



SAC General Meeting Summary October 1, 2024

Discussion Items	Summary
Call to order and introductions (6:39 PM)	<p>Attendance: Renise Cain, Alana Conrad, Karen Dawe, Kim LeBlanc, Jeff Meaney, April Scudder, Alison Stark, Valerie van Acquoij</p> <p>Absent/Regrets: Garnett Estabrooks, Sonja Malle-Keating, Renee Masching, Matt Stickland</p> <p>Land and People Acknowledgements</p> <p>Several new members, representing different grades, staff and all geographical areas that feed into RRS. Student reps are not chosen yet. Jr. High Leadership Team will nominate students from each grade and both English and French programs. They will share at our next meeting.</p>
Role of the SAC	<p>Video was shared with council https://www.ednet.ns.ca/SAC</p>
Approval of agenda (with addition of SSP Goals and ULP to agenda) and last meeting summary notes	<p>First: Valerie van Acquoij Second: April Scudder</p>
Ongoing Business: 1. Accessibility at RRS	<p>1. Last year, Matt Stickland brought up that they had difficulty entering the school. Mentioned how cumbersome it was to enter the school with a stroller. They asked: did we ever have an accessibility assessment (for example for a student in a wheelchair). Request was passed on by Kim LeBlanc to Building Manager (Paul Chadwick) who passed it on to Student Services Facilitator, Sean Murphy. Nothing heard yet. Kim will reach out to Sean Murphy again about next steps. Hopefully someone from his team</p>

<p>2. SAC Provincial Conference (Karen and Kim)</p>	<p>PD aspect, information sharing, and PLC work. These meetings inform short cycles.</p> <p>How does the SAC advise in this instance? Once teachers have set their short-cycle goals and collected classroom data, discussions will take place at staff meetings. Strategies, Actions and classroom data will be shared at future meetings.</p> <p>Gr. 6 Provincial Assessment starts Oct. 2nd</p> <p>2. Karen and Kim attended last Friday (September 27) Kim attended 'The Three Braids' session. PD sessions where principals and vice-principals learn about anti-racism. Kim previously attended this PD through HRCE, so she knew the content but it was of benefit to hear the perspective of parent members of SACs. Took participants through cultural day, also from indigenous perspective</p> <p>Kim and Karen attended the curriculum program. They did a big focus on inclusive education policy. Kim asked about bringing back the ECEs in the primary classrooms as they had such a positive effect on the supportiveness of the environment, but there was no answer for that.</p> <p>They talked about the Universal Lunch Program at the end. Dr. Robert Strang was the speaker. He shared from his perspective how optimistic he is about the universal lunch program. He reminded us as we launch this program soon we must give it time to work out the kinks. Mr. Smooth Food Truck is the vendor who will serve our school.</p> <p>Universal Lunch Program (UPL) is not on agenda, but added during meeting as it came up. Our school had originally been told only PP- Gr.5 would have the opportunity to order hot lunch, then eventually they said rural schools would expand to whole school.</p> <p>Sample menu: creamy pasta with chicken and veggies, soft shell tacos, sweet sour meatballs, etc. all with veggies</p> <p>https://www.nslunch.ca/</p>
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	<p>We are not up and running yet for RRS. Parents will have the opportunity later in October to register and order from an online platform called Bon Appetit. The payment part is completely anonymous. Parents will have the choice to pay what you can, pay nothing at all, or pay in full.</p> <p>Healthy Hunger will no longer be an option when the universal lunch program begins. The school may still use Little Caesars for fundraisers.</p> <p>How sustainable is the program? What if parents don't pay enough/sufficiently? → Federally funded so it should be sustainable. What if parents don't order? → staff can monitor and order for them. Parents might not be digitally literate and not know how to order. → The school could help with this and assist and inform, instruct etc. What if parents call and ask the school to order? → Staff could help over the phone. Do we know when to order? → two weeks in advance. We can anticipate growing pains. When does it start? → supposed to start before the end of October. Do we need volunteers with the lunch program? → No, the vendor has employees to do that for us (not supposed to create more work for the school or lunch monitors)</p>
<p>3. Spending Guidelines (SAC funds, Healthy School Grant, Innovation Grant 2025)</p>	<p>3. Spending difference: it should have benefitted all students, now it just has to benefit the school \$5000 + 1 dollar per student to spend by the SAC. Innovation grant: we did not get it last year. They are going to offer it again in 2025. Schools who got it last year will be able to get it again this year. We could ask the person from the EECD who received our application to provide feedback in advance of applying this year.</p>
<p>4. Cell phone policy</p>	<p>4. Going fine so far. Now, it's universal. After lunch we see the students put their cell phones away. Teachers are saying kids are less distracted, more class conversations, improvements all around. Students have access to wifi outside and can use their phones</p>

