

Musquodoboit Rural High School
SAC Meeting Minutes – November 15/23

Attendance: Debbie MacDonald, Sharon McLeod, Tia Abdel Massih, Angela MacKenzie, Rob Smith, Sharon Arsenault, Melissa Bonnell. Andrea Payne

Regrets: Ernest Paddock, Heidi Higgins, Eddie Redden

Call to Order: 3:30pm Ann called meeting to order

Ann: Question regarding having a VP and Secretary - are there any nominations/volunteers?

Nominated and accepted: Sharon Arsenault for Vice Chair and Cindy Steele Wood as Secretary - Tia Abdel Massih seconded

1. Approval of Minutes: Joanne Rushton approved minutes

Meeting minutes and seconded Cindy Steele Wood seconded

2. Approval of Agenda

Additions to the Agenda - Sports fees, Peer Mentorship Network and School Clothing

Meeting Agenda approved Sharon McLeod, seconded Rob Smith

3. Old Business Arising - N/A

4. Student's Report

- Tia brought forth information on the Santa Parade in Middle for Student Council, Band and open to any students of MRHS.
- Students have been asked to decorate a tree at Hummingbird Park for the Festival of Lights - led by the family resource centre.
- Theme days for the week before Christmas TBD
- Ann offered supports from the community in any capacity necessary

5. Chair's Report

- Tech report - emails are benign.
- Susan Tomie has reported the SAC funds have been deposited
- Jayson Payett has been removed from SAC, Eddie Redden has been added in his place
- Planer for Tech room was never ordered (*checked last years budget*)

6. New Business

- It has been reported that the community is concerned with the cost of school sport fees
- Jr and Sr students have had to pay double if they played at both levels

- Andrea asked if fundraising was an option
- Online cash was reiterated but there is confusion around total amounts for each team
- Several suggestions were brought forward to reduce the amount and frequency of the fees. *Joanne will sit with Garth Perrin to discuss sport fees and will bring the estimated total amount of fees to the next meeting*
- A request for cost of uniforms was brought forth
- A suggestion to approach Musquodoboit Valley Business Group for support when we receive the totals.
- Sharon Arsenault brought an email she had just received regarding a Peer Mentorship Network. Tri - County Coalition and Public Health

7. 02 Report Report from Mrs. Rushton for M. Brodin

- O2 had a wonderful month
- Trip to Gold Mines, CAT construction, Heavy Machinery trip
- Also All but 1 CO-OP students have placements
- Tanya Reddick (construction) in to speak
- Ms Gardiner YMCA liaison and Future Works

8. Principal's Report

-Coffee House on October 19th

-There was a Fall Fest week at the end of October. This included theme days, the staff Halloween costume, and the week ended with a pep rally and outdoor soccer game (senior girls vs boys).

-The MRHS soccer teams had a good season overall with the Sr. boys making it to Provincial qualifiers, senior girls making it to district qualifiers, Jr. Girls making it to Regionals.

-We currently have active junior and senior girls volleyball teams.

-Basketball team tryouts are underway for Jr. girls and boys, and senior boys.

At the beginning of November (week of November 6th), collectively as a staff we began to implement Kudos coupons and Student of the Week to encourage and recognize positive behaviour. This is a way to recognize students who are being good citizens, working hard academically, helping each other out, taking care of our school and being kind to each other. We are starting to give "Kudos" to students who are trying hard and making an effort to improve. Kudos coupons can be given out by any staff member at any point throughout the day. The Kudos coupons are put in the main office ballot box for a draw at the end of the week. Two students will be drawn each week and will receive \$5.00 in cafeteria cash. Additionally, the Student of the Week, as selected by the MRHS staff, will receive a certificate and \$10.00 in cafeteria cash.

On November 8th, the ILT classes conducted a school and community clean up. Many bags of garbage were gathered. In addition, we have been trying to make a team effort to keep the hallways cleaner and there have been some students who have volunteered to clean up in the hallways after lunch time. This has been great to see, and they have been doing a nice job!

On November 9th, there was a Remembrance Day ceremony with school students and staff. On November 11th, 12 MRHS band students played at the Remembrance day service in the community. A wreath was laid on behalf of MRHS by Abbie Dillman and a donation will be made from MRHS to the Royal Canadian Legion, Valley Branch.

- On November 23, we will be having Parent/Teacher meetings, scheduled from 1-3pm & 6-8 pm. An online sign-up link will be emailed to parents.

Student Success Planning (SSP): Short Cycle Planning

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

Our first strategy/action will incorporate conferencing with students to get to know them (build relationships) and determine areas of strengths and challenges.

Math 8 & Math 10:

Additionally, there will be another teacher in the classroom 3x/week to provide co-teaching opportunities to support high leverage Tier 1 strategies and targeted support for areas of challenges.

Next strategy: To implement more balanced assessment practices by incorporating observations and conversations in regular practice.

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

The student success survey from the spring of 2023 identified that students feel like the school is doing a poor job when responding to racism, discrimination, homophobia and transphobia.

Strategy 1: Teachers will interrupt discrimination/ racism/ homophobia/ transphobia immediately when they witness it.

Actions:

Identify it/ Name it

Talk about how it's affecting the student

Ask for it to stop

Strategy 2: Increase opportunities for physical fitness and movement throughout the school day.
Ideas for Action:

Adapt the Fitness centre to be more welcoming, accessible, and inviting for all students

Increasing physical activity or body breaks in all classes (i.e whiteboard activities, moving group work, learning centres, etc.)

Gaga Ball Pit outdoors

4- square in the bus loop and basketball court maintenance

Long-term: acquiring athletic wear for students that don't have access to it (borrow bin)

Trail making equipment

Outdoor Fitness gym

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

We want students to read and follow directions clearly and to complete the tasks being asked of them.

Strategy we will use:

Explicit instruction

Student Collaboration

Independent Practice

Action: Provide examples, explicit instruction, and modeling of expected tasks.

Questions and Discussion

How will we plan a Christmas meal for the school community?

Action:

-Ms Rushton to speak to Eddie regarding logistics

-Tia will ask students if they want one

-Ann will check with community groups for donations - pending previous bullets

We (Sheamus Downie) have applied for a grant for Gym Equipment.
Will there be a food drive this year?

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm Motioned by Angela MacKenzie, seconded by Ann Warburton

Submitted by,

C. Steele Wood