

SAC Minutes

Prepared by: Denise Chiasson

Date: Feb. 1, 2021 Rescheduled from Jan. 25, 2021
 Time: 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm
 Location: Google Meets

In Attendance:

Heather McKay
 Kathleen Crocker
 Denise Chiasson
 Aileen Whitehead
 Julia Cottingham

Melanie Ellis
 Therese Boudreau
 Michelle Doolan
 Jade Rudic
 Marilyn Smith

Cindy O’Handley
 Karley Grimard
 Olivia Grimard
 Lily Balcom
 Josh Dhillon

Discussion Item	Action Item	Status <small>(open/closed)</small>
Approval of last meeting minutes	Denise & Melanie	Closed
Approval of meeting agenda	Melanie & Denise	Closed
Melanie Ellis volunteered to take meeting minutes for March 8, 2021.	Next meeting volunteer	Open
<i>The Principal Report was presented by Heather:</i>		
<p>Heather advised that the Professional Development week that was held Jan 4-8, was well received by staff, teachers and specialists. Several workshops were held and there was an opportunity for meaningful collaboration between teachers and with specialists, i.e. literacy coach, psychologist and math coach.</p> <p>Teachers and staff enjoyed a brief pause to refocus and reset before students returned the following week.</p> <p>Michelle reiterated that the teachers strongly valued the collaborative approach. It was felt that this approach allows for the best possible student outcomes.</p> <p>Plan C implementation/transition to online learning has been developed and is ready to be implemented in the event of school closure due to confirmed Covid 19 cases in the school and/or province wide direction.</p>	Teacher and staff readiness	Open

<p>The commitment is to deliver quality learning to all students if learning is moved to online. The instructional day and class schedule would remain the same with the day ending 10-15 minutes earlier. Each class will be divided by the first half being teachers and students interacting together and the second half being student independent learning. The lunch period will remain at one hour if online learning is implemented.</p>		
<p>As part of Ellenvale’s Black Lives Matter initiatives Heather presented a very candid video whereby students themselves talked about how they feel they were being negatively judged in school and how they feel negative assumptions are being made about them. The students also spoke about the adverse impact these perceptions have on their mental health and overall wellbeing. Heather is leading a committee to help educate all students and address these issues within our school community. Barriers need to be broken down - starting first with open and honest communication between everyone. Heather is looking for student participants to help get the message out. It’s time to talk about these complex issues so that racist behaviour can be stopped and it’s time to disrupt and interrupt so the rebuilding can begin. Olivia Grimard has volunteered to take part and will meet with Heather to discuss how best to get the message out to the students. Marilyn Smith volunteered to help run BLM initiatives.</p>	<p>Heather to meet with Marilyn and Olivia</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Grade Six Orientation - this will be done virtually for all feeder schools. Mr. Lewis made a video last year that will be used again this year.</p>	<p>Heather or Kathleen</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Grade 9 PA and DHS registration will be done by the end of February. Virtual high school program information sessions will be held via Zoom or Google Meets</p>	<p>Mr. Gabriel</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Grade Seven Immersion program, English program and Band program virtual presentation for grade six parents. Facilitators to be determined. Most likely a representative from each program will present.</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Pop Up Library Lunchtime - this has been well received by students</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>

Options to Anger will be supported by Community Justice		Open
February Fun Days - Tartan Tuesdays, Cosy Wednesdays, Wear your Ellenvale gear on Fridays	All invited to participate	Open
Equity Team Planning	Meeting to be held week of Jan. 25	Open
<i>EPG Update Aileen:</i>		
<p><u>Gift Cards</u> - Prior to the Covid 19 school shut down in March, Julia collected gift cards for raffle baskets to coincide with our Bingo Fundraiser. Gift cards have been distributed to identified families to help with costs during the holiday break.</p> <p>The food drive remains open for discussion. Marilyn mentioned that with less overall community fundraising due to Covid, parents may be able to donate more. Possibly in the form of cash or gift cards.</p>	EPG to further look into Denise can help as needed	Closed Open
<p><u>Raffle Box</u> - Heather to investigate possible Raffle Box 50/50 fundraiser for March or April. Therese reiterated how successful they've been with other organizations as well as with Ellenvale's first campaign.</p>	Aileen, Heather, Therese to further discuss	Open
<p><u>Grade 9 Year End</u> - Melanie to help develop plan A, B & C scenarios contingent upon Covid restrictions.</p> <p>Therese to put out a survey to the Grade 9s to identify their top priorities.</p>	Melanie, Aileen, Denise and Heather Therese	Open Open
<p><u>Brookhouse students and parking lot thoroughfare</u> - Brookhouse students are still using the parking lot to access Bellevista despite the fact that it was only intended to be a temporary route because of city road work. This is a safety concern and student pedestrian</p>	Heather to meet with the principal of Brookhouse.	Open

