

SAC Minutes

Meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, June 25, 2020

Present: Rick Tully, Acting Principal (Ex-Officio)
 Dean Lee, Vice Principal (Ex-Officio)
 Valerie Meers, Vice Principal (Ex-Officio)
 Stephen Hare, Teacher (staff member)
 Tim Lurette, Teacher (staff member)
 Dana Mills, Chair and community member
 Jennifer Kelly, Community Member
 Angela Thornhill, parent
 Patrick McCarthy, parent
 Catherine Khaperska, Grade 7 Student Representative
 Lauren Pembleton, Grade 8 Student Representative

Regrets: Micah Andersen, Grade 9 student representative
 Afolake Awoyiga, Community Member
 Kim Caven, parent
 Ken Murray, Teacher (staff member)

Minutes taken by: Val Meers

1. **Call to Order:** Welcome to meeting at 10:06 a.m. by Dana Mills
 Introductions with David Leblanc, incoming Principal at MSMS, and SAC members
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved by Stephen Hare and seconded by Angela Thornhill
3. **Approval of Minutes:** No additions or amendments to minutes. Approved by Jennifer Kelly and seconded by Tim Lurette
4. **Student Success Plan Update: (Rick Tully)**
 - Rick presented that when COVID-19 happened, educators had conversations around what are our best practices to support learners at home with regard to connectivity, students with special needs, and students with complications at home, as well as, how do we move from supporting students at school every day to supporting them at home. In the last two weeks, staff was asked by HRCE to answer reflections questions for SSP.
 - We compiled how many families had computer access and no access, MSMS had 12 families with no access. There were 43 families with complicated situations with sharing one computer among many family members.
 - EECD gave direction to schools that there were to be no grades for P-9 in term 3 report cards. It was complicated for 7-9 teachers to have face to face time with students during at home learning because of the numbers of students teachers are responsible for. It was not so complicated for elementary grades.

- Literacy, math, and well-being goals were put on hold and schools were asked to answer reflection questions regarding at home learning. We asked staff to contribute to questions and then we met with SSP team and compiled the document for HRCE.
- Rick reviewed the questions and shared the bulleted answers from staff and SSP team with the SAC members (thoughts and feelings about at home learning, actions steps to move forward, if at home learning continues, looking at outcomes that need to be addressed). MSMS staff's feedback to this document showed a lot of thought, honesty, and integrity. **ACTION: Rick will send a copy to Dana.**
- Rick feels that the face to face at each level looks differently. Easier at elementary, junior high was challenging and high school at a different mandate.
- Patrick said that what was posted by teachers varied. Patrick asked if this happens again, if there can be a consistent way of doing this moving forward. Rick agreed and shared that teachers felt the same and collaborated with colleagues.
- Dana stated that the majority in the community were happy with the effort by teachers during at home learning.
- Rick informed SAC that MSMS will have 400+ Chromebooks next year. If given permission, MSMS can provide students with technology who do not have it. Rick has asked for the parent survey information so we know what the community felt. Dana asked if SAC could ask the community to complete a reflection piece. Dana said the parent Facebook page can be more negative than positive. Dana wants to be proactive and do better with communicating this to families. Dana would be happy to help organize this, as well as, Angela and Lauren. David said he thought it was a great idea to get community results specific to our school. **ACTION: Dana will organize a Zoom meeting for this subcommittee.**
- Patrick was wondering about sending in students' work to teachers regarding scanning work. Rick said that is a difficult thing to expect with equity. Moving forward the lessons plans will have to be designed so it reaches all learners.
- Dana asked about detailed the access survey was and Rick said it was directed by HRCE to do this.

5. Old Business: Dana asked if anyone has questions around these items.

- a. COVID – 19 – Province State of Emergency – Department of Education and Early Child Development & HRCE
- b. Update on Student Transportation from HRCE (follow up email) – Rick updated SAC regarding new transportation policy. For many years if further than 2.4 km in elementary school, you were eligible for bussing now it is 1.6 km. For junior high and high school it used to be student would be bussed if 3.6 km away from school now it is 2.4 km. There are thousands more students in HRCE are eligible for bussing and hundreds more busses. More busses coming to schools and less parents driving. Families that have been given courtesy bussing will not continue to receive this moving forward. The team has grown from 5 to 13 staff members to deal with transportation now

in HRCE. Now this Transportation Policy is provincial. Dana asked if MSMS will have a significant change in bussing with regard to start and dismissal times. Rick said that he was told these distance changes will not change bell times. The goal is to not impact this.

