Alderney Elementary - School Advisory Council (SAC)

MEETING MINUTES – All action items high-lighted

Wednesday, November 16 2023 2:55pm AST

1. Call to order: 2:55 pm

In attendance: Peter Gilfoy, Amanda Reardon, Sherri McDonald, Kayleigh Mills

2. Approval of agenda –Amanda motions to approve, Kayleigh seconds motions

3. Approval of previous meeting’s minutes – Amanda moves to approve, Kayleigh seconds motion

4. Previous business

**SAC Budget spending**

*9435.00 in SAC budget*

Grant for calming room – **the school received 5,000.00 from Healthy School Community Grant. This can be used towards the calming room.** It can be used across different projects throughout the school.

Sherri has reached out to Government Surplus for some soft lounge seating and dividers for the room as well as for classrooms – it would be free if that goes through, it just depends on whether those items are available at this time.

**All SAC members present agree to allocate $3000.00 from SAC account towards furniture purchasing for the calming room and classrooms.**

Spending towards well-being goals – winter sports equipment, alternative seating, soft lighting, lap desks

If we order through Decathalon again there is a deal for schools – *Peter and Kayleigh will reach out and see what that entails.*

Field trip allocations, assemblies – there is separate funding meant for these purposes. SAC doesn’t necessarily need to allocate any funding here.

Ideas for assemblies:

Maritime marionette

Mad Science assembly

Look for input from teachers for other assembly ideas.

**Literacy Strategies Update**

Literacy Coach Andrew started October 18 – his session at Alderney is wrapping. It was a very positive experience

Laura McIntosh, literacy Consultant – no update, did not get to touch on this during the meeting

October/Latest PLC meeting – no update. These monthly meetings commence presently.

November 23rd professional development day - will look at cycle planning for Math and English.

Grade 3 assessment data is ready from last year, this includes cumulative data from when those students began in primary. Those students are now in grade 4, Having this snapshot in the middle of elementary school helps to see where students are in terms of meeting outcomes; it helps us plan for this year and next. It is important to remember that it is only a snapshot from assessments taken over 2 days, when there can be so many extraneous circumstances effecting the outcomes. It’s helpful data, but it doesn’t create a complete picture. For cycle planning, we’ll also look at classroom-based assessments, as well as report cards.

Writing is overall not as strong as reading amongst our students. There are 4 streams of writing assessment; conventions (grammar, spelling, sentence structure), ideas, organization of writing, and expressiveness. Only 2 grade 4s are meeting the provincial standards at our school. This is pretty consistent across the province. The system has been heavily focused on reading in recent years, which likely accounts for this. Also, these students went through covid during important foundational years for writing.

**Indigo funding for new books**

Total funding received = $3245.15 (plus a further 30% discount on all book purchases)

Plan for distribution of funds$200 for each classroom

**$2445.15 for shared library books**

Sac will further fund the classroom libraries for another $200.00 per class to be spent at Tattletales book store. **Classrooms will receive a total of $400.00 to spend.**

**SAC Membership update**

Still looking for 1 more community member & 1 support staff member.

Peter will ask previous Alderney Parent who resides in catchment area - Jeremy

**School Path**

Emergency evacuation route is in disrepair – put a call out to 311

Peter will email Sam Austin & Claudia Chender, copy Sherri   
Safety issue – not great activity that happens there (dark) – community standpoint

5. New business:

SAC committee sponsored activity – will repeat the pancake breakfast from last year.

Being all in the gym together, like remembrance day, would be the better way to go even though it’s tougher  
  
tentative plan for December 19th , 9 am   
ACTION: Costco – Fruit, pancake mix, syrup (Jemima), dollar store – utensils, plates, table cloths (or Costco) – 115 will allow enough for everyone. Peter & Kayleigh will gather these items

Amanda will mobilize volunteers  
Sherri to speak with Andrea about having music at the breakfast

Lunch orders: Could be worth revisiting lunch purveyors – subway, pita pit. The lunch lady, etc. maybe put a survey in the memo to families whether they would want other options.

Monday Memos: Revisit distribution style of principal memo – its tricky to open currently and we’re worried not all families are reading it. Those who are reading it really appreciate the contents and consistency

Added after the meeting:

For next meeting’s agenda, chat about PowerFull Kids program through The Superstore. Balanced meals and a snack 4 days a week for all students. 36 weeks per year. 144 days. Must be a school employee to apply, with written consent from the principal.

School must contribute 20 cents per student per day of program. Approx. $19.60 per day for Alderney. 2,822.40 in total for all students for the whole year. (SAC could decide to contribute and/or home and school) <https://www.pcchildrenscharity.ca/power-full-kids-at-school/>

Application closed last year on May 26 and had overwhelming rate of applicants. Worth looking at when it re-opens.

6. Principal’s report *(please allow 10 minutes before meeting ends to address any points from this report)*

-remembrance day was a great success!  
-Holiday concert coming up   
-New math support teacher who works with grade 3’s – just started this week   
-Success planning for PDs   
- Parent Teacher coming up   
-Assessment evaluation tomorrow (report cards)

7. Public input: N/A  
  
8. Next meeting:

Jan 18th after school  
  
Feb   
  
April   
  
May (late)  
  
  
9. Adjournment: time not noted.