service announcements on the video announcements.
- Perhaps the washrooms could have regular checks done throughout the day.

Other Business

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NEXT MEETING: December 12