

NRCS SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Minutes May 20, 2014



**ATTENDANCE:**

**TIME: 2:40pm**

**Principal:** Lindsay Willow

**Teachers:** Elaine Munroe

**Support Staff:** Valerie Lenihan (had to be excused shortly after the meeting started)

**Community rep:** Diane Webber

**H&S Rep:** Sheila Ernst

**Parent reps:** Sheena Isenor, Wendy Harvey

**Student reps:**

**Regrets:** Crystal Thorburne, Morgan Levy

**MINUTES:** For April 10, 2014

**Moved by:** Valerie

**Seconded by:** Sheena

To accept minutes as read; Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. **Myra Freeman, Chair, Minister's Panel on Education letter** – A copy of the letter accompanies these minutes;
  - a. This information needs to be communicated with parents and community members; Sheena will put a notice in the flyer to communicate to parents and community members; Lindsay will put on Synervoice to communicate with parents
  - b. Sheila gave a copy of the Survey Discussion Guide to SAC members; members are asked to provide their comments to Sheila by June 6, 2014 so that a combined response can be compiled and sent to Myra by the deadline of June 13, 2014; we will submit a hard copy of the discussion guide
  - c. Discussion regarding the value of our comments in the overall voice of respondents, are the powers that be listening and do they value the input they are seeking; SAC feels that historically questions are often leading to prompt a desired response; our input has been sought but little weight is given to our responses; decisions were made in advance of receiving and considering the responses; when input is desired perhaps it would be more effective to travel to schools and speak directly with staff and SACs; the SAC will draft a letter outlining these concerns which will accompany our survey responses
2. **Certificate from NRCS** – SAC received an appreciation certificate from NRCS; it accompanies these minutes
3. **Letter from Geoff Cainen, Superintendent, regarding meeting on May 27** – There will be a community consultation meeting at FHCS on May 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss public opinion concerning current courses and programming offered by SSRSB; Lindsay will send out to parents to notify them of the meeting at FHCS; a copy of the email from Geoff Cainen accompanies these minutes

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

1. **SSRSB Policy 470 – Naming School Facilities** – SAC has no concerns with this policy; Sheila will provide our response back to the school board
2. **SAC Bylaws** – deferred until the next meeting
3. **Student Safety in Parking Lot** – Lindsay is working on this; will update SAC with a proposed solution when available

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

1. Breakfast program is now being offered every morning
2. Overall staffing within SSRSB has been cut dramatically for the upcoming year; due to budget constraints within SSRSB they have received exemption from class caps; NRCS has maintained our teacher allocation for the upcoming year, with the exception of losing the grade 9 teacher with the transition of the grade 9 class to FHCS, which gives us more teaching staff than would be allocated based on our size based on a commitment made to NRCS by Geoff Cainen; this will be reassessed in future years; we were cut 1 day of guidance as part of cuts straight across SSRSB in this area; administration was cut across SSRSB, mostly VP's, NRCS was cut to 80% admin with a 20% behavior support allocation to maintain 100%; resource allocations cut as well
3. IBL's will be offered to the grade 6 class next year; grade 3/4 class will be split for half of the school day for math
4. 2014-2015 class structure will be P/1, 2/3, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8
5. Crystal Thorburne, Jill Levy-Peverelle and Carla Jackson have accepted positions at other schools; posting have been placed for teachers for junior high french/math/science, grade 3/4, and P-6 music and junior high phys ed
6. Principal's Current Newsletter accompanies these minutes
7. NRCS – Continuous School Improvement Plan – a copy accompanies these minutes; drafted by NRCS staff; focus on digital citizenship which will continue; staff has observed that anxiety in students is becoming an increasing concern and has proposed the "Mind Up Program"
8. Discussion concerning technology – introduction of iPads into the classroom has been closely monitored; have not replaced traditional teaching methods; use of iPads has given some students the opportunity to build peer relationships that did not exist before
9. Dress Code – the SAC will collaborate to review and revise our school dress code to be implemented September 2014.

**STUDENT REPORT – From Student Rep:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**Next SAC Meeting: TBD**

**ADJOURNED: 4:15pm**