

Bell Park Academic Centre School Advisory Council

Date: November 19, 2024

Members:

Tara Rutledge, Cathy McDonald Johnston (co-chair), Jeannine McDonald (community member), Nyesha Sparks (co-chair), Amanda Hayre, Jennifer Harding, Gina Dunn, Mary Smith, Karen Bartell

Regrets: Danita Williams, Jenn Smith

Meeting called to order at 6:30

1. Approval of previous minutes, review new agenda items

Last meeting minutes were shared through email and reviewed in the meeting. Approved by Cathy and seconded by Nyesha. These minutes will be posted on the school website.

2. Student Success Plan update – Update

Literacy Goal: Improve student achievement in literacy for all students and specifically students who are of African and/ or Mi'kmaw or Indigenous descent. Baking trays and magnetic letters have been purchased to facilitate the UFLI program. SSP funding has been used to purchase the materials. 150 trays and sets of tiles for each student. The SLD teacher has been assisting the development of the program at Bell Park. She shared with Tara, evidence of the program's successes from another school.

Numeracy Goal: Improving success in mathematics and specifically students who are of African and/ or Mi'kmaw or Indigenous descent. Fact fluency and creating games to support student learning/ growth.

Well-Being Goal: Improve student well-being and specifically students who are of African and/ or Mi'kmaw or Indigenous descent. The first goal is to ensure that every student in the building has at least one other adult in the building that knows them well and they feel comfortable going to when needed. Information from reviewing the student success survey from last year prompted this goal. This will be completed more in cycle 2.

3. Review/update of Bylaws and Agreement

Reviewed the staff, community members, guardian members- at least 2 of each at all times. If needed to vote, there will be two guardians selected. Tara is a non-voting member.

Staff Members: Jennifer Harding and Gina Dunn

Community Members: Jeannine McDonald and Mary Smith

Parent/ Guardians: Cathy McDonald Johnston, Nyeshia Sparks, Karen Bartell, Amanda Hayre

By-law paperwork will be completed by Tara and shared with members. Co-Chairs (Cathy and Nyeshia) will sign once finalized.

4. Principal's Report

Halloween Howl was successful and there was positive feedback from home and school. They plan to have the same event for next year.

The Administration assistant has moved and her final day was last week. There will be a long term sub filling in until the position can be filled in January. Online booking system for parent/ teacher meetings and this will also be used for the christmas concert tickets for the evening.

The lunch program is very successful at our school, we are fortunate to have R and B Kitchen providing Bell Park this service. They are taking feedback from the school to ensure the containers are not leaking and easy to communicate with. They are following the provincial guidelines and are restricted to what is on the menu. School is ordering 10% of the school population as extra on top of each order. The food is delivered on time and has been extremely positive. The leftovers are offered to others in the building as well as the Boys and Girls Club after school. The food looks a lot like the food on the website. Tara shared pictures that were taken and the food looks amazing.

5. SAC Grant budget update

The SAC gets \$5000.00 plus one additional dollar per student. Getting a new PA system. There is a need for a portable piano for the music teacher.

Ideas Shared: Used for the "Wellness Day" that happens in May, which is a school wide event. Classroom ideas, the learning centre has some wish lists. Potentially help with the high costs of transportation for field trips. Afrocentric sashes for the dance group and other events. The makerspace area does need some new materials, that are not just technology but other hands-on opportunities for the students.

Application was submitted for a grant for musical instruments which includes the piano mentioned above. Tara will survey the teachers on what their needs are and get insight into what they believe would be valuable items for the students.

6. Other Business

Planned the next meeting and more details will be shared soon with the school community regarding the upcoming important dates.

7. Important Dates

- Assessment & Evaluation Day – Nov. 22nd
- Parent Teacher evening – Dec. 5th
- Parent Teacher Afternoon – Dec. 5th
- Holiday Concert - December 10th
- Holiday Shop - December 12th

8. Meeting Dates for the year

Oct. 22th (completed)
Nov. 19th (Virtual)
Jan. 21st (Virtual)
Mar. 18th
Apr. 15th
May 20th

9. Next meeting date:

January 21st, 2025 this meeting will be virtually over Microsoft Teams.