

SAC Meeting Minutes -Tuesday January 19, 2021

Present: Dave Leblanc, Principal
Norma MacIntyre, Vice Principal
Dean Lee, Vice Principal
Vanessa Turner, Teacher (staff member)
Dana Mills, Chair and community member
Angela Thornhill, parent
Kim Caven - parent
Catherine Khaperska - student
Afolake Awoyiga- parent
Jennifer Kelly, community member
Lauren Pembleton –student
Aydan Anderson-student

Regrets: Patrick McCarthy, Tim Lerette, Teacher (staff member)
Ken Murray, Teacher (staff member) Michelle O’Connor – (staff member)

Minutes taken by: Norma MacIntyre

Meeting called to order at 6:38p.m.

Add on to agenda – nothing was added

Agenda approved by Angela Thornhill and seconded by Kim Caven

Minutes Approved from November 2020 approved by Jennifer Kelly and seconded by Angela Thornhill

Student Success Plan Update (standing agenda item) – Throughout the fall teachers had some professional development along with the first week in January on supporting our ANS/African NS students’ population. We are also moving towards developing our wellness goal.

5. **Old Business** (items from previous agenda)

- a. Regional Executive Directors Report 2020 (monthly email)
- b. School Learning Community Survey Update – Dave and Dana met regarding the survey and Dave is going to share it with the community. SAC requested a reminder be sent out in the weekly memo. It will be sent out Jan.18 with a return date of Jan.29.

6. **New Business** (current items)

- a. Online Presence – MSMS Website will be updated regularly. The weekly memos are well received and appreciated. Angela suggested a re-ordering of the information to keep people interested. SAC minutes will be posted as approved. The DOE is coming up with a new way to post SAC minutes to school websites. We will follow the new format once released.
- b. New Bedford School Development Committee – SAC Representative –Dana volunteered to be the SAC representative unless anyone else would like the opportunity. No one else was interested so Dana will represent on the New Bedford School Development Committee.

SAC Meeting Minutes -Tuesday January 19, 2021

c. Communication – White Hills Run Road Safety – Dana reported that there were concerns around pedestrian traffic from parents on the parents of MSMS Facebook page, however, nothing has been expressed to the SAC.

Administration Report: Dave Leblanc

SAC Administrator's Report –January 19, 2021

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- The school year continues to go well. We are having very few concerns with students when it comes to wearing masks and following the school – Covid-19 protocols.
- New reusable masks have been provided for all students. Reminders about mask use are given daily to students through announcements and to parents via the weekly memo.
- We have continued to receive new students at all grade levels. This has created a class that is now too large for the multi-purpose classroom. As a result, we have switched two classrooms. The multi-purpose classroom now has 15 instead of 25 students.
- Before Christmas, our students took part in a Spirit Week. There was a lot of fun had by everyone. There were daily theme days including PJ day, School Colour/Swag day, Festive Sock/Hat day, Holiday Sweater day and Plaid Tidings day. We also held bingo each day for gift card prizes and a door decorating contest. There was excellent participation by students and staff.
- The Phys Ed team is in the process of starting a Community Walk in the neighbourhood. Last week, we saw our first two classes who participated in this new initiative.
- Throughout the fall and in the first week of school in January, staff have participated in professional development centred on supporting our students of African and Indigenous ancestry. This has been well received by all of our staff and it has resulted in some really wonderful conversations and plans as to how we will support students. From this PD, we have created an Equity team consisting of teachers, administrators and other support staff. We also have plans to create a survey of sorts so that we can hear from the voices of our students as to how school is going for them and what areas should be a focus for improvement.
- Much planning has gone into Plan C (all students learning virtually from home). We are in the process of developing a specific schedule in case the need arises.

On-Going School Activities

- Weekly Memo

SAC Meeting Minutes -Tuesday January 19, 2021

- Recognition of students of the month
- Breakfast Program
- Student Activities Art Club – On hold for now
 Space Club – Virtual – Mr. Hare is running a virtual space club with students taking part in a variety of activities and having invited guests zoom in for meetings.

New Business – The MSMS website has been updated. Minutes of SAC meeting will be posted after they have been approved. The DOE is coming up a new way for schools to post SAC meeting minutes. We will follow the new way when it is released.

Other Business

School Budget

- SAC funds from 2019/20 have been spent on technology.
- Dave is going to ask for feedback from students and staff on how SAC funds could be spent.
- Dana would was wondering if some of the funds could be put towards teachers wellness in some way. Dana is going to put together a letter on behalf of the SAC reflecting all the hard work put in by staff this year, recognizing the extra strain on everyone.

Student Report

- Grade 8 band class composed a song named avocado
- Covid restrictions were expressed to be fair by students, however, some students are having trouble and wearing their masks properly and require reminders.
- Students are enjoying the community walks with their PE class.
- There is a google classroom to help with grade 9 course selection.
- Gym middle curtain – students liked it better when the curtain was down, easier to cohort.
- Grade 9 tech ed classes received kits so students can participate in shop activities.

Next Meeting Date- Tuesday February 23, 2021 at 6:00pm

Dana will send out a zoom link

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.