



**NRCS SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Minutes Dec. 14, 2017**

**TIME:** 2:35pm

**ATTENDANCE:**           Principal:       Mr O'Quinn  
                                  Teachers:       Ms. Handley, Ms. Breckon  
                                  Support Staff: Valerie Lenihan  
                                  Community Rep: Diane Webber-sends regrets  
                                  H &S Rep:  
                                  Parent Reps:   Jennifer Burgess (acting Chair), Sheena Isenor  
                                  (acting secretary), Katie Hirtle  
                                  Student Reps: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES:** Oct 24, 2017  
                                  Moved by:     Valerie Lenihan  
                                  Seconded by: Sheena Isenor  
                                  To accept minutes as read.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Letter from the Superintendent to SAC Acting Chair-Mr. Milner sends a thank you to those who could attend the regional SAC meeting held Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, and noted there will be some new school board policies coming soon for SAC review.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

1. **NRCS Advisory Letter of Agreement & Council Bylaws**-these have been signed by the principal and acting chair with the included by-law change for the teachers 1 year commitment instead of 2 years, and will be sent to the school board to review/approve then passed to the Dept. of Ed.
2. **School Utilization Formula** – the letter drafted by the SAC members in June was circulated and was reviewed by the SAC members, however, with the absence of one SAC member and the welcoming of a new parent rep, time will be allocated for them to review and return their responses for the next meeting in 2018.
3. **Parent-Teacher Interviews/SAC Election**-went very well with a good turn-out for the vote. Parents voted, Katie Hirtle, as the third parent rep for SAC. There was discussion that in this process some parents asked the question “Who/What is the SAC?” There were suggestions from the group to increase awareness of the SAC it may be advisable to make a pamphlet summarizing our roles, and have an Open House at the next parent/teacher to hand out the pamphlet and yield questions from parents.
4. **OHS Issues update**- a) the cement platform leading to the bus area has been filled/fixed with concrete, b) the SSRSB has ruled out mold as the cause for the smell in Rm #101, and have inserted an air purifier in the room which has helped somewhat but not fixed the problem, and as such they will re-address the issue in the New Year.
5. **Regional SAC Meeting Nov 7<sup>th</sup>**- Ms Handley, Ms Breckon, Mr O'Quinn, Jennifer, and Sheena were able to attend the regional meeting Nov 7<sup>th</sup> at FHCS, which had a brief introductory session, followed by a family of schools group meeting with the Regional Board Member, followed by individual sessions. Each member chose a topic of interest (ie. SS Food Project, Community involvement, inclusive education, race relations) and

reported back to the group about what they learned. Most felt each session was helpful in understanding more of the policy and projects of the SSRSB. Also at this meeting, the new communications liaison for the SSRSB, **Teresa Schroder**, was introduced. She made it clear if any parent/teacher has any issues she would love to hear from them, and some talk of the incident at FHCS was discussed, noting the SSRSB are implementing measures to be more prepared for this type of concern in the future. It was suggested we circulate, Teresa's, name and contact information to parents so they can send any concerns re: SSRSB, to her.

6. **NRCS (Community School) Update:** Mr O'Quinn met with Brian, Jody, Nadine and Chad, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> to review community school progress and timeline. Currently the municipality and SSRSB are drafting an agreement for NRCS (similar to the MOA currently in place for FHCS) and further movement forward will take place in the New Year with a plan to be officially designated a community school by, September 2018. Nadine will be in charge of booking rooms/activities for the school and will coordinate & collaborate with the municipality and the NRFRC.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT&NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Family of Schools SAC Meeting Request** – at the regional meeting in November, the possibility of a “Family of Schools” SAC meeting was brought up. FHCS has followed up with Mr. O'Quinn to see if there was any interest from our SAC to meet with SAC members from FHCS, ACES, CAMS, CDES in January 2018. NRCS SAC was for this meeting. Mr. O'Quinn will let them know, and get back to the members of the NRCS SAC with meeting date/time.
2. **Day Care Update-**Planning for the newly proposed New Ross Community Day Care, which will be housed at NRCS, are coming along as expected. There currently are interested parents, a Board of Directors, and paperwork for the Day Care Proposal is being completed for submission. There has been some issue with finding ECE's to fill the position of Director and teacher as with the newly implemented Pre-Primary program, Nova Scotia in general is finding it very difficult to fill Day Care positions with qualified ECE's, especially in rural settings. Funding has also been an issue but is being worked on.
3. **Christmas Concert-** was a resounding success! The gymnasium, as always, was full to capacity, and the community applauds the efforts of our teachers (especially organizer= Ms Breckon) for their hard work in getting this organized.
4. **Christmas Shopping Program-** Will be held again this year! (Dec 18 &19) under the help & guidance of parent volunteers: Jennifer Burgess, and Stephanie Duncan-Brown. Students in gr's 5-8 will be helping younger students shop. Proceeds raised from this will go back to school programs that require it most.
5. **Can Food Drive/Class Competition-**Children have been asked to bring in cans of food to donate to the Food Bank, combined with a friendly class competition to see which grade's can can go the farthest. This will be held Dec 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **STUDENT REPORT: (from student rep)-deferred**

**NEXT MEETING:** TBA

**ADJOURNED:** 3:35 pm