



LTJH School Advisory Council Meeting September 27, 2021

Minutes

- Call to Order

Derek Ferguson, Principal of Leslie Thomas, called the meeting to order at 6:43pm

- Welcome and Introduction

Principal Ferguson welcomed everyone to first SAC meeting of the 2021/22 school year.

Everyone took turns introducing themselves within the virtual format meeting.

In attendance; Derek Ferguson-Principal of LT, Andrea Doucette-VP of LT, Cheryl Hartnett-Resource, Gillian Campbell-Teacher, Jennifer Roy-Parent Representative, Jesstine Suewirotijanakun-Student Representative, Michelle Wright- Community Representative, Crystal Denny-Grade 6 parent, Mindy Wong, Grade 6 parent, Paul Russell-City Councillor for Lower Sackville.

- Approval of Minutes

May 2021 Minutes were approved. First motion to approve by Cheryl Hartnett, second motion by Michelle Wright.

- SAC agreement

This will be further reviewed during the upcoming October meeting.

- o Membership Review

70% of membership present at meetings will provide enough for a quorum vote if that is a position we are placed in. We reviewed the membership requirements we have to have certain numbers of parents, staff, students etc..... We have two grade 6 parents who are offering to participate in the current SAC but only have position for one. All agreed the importance of

having parents on the committee so it was decided to revisit this at our October meeting as not all who said they were attending ended up attending this current meeting.

Michelle Wright offered to chair and this was accepted for this meeting with a revisit to this next month.

Jennifer Roy as reoffered to be the secretary this year. This was accepted.

- Student Report

This report was presented by Jesstine. She relayed to the group that a lot of activities were back after a year of not having them due to the covid pandemic. Very exciting for all students to have them back.

The list she provided included; Gaga ball, use of the cafeteria, being able to move around more frequently, school sports, lockers, use of the locker room and finally even the possible return of popcorn sales.

- Principal's report

291 Students this year, up from 260 last year. The breakdown is as follows;

4 grade 6's (3 English, 1 French)

5 grade 7's (4 English, 1 early French and 1 late French)

4 grade 8's (2 English, 1 early French and 1 late French)

Staff changes; We said goodbye to some great staff but welcomed the following to the LT team;

Douglas Robertson- Grade 6 French, Rhiannon Bourassa- Grade 8, Signe Finnbogason 60% guidance, Beverly Purdy- Administrative assistant, Ben Millwood-EPA

Covid-19 update (living with covid) as our province has shifted to living with COVID 19 so too has LT. Students are doing well maintaining order when entering and exiting the building. Principal Ferguson has not reinstated the bell sound system. This allows him the flexibility to have a smoother flow at the entrances. In previous years it has been the grade 7 & 8's in the cafeteria. After the first few days of this school year it became evident that this was not going to work as it was way too crowded. Administration is looking at alternating weeks to use the cafeteria between the grades and which ever grade level does not have the cafeteria they will eat in the classroom.

HRCE has extended until March 2022 the custodian allotments to allow for extra cleaning in the schools.

Lockers are back

School dances are booked however it is not known at this time if they will proceed. There was discussion surrounding this as after phase 5 passes only those who are vaccinated will be able to attend. As this is a school endorsed function, discussions took place surrounding the dances and whether they should proceed with the guidelines set out by Nova Scotia Health i.e. the proof of double vaccine. At this time the dances will be cancelled until further discussions can be had.

Grade 7 & 8 curriculum- integrated learning is new this year. It has previously been offered to elementary school children as they have one teacher who covers this. With Jr High students having multiple teachers it makes it more challenging. At LT integrated learning is blocked in for every Thursday and the teachers are rotating the time required to teach. Grade 7 & 8 have the same outcomes so that is why they are together for this.

Goals for SSP

Literacy- Analytical and critical reading, Math- Problem solving. PLC-Andrea, Cheryl and Derek are attending. Grade 8 in Math working towards assessment. Grade 6 are doing their assessments over 4 days.

Well-being goal- Student surveys are being reviewed. Working daily towards being a welcoming and inclusive school. All teachers attempting to get to know their current students both on an academic and personal perspective.

- Meeting Dates for the Year

October 25, 2021

November 29, 2021

January 24, 2022

February 28, 2022

March 28, 2022

April 25, 2022

- New Business

Jennifer inquired about SAC funds and where that currently stands. Principal Ferguson will gather that information and have it available at our October meeting.

Councillor Paul discussed the situation with the field house that burned down and how the designing and building of a new one is on track for fiscal year of 2023. Paul indicated that this development is being looked at getting it moved over by the bleachers which would help to make it more accessible for LT students use.

- Meeting Adjournment

7:28pm

Thank you to all for attending.