School Advisory Council • Sackville Heights Junior High

**Meeting Summary**

March 3, 2021 6:00 pm

1. Call to Order

* **Meeting was held via zoom**
* **Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Rhonda Cox**
* **Attendance: Paula Fairbairn, Jeff Carruthers, Tanya Mercer, Kimberley Best-Janes (arrived 6:07), Jill Cormier, Becky Payzant (arrived 6:08), Jen Knight, Bella Duffley, Rhonda Cox, Sarah Greenham, Grace Greenham**
* **Observer: Heather Lucas (gr 6 parent)**

1. Approval of Agenda

* **Jill Cormier approved the agenda**

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary - January 27, 2021

* **Bella Duffley approved meeting summary dated January 27, 2021**

1. Business Arising from Previous Meeting Summary

* **Snow removal on Connolly Road: admin called operations to discuss. The road will not be plowed by HRCE contract: it is HRM responsibility. School is to monitor the road conditions and call 311 if necessary.**
* **Literacy support teacher role: small-group lessons, 30-45 minutes in length,**

**individualized *for* the students accessing support, focused on improving reading comprehension and fluency and benefits students in all subject areas and an opportunity for all students to receive in-class literacy support to connect and apply skills from small group instruction, not just the students accessing support.**

1. School Improvement Plan/Student Success Plan (standing agenda item)

* Literacy Goal: To improve student achievement in writing with a focus on expanding their thoughts and ideas.
* Math Goal: To improve student achievement in the area of number sense in a variety of contexts.

1. New Business
2. SHJH Facebook Parent Group

**It was brought to the attention of admin that a Facebook SHJH parent group had posts concerning vaping that is occurring, in bathrooms, at SHJH. Student rep, Grace, spoke about students posting pics of themselves, on social media, while vaping in bathrooms, and that while it is a small number of students who are doing it, it does happen. Admin has asked staff to consistently check bathrooms during supervision and admin will provide parents with information in the Friday email about vaping. In addition, Mr. Carruthers, VP, has been asked to participate in an advisory panel, with the HRCE and the IWK, on teen vaping. Any resources will be passed along to staff and/or parents.**

1. Wellness Goal and Strategies

**Wellness Goal: To improve student well being at our school.**

**At a February 23 staff meeting, the results of a micro-survey about well-being, which students completed in December were shared and discussed. The survey had six questions that asked students about their relationships and sense of belonging at school.**

**The survey questions were answered as strongly disagree/disagree/agree/strongly agree.**

**For the purposes of summary agree and strongly agree have been combined:**

* **Students feel there is at least one adult at the school they trust and they can go to if they need to talk to someone. 76%**
* **Students feel there is at least one friend at the school they can go to if they need to talk to someone. 92%**
* **At least one of my teachers knows what my life outside of school is like 36%**
* **At least one of my teachers knows when something is bothering me and they do their best to help me. 62%**
* **I can be myself at school. 73%**
* **I feel like I belong at my school. 69%**

**The results of the survey, along with staff input will form the basis of our strategies or targeted actions, we can implement at the school level, to improve student well-being.**

* **Strategy about getting to know our students better – outside of school information**
* **Strategy about belonging at school**

1. Admin Report

* **Staff Professional Development:**
* **Legal considerations – Mr. Carruthers**
* **Grade 7/8 curriculum renewal for 2021-2022**
* **Supports:**
* **Math coach**
* **Literacy coach (request made)**
* **Clubs**
* **Kindness Club – Candy grams (fundraiser for the IWK -$918 raised and matched by a local radio station)** \*\*Jill Cormier will provide information about a fundraiser “Toonies for Autism”, as a possible next initiative for the Kindness Club.\*\*
* **African Heritage Month**
* **In class activities/lessons/displays. Integration of material in to the curriculum.**
* **Tunnel Vision Association - an organization started by Caleb Johnson in 2019. Caleb Johnson is presently a student-athlete studying at Williston State College. It is a series of 4 workshops about Black Excellence. (grades 6s and 7s)**

**Goal Setting - 1 session**

**Positive Mindset - 1 session**

**Self-Accountability - 1 session**

**Protect Your Energy - 1 session**

**Ms. Legge organized at the school level**

* **Infinitus Academy Black Youth Empowerment Program - empower black youth to embrace their potential (grade 8s) Ms. Dempster organized at the school level.**
* **February was registration month**
* **Planning and preparing for next year has started**

1. School Spirit

* **Ms. Mercer spoke about upcoming school spirit theme days.**

1. Public Input

* **No public submissions**

1. Next Meeting

* **April 28, 2021**

1. Adjournment

* **Meeting adjourned at 6:51 by Tanya Mercer**