

SAC Meeting – Tuesday 9th November 2021

Attendance

Anna Neumann
Shelley Bembridge
Sarah Rushworth

Suzanne Hawkes
Zainab Abidali

Apologies

Helen Healy
Imran Akhtar Khan

Erik Lang

Welcome

Anna Neumann (AN) opened the meeting and extended welcome to all
Apologies were offered and noted

SR asked regarding the dates of SAC meetings and AN clarified the timing of meeting through the year (6 meetings needed) No meeting in December or March and then June there may or may not be a meeting as well. They are second Tuesday of month when taking place. AN is going to send outlook invites out regarding future meeting.

AN then asked member if they would be happy to have their names listed on the SAC website page. This will be updated.

Review of Agenda and Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting were viewed and agreed. AN then added an addendum regarding the school photographer. The contract of the current photographer is coming to an end. AN has reached out to Cindy Crew at Rocky Lane elementary regarding photographers and how they contact hem. They usually select a few (usually about three and have an online vote) The tender for bid for school photography is due in January 2022. Susan Hawkes (SH) says usually the school has photographers contact them directly around this time. They usually put together a proposed package for the school and then the school usually pick from a three different photographers. AN will do a bit more investigation around this and it will be followed up in January.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved

Administrative Report

SH then presented the Administrative Report. IT was noted that there is a lot of correspondence regarding COVID currently with 2 classes starting online learning today. SH will send AN the administration report for dissemination.
Teachers participated in a virtual conference day on October 22nd. This was arranged provincially.

Tilak Aurora arranged a Diwali presentation for classes last Thursday.

The Literacy consultant Laura McIntosh has been visiting school to meet with teachers and help support smaller groups and classes with the literacy goals. She is coming back in December.

There is a virtual Remembrance Day ceremony which will be shown to classes in School on November 10th IT will also be posted on the school website, Twitter and YouTube.

November 19th is assessment Day so there will be no school for students, and then there will be a virtual Parent-Teacher afternoon/evening on November 25th.

Report cards will be sent out electronically on December 3rd and December 21st is the last day of the school term. The new term starts on January 4th.

Zainab Abidali (ZA) asked how successful the virtual Parent-Teacher meetings were at school. Shelley Bembridge (SB) noted that they had gone better than expected – they were more efficient which helped with time management for teachers. She said parents had embraced the virtual nature of the meetings. SH said teachers were happy to continue with virtual Parent-Teacher meetings.

AN asked how to teachers navigate the language barriers which some parents/guardians have. SH clarified that Tilak helped with this but that translators were an option for teachers. Teachers usually know ahead of time and can request a translator.

SH announced that school had purchased a fridge and now has a Costco membership. This is to facilitate a formalised Breakfast Programme with Grab and Go options for the children. There will be baskets for each class with a choice of non-perishables and yoghurt tubes, fruit, cheese and cereal based products. They have had advice from Kelly Sherwood at HRCE to help with this. SB has seen this work well in a different primary school.

Update of Funds

There was a discussion about the monies in the SAC account- and it was unclear if the SAC grant for \$5000 plus \$! Per student had been deposited yet. IT is thought that currently there is around \$4435 in the SAC so with the SAC grant the total amount available will be around \$9600.

Teacher Asks

SB has made google forms and collated the submission for teacher wish lists.

Currently the amount asked for total \$7453.

The wish list of items was disseminated and looked at. There were a few higher priced items on the list which were mainly books and literacy guides. SH said she had asked for prompting guides for teachers to help with the P to 2 literacy programme.

AN noted there were a couple of requests which did not have an item breakdown and the amount asked for was unclear.

IT was decided that the total amount of monies needed would be rounded up to \$8000 to allow for this items. Once the wish list items have been paid out there will be about \$1600 remaining in the SAC account which can then be used for any Spring wish list items as needed.

AN noted that in the past he SAC had donated \$500 to the HAS School playground project which is aimed for completion in Spring 2022.

SH and Helen Healy usually order items using the school credit card. Only cards that have no rewards programmes are allowed for purchase of items.

SB mentioned that flexible seating would be a good addition for school. AN said she had personally donated about \$700 of wiggle seats/flexible seating options to school in February 2020. These had to removed with COVID restrictions. They included cushions/rockers etc. SH will ensure these are not hiding anywhere and clarify if they can be brought into use if not already and whether more are needed.

Other Business

AN clarified there was no news on the parachute grant as yet. SH mentioned that a community member has complained to school regarding the parking on Southgate Drive. This was acknowledged and the community member was directed to report their concerns to the appropriate agencies

ZA asked whether fundraising was ongoing currently at school. She had good experience of a Pie fundraiser at her school which was all online with minimum contact. SH clarified that last year fundraising was not allowed however now if there are no other funds available for school fundraising would be allowed but it would need to be for something specific. SH will ask Helen Healy to clarify if fundraising can go ahead again.

Next meeting January 11th 2022