**Bedford South SAC Meeting – Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 6:00 pm (virtual)**

**Attendance**

Helen Healy (Principal) Imran Akhtar Khan

Shelley Bembridge Sarah Rushworth (Chair)

Adil Syed Zainab Abidali

Sapir Gadilov

Sarah Rushworth (SR) opened the meeting and extended welcome to all. It was noted that this meeting was due to be in-person but switched to virtual last minute to facilitate illness and allow more people to attend. The next meeting will also be virtual in February.

**Apologies**

Received from Erik Lang and Shauna Boudreau

**Administrative Report.**

Helen Healy (HH) presented the Administrative Report. She started with the SSP (Student Success Plan) goals of Math, Literacy and Student Wellbeing. These are key area which the school work towards through their curriculum. There is a monthly SSP meeting with teachers to ensure these goals of fluency in these areas are met.

There were two PD days on December 1st and 2nd which were successful days for the teachers. Shauna Boudreau led the day on December 1st and HH led the P-3 literacy session on Dec 2nd and SB led the Math session. Zainab Abidali (ZA) asked whether there was any feedback from parents on the fact the two PD days were consecutive days, and noted this could be difficult for parents who work and childcare arrangements. HH said it is odd that these are consecutive dates and the dates are set by HRCE.

There has also been some Math coaches in school who have been facilitating sessions with staff as well.

Tilak Arora the YMCA worker has now retired and there is a new worker, Amany Hasan in place. There is also a new Schoolsplus (support for families) worker at school.

There will be a retirement celebration for Tilak on January 18th in the music room from 3:30 where people are welcome to drop in.

There will be a Dragon parade on January 20th starting at 10:45am in school – this will coincide with a popcorn day at school run by the HAS.

January is literacy month – there will be a theme week from January 23rd.

**Wish List.**

Shauna and Helen are looking at procuring items on the wish list. The funds could only be spent after the start of term. The funds are allocated into a specific school account that can’t directly be used to buy products so teachers are being asked to submit invoices that can be directly made. Adil Syed (AS) suggested school could have a business account with Amazon which can then be directed linked to the school account. HH will look into this.

**Letter of Agreement and SAC Bylaw.**

The Letter of Agreement and Bylaws were discussed by SR with the council. It was agreed that this could be signed and submitted to HH who would then forward this on to HRCE.

As part of the new Letter of Agreement we welcomed Sapir Gadilov who has been proposed as a community member to join the council. Sapir is an ex-pupil of Bedford South and is now studying at University. She was unanimously voted onto the council by the 6 council members in attendance. ZA has kindly offered to also reach out and connect with Sapir for support having already been on the council for a year.

**Feedback from the SAC Chair and Principle Meeting**

SR feedback on the HRM meeting where all local SAC chairs and principles were invited to a session on wellbeing, held at Sackville School in November. The emphasis of this session was looking at ways to enhance the wellbeing and interest of students with respect to math and literacy and also looked at the School survey which is completed by the Year 4 children. The survey was mainly positive looking at their experiences with school. The majority felt safe. One area highlighted was that some children did not feel their home situation was recognised by teachers at home. Teachers are working on this area and part of the comment may be that the wording of the question regarding this area was a bit tricky and teachers were not allowed to explain the questions or help students with their answers.

**Any Other Business.**

There is now a new part of the playground that is open to the children There is a pirate climbing tower. It has proved very popular with all students and was funded by the HAS.

Shelly Bembridge (SB) mentioned that there was feedback from the staff on the new “kiss and drop” area at school. Teachers has asked whether it could be an idle fee zone. HH will take this to the ERS meeting. ZA mentioned that is appeared the traffic on Southgate appeared to be better with the kiss and drop area.

SB also mentioned that the Canadian flag at school was in a poor state. The flag had been replaced already last term. HH will look into this.

AS asked whether field trips would be going ahead this year for children. SB said the teachers would love to offer field trips however each class needs a certain number of parent volunteers to keep child/adult ratios and unfortunately there are not enough parents who have covered the mandatory checks needed. SR will try and increase the awareness of this with HAS.

The next meeting is set to be February 14th virtually.