



School Advisory Council
Wednesday, May 26th, 2021

AGENDA

Attendees: Wanda. Fougere, Holly. DeCoste, Monica. Murphy, Paul. Brown, Catherine. Hartling. Tanya. Francis, Julianne. Mattie, Jake. Breen, Tammy. Breen, Michelyn. Grenier, Jennifer. Sampson,

- Call to Order - 6:01 pm Holly DeCoste
- Approval of Agenda- 1st Catherine, 2nd Monica, Julianna
- Approval of meeting summary (minutes) - Approved.
- Business arising from the meeting summary.
- New business

Role of the SAC

Wanda will talk about the role of the SAC.

- Presented on the general overview duties and responsibilities of the SAC.
- Tentatively scheduled a PD workshop for the fall and the spring for the SAC to provide more hands-on support.
- Provided time for a Q&A afterwards

Tanya Francis - Had a question about the length of the membership/term of the appointment for the SAC.

- 3 years - As a parent representative.
- 1 year - As a student representative.
- 2 year - As a community member representative.

Because of the make-up of the school (being a primary-12) we a representative can have three consecutive terms in all.

Outdoor Classroom Project

Nova Scotia and the Federal government have created \$7 million for outdoor learning funding for all public elementary schools in the province. The fund will allow schools to enhance existing outdoor learning spaces or create new ones. Schools will be asked to ensure that the spaces are aligned with the curriculum and opportunities for physical activity, and include elements connected to priorities such as biodiversity, inclusive education, African Nova

Scotian heritage and treaty education to promote reconciliation. The deadline for projects to be completed is December 31st, 2021.

The project is only open to educational projects and funding is not available for recreational structures or projects.

I emailed out the 4 major options available for schools to choose from.

1. A sheltered area (similar to a pole barn)
2. A log stump style outdoor classroom
3. A small, sheltered performance area.
4. A garden area with raised beds and seating.

We need to provide a selection and desired site location before the end of the day on June 4th.

SAC discussed the different designs: pros and cons. Asking pertinent questions so that we choose the best design. The council decided to select option # 1 for outdoor learning.

Grant information update.

After talking to Mr. MacKenzie, Mr. Hayne, emailing Ian Fraser: Manager of Facilities Operations, Mike Landry: Director of Operations, & Chris Grover: Director of Finance and the response I received was “Upon review of the EAEC/A’s school-based funds projects I do not see any tracked income or expenses related to the walking trail, track, etc.”.

Unfortunately, we do not have any written documentation that there was going to be gravel for the trail, track, and proper drainage.

Jennifer mentioned that the funds were supposed to come from the Capital Project. Paul replied that again, we have no evidence that there were going to be funds allocated for this project.

Holly asked if there is any plan for upkeep for the outdoor learning project or the other projects that the school has in place.

Paul replied that so far, nothing has been discussed about the upkeep of the outdoor classroom.

Staffing for 2021-2022

For the 2021-2022 School year the EAST will have 36 teachers, we will be offering a new course Design 11, and bringing back Multimedia 12. Design 11 involves students using communications and information technologies to develop solutions to design problems and conduct inquiries into design issues. We will also be offering Physics 11 & 12.

Paul discussed the grade primary class and the potential of students in our catchment area. He also discussed soft and hard caps for each grade level.

Julianna asked if the learning support teachers and counsellors are included in the 36? Paul replied they are included in the 36.

Principal's Report

- (1) At home learning: We are now into week 4 of At Home Learning: we have had a very high engagement rate and we are hoping to keep that engagement rate high since the Province announced that the At-Home Learning period will be extended till the middle of June. Final assessments for grades 9-12 students will occur during the week of June 14th – 18th.
- (2) Graduation Update: So far there has not been any update from the Province on how graduation will look. There might be more information at the next provincial update which is scheduled for Friday, May 28th

Public Input

Julianne asked if there is a tentative end date for the Grades P-8 students? Paul responded that currently, the end day is still slated for June 28th for these students. We are hoping something is said this Friday as we know that engagement will lessen as the sun comes out and we need a couple of days to gather all technology that has been lent out to students.

Jake asked how do we determine the percentage for at-home learning engagement? How is engagement rate defined? Paul responded that engagement can be measured in the following ways through, attendance, completion of assignments, through email, phone conversations etc...

- Next Meeting - Paul will send out an email in the fall asking for interest and then will decide on a meeting time.

Paul thanked everyone for their dedication and time to the SAC this year.

Adjournment - 6:53 pm Meeting adjourned - Holly DeCoste.