<p>access to Bellevista from our parking lot needs to stop.</p>		
<p><u>Liaison Officer</u> – The funding for this program has been reduced to 4 officers serving all of HRM (Dartmouth side). This directly affects service to our students. Aileen Whitehead expressed concerns in general and specifically about traffic moving past school buses in front of EJH with lights flashing.</p> <p>Melanie and Denise discussed this over the Christmas break and Melanie pursued this with Counselor Sam Austin. Melanie will send out an update to the SAC.</p>	<p>SAC will send a letter to our city councillor expressing concerns.</p> <p>Melanie</p>	<p>Open</p> <p>Open</p>
<p><u>Finances</u> - Heather discussed using some of the money in the SAC account for Chromebooks. We are almost at a 1:1 ratio but need extra to account for students leaving their assigned Chromebook at home.</p> <p>Also discussed using some SAC funds for Ellenvale promotional items for student recognition (i.e. SOAR...).</p> <p>Council agreed to allocate funds.</p>	<p>Heather</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p><u>Virtual Concerts</u> –</p> <p>All concerts have been put on hold based on recommendations from the HRCE.</p> <p>In lieu of being unable to hold concerts in person with audiences or being able to hold virtual concerts, grade level performances were done and recorded for students and their families to watch. Mr. Fraser set up an access link. All Covid 19 protocols were followed and the students played instruments with at least 2 metres between them.</p>	<p>EPG and Heather will work together to facilitate this once it is permitted.</p>	<p>Closed</p>
<p><u>Clubs, Committees, Special Interest Groups</u> -</p> <p>Currently the only club running is the Robotics Club. The cohort of 10 members meets on Thursdays during</p>	<p>All club/extra-curricular programs have been put on hold.</p>	<p>Open</p>

<p>the lunch hour and after school and is run by a parent volunteer.</p> <p>Mr. Lewis and Mr. Regan are currently looking into running the Duke of Edinburgh program. Meetings could be held in the gym in order to ensure social distancing with an emphasis on leveraging from the 2019/2020 online program.</p>	<p>Onhold until 2021/2022 school year</p>	
<p>Teacher Recognition - Teachers were recognized with Holiday Cards and Chocolate and Pizza lunch provided by the SAC.</p>	<p>EPG and Admin will discuss another recognition event in the spring.</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Lunch Monitors - Currently there is adequate coverage but it would be ideal to have 2 or 3 additional for more volunteers for the inclement weather days.</p>	<p>Aileen to follow up via EPG.</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Breakfast Program – Costco remains the most cost effective option. Emily McGuigan (Attendance Support Worker) has purchased from other places and the quality is not the same.</p>	<p>Heather/Denise will continue to communicate regarding re-stocking BP supply.</p> <p>Julia is currently ordering items directly from supplier</p>	<p>Closed</p>
<p>Masks – Currently there is a good supply due to parent donations. Julia will monitor supplies and as they get depleted, a request will go out to the community from the office and/or EPG</p>	<p>Julia and/or Aileen</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>From previous meeting, it was noted by Michelle Doolan and Therese Boudreau that some students aren't following the social distancing rules and some are not wearing their masks on the school grounds especially when they are just about to come inside the building.</p>	<p>Reminders are ongoing. Calls home to repeat offenders.</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Yearbook - Gayle MacLean will help with development of the yearbook again this year in any way needed.</p>	<p>Mr. Lewis to meet with Ms. Sparks to establish a division of responsibilities</p>	<p>Open</p>
<p>Student and Staff Unmasked Project - The majority of student and staff photos have been taken. Another day will be scheduled to take the specialist pictures so that they are included in the project. The next steps will</p>	<p>Mr. Lewis, Ms. McKay, Kelly, Aileen and Denise will meet to discuss further and make recommendations.</p>	<p>Open</p>

be to agree upon the format of Ellenvale staff member collage		
Next meeting planned for Monday, March 8th @ 5:30pm Meeting adjourned 6:45pm		Closed