

Duc d’Anville Elementary School

12 Clayton Park Drive

Halifax NS B3M 1L3

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http://ddv.hrce.ca

SAC Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 23, 2024, 4:30-5:30 pm – Duc d’Anville Elementary School Library

Attendees: Jane Newton, Nicholas Graham, Moira Marks, Jessica DeViller, Jeanna Wagner, Janet Roy (vice principal), Nancy Taylor, Anne Martin, Nicole Mosher, Amy Weedon (principal)

Regrets: Dave Kilgour

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| Discussion Items |  |
| 1. Call to order, welcoming our new principal and vice principal and member introductions
 | Called to order at 4:32.Welcome and introductions |
| 1. Approval of agenda
 | Moira moved, Nicholas seconded, approved |
| 1. Approval of previous meeting summary
 | Nancy moved, Anne seconded, approved |
| 1. Setting 2024-25 SAC meeting dates
 | Minimum of 6 required: October 21, Nov 18, Jan 20, Feb 24, April 28, June 9 |
| 1. School success plan update (standing item)
 | Included in Principal’s Report (attached below) |
| 1. Principal’s Report
 | Current enrollment is 515. Some classes are over the provincial guidelines, some classes will be altered. Anne expressed concern about the annual increase in enrollment, which always continues at Duc d’Anville throughout the year, and mentioned the future development in the area which is under construction nearby. She asked what the SAC can do to support the needs of the students with these pressures.Some changes in staffing occurred since last year. Ms. Weedon applied for the grant for Layali Ghosheh (Arabic Support Worker) which has not yet been approved/received. We have no school psychologist currently, but resources are available if needed.This year’s grade 6 provincial assessments will be between October 2-18. Equity Team (RCH staff historically would manage and record incidents) moving toward an approach that ‘empowers’ all staff to handle these situations.Student Success Plan (updated title) - Literacy, Math and Well-being will be improved with a focus on our Indigenous and African Nova Scotian students. First cycle will be complete by Dec 2nd, 2nd by March 31 and final by June 13.We are in “SLC 1” (the new version of what the “Halifax West Family of Schools” was).Our school lunch program is set to begin October 28, ordering window is October 18-23. Seasonal menus will be offered. Offered by Familex. Schools will order extra meals to ensure students who need it have access even if their parents did not order. Question if cutlery will be included, this was not yet known.Parking lot is patched. A complete re-do would need to be included in the capital budget. Some landscaping was done to the foundation.Jane and Amy will attend the provincial SAC conference.Terry Fox walk has been moved to Wednesday as Friday is Orange Shirt Day.Field trips are beginning. Mr. Jackson took some students swimming at Dalhousie. A grade 4 class will visit the Africville museum.A grade 6 leadership team is in the works. These students will act as line leaders, for example. Jane suggested they could be responsible for keeping the school sign on Clayton Park drive updated.The grade 5 students will take “Home Alone” training and a girls’ group for grades 3 and 4 may also be created.Jane asked if we were still getting sod for the playground and Amy said she would look into it. The garbage bins, benches and bike rack will still be moved. The accessible swing is broken. It has been reported to HRM for repairs. |
| 1. New Business
 | no discussion |
| 1. SAC Funding (update on purchases)
 | $7158 in the account, and the SAC will receive $5000 plus $1 for each student for this school year. Up to 20% may be spent on operations funding (e.g., food for SAC meetings).Amy suggested purchasing UFLI as a resource for teachers to support literacy. And Story Champs, a manual for teachers. Was popular among the Primaries last year. |
| 1. Public Input
 | no discussion |
| 1. Next meeting: October 21
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| 1. Adjournment
 | 5:53 |

**Duc d’Anville Administration Report**

**September 2024**

**SAC Finances**

* Our current balance is $7158.52. That does not include this school year’s grant money which is $5000+1 for every student.
* Review of spending guidelines
* Would like to spend money on some resources for teacher “UFLI” Foundations manuals
* Story Champs

