**SAC Minutes February 28, 2022**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **In attendance** | * Kellie West – Principal * Diana Trider - Vice Principal * Cory Mooney - Parent / Chair * Theresa Glasgow - Staff Member/Secretary * Nicole LeGrow - Staff Member - Regrets * Sarah Silver - Parent Member * Pat Healey - Community Member * Donna Brimicombe - Community Member - Regrets * Pam Stewart - Parent Member |
| **Call to order** | 6:30 pm |
| **Approval of /Adjustments to the agenda** | *Approved/No Adjustments* |
| **Approval of /Adjustments to the minutes** | *Approved/No Adjustments* |
| **School Success Plan Update** | **P-2 Reading**  A province wide priority is to improve reading skills.  Our Grade 1s and 2s are having the most success with the supports in place. At the end of September, 40% of our Grade 1 students were not meeting outcomes. By February, only 17 % were not meeting. The Grade 2s were 30% and 10% respectively. The goal is to improve even if the student is not meeting outcomes and to identify the reasons behind why an individual student is having difficulty. No data was gathered in September for incoming Primaries; however, recent data indicates that Primaries fluctuate between 5% and 10% of students not meeting reading outcomes. The focus in Primary includes oral language, word identification and one-to-one correspondence (pointing to spoken word).  While data shows that all our students are improving, some are moving forward slowly. These students are brought to the school team for additional interventions. Interventions include teachers spending more individual time with students. Referrals to Speech-Language and additional adaptations help to address student challenges beyond those that can be addressed in the classroom. All students not meeting outcomes are getting Resource or Reading Recovery  Any additional prep time from the Grade 5 teachers is put towards providing support to students. For example, the classroom teacher works 1-1, or with a small group, while the support teacher works with the class. This is known as Unassigned Instructional Time or UIT.  Prior to Christmas, Grade 1s were the focus due to the number of students not meeting. However, the HRCE has identified a trend that Grade 2 students are not making as much progress as other grades so the focus of support has shifted to Grade 2s.  The goal is to have all students meeting outcomes by the end of Grade 2.  **Professional Development Day**  The PD sessions focused on different strategies that can be used to meet reading /math goals. For the morning, there were 2 sessions. The Math Coach spoke about number talks and number strings. Number Talks is used to determine what strategy a student is using to problem solve while a Number String is the teaching of a specific strategy.  For the second session, Ms. West and Ms. Trider worked with small groups of teachers to discuss how to improve the teaching of math. A few of strategies include:   * Math stations used in classroom, including small group instruction * Purposeful games to focus on a specific strategy. * Sharing activities amongst teachers   The EECD sent math resources to help implement math stations.  Literacy was the focus in the afternoon and Reading Recovery and Resource teachers focused on Running Records and other tools that can be used to analyze students’ reading. The upper grades also focused on comprehension and different components to support struggling readers, thus all students, to improve reading. |
| **Old Business** | **SAC Grant**  A Point of View Camera will be supplied to all classroom teachers who need one.  We do not have a cost for LCDs yet. A LCD has been moved from a Pre-Primary and internally installed into Ms. Trider/Ms. Bezanson’s classroom. The HRCE technologists are able to install the LCDs, bringing the cost down to a couple of hundred dollars. Another LCD is needed for Mr. Smith’s classroom. We are working on getting a detailed cost.  Getting the white boards will be a process; it will be done one class at a time Mr. Smith will be done first and then Ms. LeGrow.  Chromebooks and ipads are being ordered; some have arrived already.  There is interest in PD/PLCs for development of math centres. Subs will be needed for this.  **Student Support Grant**  The school received $5000.00 from the provincial government for this year; approximately $4 000 was carried over from last year. This money can be used to purchase technology.  If there are other funds allocated for needed technology, those funds should be used prior to the SAC funds.  The PTA Epicure fundraiser was used to purchase Chromebooks. The Chromebooks purchased last year were very helpful for at -home learning.  Ipads were ordered for the 2 Learning Centres as the old ones are out of date and cannot be updated.  Sarah Silver commented that with the money from last year, it will be possible to buy all the things needed.  3 to 5 subs a day will be needed for teachers to meet monthly to evaluate students’ work and to plan for further instruction; this will cost between $600-1000. The plan is to use half days for lower elementary; the other half would be for upper elementary. When possible, Ms. Bezanson will sub for the PLC meetings. Subs are extremely hard to get and Ms. Bezanson would be available until 10:30, when she begins to teach. The cost of a full day sub is $200.00 a day.  It was decided that going forward, funds will be used for:   * Whiteboards * Point of View Cameras (to be sourced out) * Math manipulatives from Spectrum ( use SSP money first), * Substitutes * LCDs. |
| **New Business** | **Registration for 2022-23**  Technically, the last day for registration is today. The numbers in February are used to determine staffing for Primary to 5 and Pre-Primary (PP). HRCE uses the total enrollment to decide on staffing for next year. The HRCE suggests a configuration; however, staff can make suggestions.  Currently, there are 36 Pre-Primary students registered for Primary. It is unknown how many of those will apply for French Immersion. The office has 8 additional registrations for a total of 44 new Primaries.  At this point, 16 students have registered for PrePrimary.  Pat Healey will advertise that it is not too late to register. 56 grade 5s will be leaving for Junior High.  **School Activities**  18 Jan: Lockdown drill  February - African Heritage month  An African Heritage flag was purchased and is displayed in the lobby, there are other items, such as African drums, in the display case.  Emily Ripley-Davis put together a Virtual Assembly to showcase class work supporting African Heritage. Every class was represented in the video. Teachers incorporated activities into daily teaching. There was a Daily Spotlight on African Nova Scotians. Each class developed a slide which was shared with the school in a slideshow for the Virtual Assembly. One colour from the flag was highlighted each week and the significance of each colour was shared during morning announcements.  The African Nova Scotian Anthem was played one day a week in place of O’Canada.  Feb 17: African Drumming Workshop.  The money for the workshop was from the SSG and was just over $1000.00. Students practiced dance and drumming.  Valentine’s Day;  PTA provided hot chocolate and Timbits  After March Break:  Staff will hold meetings to discuss procedures for the phasing out of Covid restrictions. We will return to routines used prior to Covid. This includes recess, lunch, library, class meetings, book buddies, etc. We will continue to use sanitizer & frequent hand washing.  Ms. Trider noted that many kids in class still want to wear masks for various reasons.  Many new parents have not had the opportunity to see the school; a discussion took place as to ways to introduce these parents to Holland Road.  We are waiting for the information schools will receive from the province regarding procedures and protocols to be followed once schools resume after March Break. Ms. West will forward that information to families once it is received.  Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place the first week of April. Meetings will be held in accordance with the information received from the province as to the ““layered lifting” of restrictions.  **PTA Update**  There are concerns in producing the yearbook due to lost time (health restrictions and gathering limits)- see notes from last meeting.  The PTA will have its meeting on Wednesday.  The Epicure fundraiser brought in over $1100.00. Ten dollars from every order went to the school. It cost $25.00 to make a purchase.  The PTA is wondering about any progress on playground development. This needs to be discussed further.  Sarah Silver’s daughter had a fundraiser and will donate funds to the school. Ms. West will touch base with Sarah to discuss further.  Pat Healey is working on a story of a previous Holland Road student who made the Cheer Team for Team Canada. |
| **Next Meeting** | April 11, 2022 - 6:30 |
| **Adjournment** | 7:43 pm |