

West Bedford High SAC

Minutes

December 7, 2023

Attendance:

Sarah Jeans, Sara McManus, Conor Amero, Alison Walker, Sean MacDonald, Vanessa Turner, Funmi Irabor

Approval of minutes:

Defer to the next meeting - for approval

New Business

1. Update on Local Voice for SAC's

- Meeting was held here at West Bedford. In attendance it were the chairs of the SACs and Principals for the local family of schools. The Minister of Education Becky Druhan was present via Zoom.
- The meeting was to respond to feedback from the school communities feeling that there was not enough representation or opportunity for voice when it comes to decisions and policies within the RCEs and the Department of Education.
- \$10,000 innovation fund is now available.
- Discussion regarding the Inclusion Policy.
- Following the meetings letters were sent to all families, students, and staff.

2. School colors, logo, mascot update

- Sean, Alison, the administrators of the elementary side, some SAC members, and student representatives. Along with the Johnsten's Brand representative.
- Late summer/early SEptember a survey was sent to the West Bedford community regarding school colours and mascot. The data was tabulated and a summary was presented at this meeting.
- A discussion on the types of mascots and how they would look and impact the school culture and community building.
- School Mascot front runners include:
 - The Wolves
 - The Bears
 - The Ravens
- Now we need to consider how these animals fit with our community, what their meanings could mean for the community. As an SAC we will have to make a selection to then take to the community for feedback, however the SAC will make the final decision.
- As an SAC we will also have to consider how this fits with our mission statement.
- It is anticipated that the two schools will share a version of the logo with the possibility that there will be the high school version and then the cub/pup version for the elementary side.
- School colours were not discussed at this meeting. It was noted that once a decision on who we are will help lead to the selection of the colours.

- This evening we have come to a consensus that West Bedford Wolves would be our selection to take to the community for feedback.
- 3. SAC money - update**
- The funds need to be tied to SSP goals. The money to be given to the different student groups is to support the well-being goal.
 - Student groups are completing a declining balance form to show what they are purchasing and the reason for the purchase.
- 4. SSP data update**
- *Math*
 - Our data wall is both electronic and physical. There are targets, for each Math 10 class, where each ring of the circle represents a grade range. The higher the grade the more towards the centre of the target.
 - Students grades are then pinned on the target in the range in which they fall. Pins are numbered to represent each individual student but keeps their information confidential.
 - Goal from HRCE is minimum 65% in Math 10. Currently we have 20% of students not achieving this standard.
 - Today Sean attended a Principal's meeting, where the average number of students not achieving this level is 15%.
 - Since the report cards came out, students are beginning to make better choices on how to use their FLEX time to seek support from their teachers.
 - *Well-being*
 - We completed a small survey with our students.
 - Staff looked at the data and discussed what they noticed and were wondering about.
 - Staff noted that a large number of students indicated that they felt that teachers do not know them outside of school. We would like to now have small focus groups to ascertain what it is about them that students feel we don't know and that they would like us to know.
 - It was noted that in the traditional high school experience teachers typically don't have time and opportunity to sit and have conversations with students to build relationships. It was felt that our Teacher Advisor model will help make a difference in this feeling for students.

Principal's Report:

- Fire Alarms: We have had a few issues with them. There was a sensor issue
- Basketball - girls and boys currently in season
- 1st School dance - this evening
- Student IDs - sent via e-mail in October
- Spirit week - last 3 days of school in December
- Score Board - Graves Electrical purchased this for us as a donation to the school
- Band concert - last night

Student's Report:

- No news

Other Business:

- As an SAC what can we do to help support publicizing the program for our High School? This needs to be a discussion at our next meeting.