*If you are familiar with the science of reading, you may have heard of Gough and Tunmer’s “simple view of reading,” which states that reading comprehension is the product of decoding and linguistic comprehension.*

*If either decoding or linguistic comprehension is weak, the effect is multiplied. That is, you can never have better reading comprehension than the level of development of either your decoding or linguistic comprehension skills.*

*UFLI Foundations addresses the “D” part of the equation. In many instances, students fail assessments of reading comprehension not because they cannot synthesize complex ideas presented in text, but because they do not have access to such ideas because they cannot decode the text. Ensuring students can fluently decode text affords them the opportunity to apply and refine their linguistic comprehension skills, construct meaning from text, and more accurately demonstrate their understanding on assessments.*



* 1. **Enrollment**

Our current enrollment is 515. I believe that in April the projected enrollment for this year was 466. So, we have increased significantly. With that being said, we have classes of over the provincial class guidelines so to remain in compliance we are being asked to reconfigure some classes. We will need to move some students in and out of classes. The biggest impact will be the class composition of two classes: a grade 3 and a grade 4 will become two 3-4 classes.

* 1. **Current Class Configurations & Staffing**
* Primary
* Primary
* Primary-One
* Grade 1-2
* Grade 1
* Grade 1
* Grade 2
* Grade 2-3
* Grade 3
* Grade 3
* Grade 4-5
* Grade 4
* Grade 4
* Grade 5
* Grade 5
* Grade 5-6
* Grade 6, 6, and 6
	1. **Grade 6 Provincial Assessments (RWM6)**

Will take place between **October 2-18,** **2024**. Grade 6 teachers are currently prepping students for these assessments, and parents will be receiving communication this week as to what they are and the specific dates students will be writing.

Reference Grade Six Results (2023-2024)

* 1. **Equity Team Update**

At our first staff meeting we engaged in professional learning to form the basis for an equity team. Some staff will continue to build their understandings and use the provincial conference day to lay some foundation for our Equity Team

* 1. **CRP Specialist**

Kim Sparks (CRP Specialist) will be working with selected teachers to support with their development of culturally responsive practices.

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy (CRP) is teaching that connects a student’s social, cultural, family, or language background to what the student is learning; nurtures that cultural uniqueness; and responds by creating conditions in which the student’s learning is enhanced.

**f. SSP:** **Student Success Plan**

**Literacy Goal:** We will improve student achievement in **literacy**, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

**Mathematics Goal:** We will improve student achievement in **mathematics**, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

**Well-being Goal:**  We will improve student achievement in **well-being**, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

1. **End of Literacy Cycle 1 Reflection – will be completed by December 2nd**
2. **End of Literacy Cycle 2 Reflection -  will be completed by March 31st**
3. **End of Literacy Cycle 3 Reflection – will be completed by June 13th**

We will report on this formally- see above, but I will speak to formative assessment data as we track our students in the interim. We will have our strategies established for the next SAC meeting.

1. **P-2 Literacy June Data**

(Beginning of year – end of year data 2022-2023 46.4%)

51.6% Meeting

10.4% Approaching

37.9% Developing

1. **Lunch Program Update**
2. **Parking Lot Update:** Patched. Our parking lot is going to have parking spaces painted-refreshed (from my understanding this is at the cost of HRM).
3. **Building Refresh:** a request to have the foundation of the school landscaped was made (Scott Bradbury). From my understanding the intent is to have the foundation painted
4. **SAC Provincial Conference September 27** (Jane and Amy will report next meeting)
5. **Event**: Terry Fox Run, Orange Shirt Day, Leadership Team, PTA has events planned see communication after first meeting, Field Trips are beginning – Grade 4 Huntrods and Trace are going to the Africville museum. Babysitting Course and Home Alone (all fives), Mr. Jackson has started his programming (swim lessons for grade 4s), we are starting *a girls group* as well
6. **LINKS**