- c. Regional Executive Directors Report 2020 (Monthly email)

6. **New Business:**

- a. 2020-2021 SAC Executive & Membership – Dana asked members to let her know via email if they don't want to continue on SAC in 2020-2021. Dana asked if members could consider a community member and it would be great to have more diversity on SAC so everyone in community is represented and their voices are heard. Rick mentioned working with Pastor Andersen and suggested reaching out to him to join or spread the word that SAC membership is available and is a safe zone. **ACTION: Dana will connect with either the Pastor or his wife.** Tim asked if there is any restriction to where SAC meetings are held, he suggested reaching out to Pastor Andersen to see if an SAC meeting can be held in church or hall. Dana said she doesn't think there is a restriction. Rick said it is a good idea for school staff to drive around their school communities to get familiar with where there students come from. Dana said she did that with Kim Acorn when she started as Principal and Dana agrees it is a good idea.

7. **Special Reports:**

Admin Report – Rick presented:

- MSMS is changing ownership, moving from P3 partnership (Scotia Learning) to province. Maintenance and grounds are under leadership and guidance of HRCE. Rick arranged for new maintenance supervisor and others from Operations to do a tour with him to show them what needs to be done. Rick is sending a list of deficiencies (including cleanliness, leaking window and valves in ceiling, gutters, issues in portables like heaters, exterior lighting, and camera system updated for full view around the building at night). Keys change hands on June 30, 2020.
- Tech refresh – started at \$90 000 – 88 Chromebooks = \$12 000, Rick had \$77 000+ to spend on technology. Rick gave the report to David yesterday. For September 2020, tech lab – 16 new student desk top computers and teacher desk top, 10 iPads for LC, new power supply installed, 81 new Chromebooks, 2 new Chromebook carts.
- Staffing allocation – one additional staff – 28 classroom teachers this year, 29 next year – additional 0.5 admin assistant so 2 full time admin assistants, an additional 0.5 Resource teacher, guidance allocation increased from 1.2 to 1.5, the 0.5 guidance counsellor will be shared with Kingswood elementary. Rick, David, Judi Hutchison (1.0 guidance counsellor) and new guidance counsellor

had a meeting yesterday regarding guidance caseload. We are close to cap with several classes. When you get over cap, consideration to another teacher given to school. Four grade 6 classrooms now instead of 5 from this year. Grade 6 FI is 27 which is hard cap. One grade 6 class in building and 3 grade 6 classes in portables. Additional junior high in building. No combined classes. Grade 9 FI come together in terms of late and early. Angela asked about LC Teachers – clarification 1.0 LC Teacher and 0.5 LC Teacher (Nicole D. – also 0.5 LC at Kingswood). Teachers transferring this year (Lara Fawthrop, Laurie Aucoin, Amanda LeBlanc, Sylvie Pluta, Jill Ernest and Kristen Ross will not be back) and new teachers coming in. There was no negativity around the school to move. They moved to go to high school or they were term teachers.

- Pat asked Rick if he will get the leak fixed in the Principal's office. Rick informed that when you turn of the pipes and they lose pressure, the valves leak and they are called bleeder valves. The staff member from Scotia Learning told Rick. HRCE Operations said they are hard to fix.
- Rick asked Stephen to share his news about what Rick forwarded to Elwin Leroux, RED. Stephen was recognized by the Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada and Stephen's profile was posted with other educators from other provinces.
- Rick asked Val to share her recognition letter from Elwin Leroux of being nominated by a colleague for an education award with the theme being student wellness = success.

Student Reports – Dana asked Catherine and Lauren if they had anything to share.

- Lauren said at home learning went well. Now that she heard middle school teachers had several classes to deal with, it made her feel better about not meeting with her teachers face to face. She shared she had forgotten that piece.
- Dana asked if the grade 9 students are being honoured at MSMS – Lauren shared her experience with her friends moving on to CPA. Dana said it falls back on families and the school award ceremony would have occurred if we were in school.

8. School Budget Update –

- a. SAC Funds 2019-2020 – Dana asked if we need to make a decision on spending the SAC funds from this school year. Rick informed that most financial budgets are being rolled into next year (2020-2021). Rick shared the school's financial information with David LeBlanc yesterday. Rick and David have to complete the COVID-19 Principal Transition Protocol and David will be informed of this piece. Dana asked if she should reach out to Susan Tomie. Rick said that would be fine but we did get information regarding no funds being spent this year. Rick informed SAC that no student fees will be asked for next year and this is directed by HRCE. **ACTION: Dana will reach out to David about holding off and waiting on spending the SAC funds.**

9. Next Meeting date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6p.m.

10. Adjournment: 11:23 a.m. approved by Valerie Meers