

Duc d’Anville Elementary School

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**SAC Meeting Minutes**

Monday, October 21, 2024, 4:30 pm – Duc d’Anville Elementary School Library

Attendees: Marissa Baldwin, Jessica DeViller, Moira Marks, Anne Martin, Nicole Mosher, Jane Newton, Nancy Taylor, Jeanna Wagner, Amy Weedon (principal)

Regrets: Nicholas Graham, Dave Kilgour, Janet Roy

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| Discussion Items |
| **Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 4:38 pm |
| **Approval of Agenda:** Moira moved, Nancy seconded |
| **Approval of previous meeting summary:** Nancy moved, Jessica seconded |
| **Student Success Plan update:** Included in Principal’s Report |
| **Principal’s Report:** Attached |
| **Discussion**  Purchase of literacy materials: Ms. Weedon said that the Story Champs materials discussed at last month’s meeting cost $329 USD each and are aimed for students in grades P-3. Mrs. Marks suggested we buy a kit for each building. The school will purchase 6 of the UFLI kits discussed at last month’s meeting, which will cost approximately $700. Ms. Weedon also said that the school would need to purchase more math manipulatives. It was asked whether it would be cheaper to buy some items at the dollar store to use as math manipulatives.  Reconfiguration: Ms. Weedon reported that no classes needed to be reconfigured, but some students were moved from one class to another. Some classrooms are at the hard cap.  Staffing: The number of EPAs was reduced by 1 due to a student who required support leaving the school; however, we still have many students who need support. A caseload review will be conducted soon. A question was asked about EPAs in pre-primary classrooms. Ms. Weedon answered that when greater support is needed for a pre-primary student, an additional ECE is added to the classroom.  The school’s equity team is participating in professional development on the October 25th provincial conference day. Twenty-five staff from Duc d’Anville are participating.  Provincial assessments: Ms. Weedon reported that grade 6 provincial assessments took place and the package has been submitted to the department of Education and Early Childhood Development.  The grade 3 provincial assessment results have been received. Ms. Weedon reported that the students did well overall.  Regarding the results for grades P-2 literacy data, 48% of students are not yet meeting the expected standard and 52% are meeting it. Ms. Weedon reported that some slide-back is expected after the summer break, but June was approximately the same. There is a tutoring program called LINKS that is having trouble recruiting staff/volunteers and this also requires commitment from parents to get the students to the program.  School lunch program: There may be containers that can be utilized. Cutlery is provided to the students. Ms. Weedon has been instructed to order an additional 70 meals (35 with meat, 35 vegetarian) each day. HRCE Operations is responsible for managing the food and packaging waste that results from the school lunch program.  Parking lot: lines were recently re-painted and an additional accessible parking spot was added.  Playground: Significant gravel is over the surfaces around the playground which reduces accessibility and causes the surface to degrade more quickly. HRCE told Ms. Weedon that sod is not an option because of the lack of sunlight and because it is a high-traffic area. Jane reported that the new playground at Park West school does have sod. Accessible swing is still broken. A metal bar is broken above the slide and the children are hanging from it. Question of whether the installation was properly inspected.. Jane suggested the equipment will break sooner because there isn’t enough equipment and therefore the existing equipment is being used by far more students at any given time than likely intended. Jane will report the broken bar to 311 and Anne will reach out to HRM Regional Councillor Kathryn Morse to see if she would come in to meet with Amy before the next SAC meeting. Amy will e-mail the maintenance coordinator at HRCE.  Scarecrows: Some of Mme. Allen’s French students in grades 5 & 6 created three different scarecrows to be displayed at the Africville Museum. Visitors can vote on their favourite scarecrow and a prize will be awarded.  Upcoming events: October 29, school photo retakes; October 30, cross-country meet at Grosvenor-Wentworth Park Elementary; December 5, parent-teacher interviews; December 11 (grades P-3) and December 12 (grades 4-6), holiday concerts.  School photos: Some feedback about the school photography, most of it was negative, bad angles, poor lighting, slow and uncooperative. Class photos weren’t done because class reconfiguration was expected. |
| **New Business** |
| Provincial SAC Conference: Jane and Ms. Weedon attended the SAC conference in September. Main takeaway was that there is a lot of inequity in services and infrastructure throughout the province’s schools  Bag of Books: Ms. Baldwin attended to talk about the “Bag of Books” program. Families may come to the library after school on Mondays to sign out bags of books. Parents need to be here to take the bags home as they are large and heavy. |
| **SAC Funding:** The SAC will receive $7158 in funding this school year. The money has not yet been received. |
| Next meeting: November 25 (future meeting dates: January 20, February 24, April 28, June 9) |
| **Adjournment:** 5:50 pm |