

**SIR CHARLES TUPPER SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Tues, Jun 7th, 2016 @ 6pm
Library ~ 1930 Cambridge Street, Halifax, N.S
Agenda**

1) Call to Order and Welcome

- a. Patricia, Sarah, Victoria, Chris, Tom, Christine, Katie and guests Kim Connolly, Joachim Stroink

2) Approval of Minutes /Additions to the Agenda

3) Discussion with Joachim Stroink

- a. Joachim wanted to join us to talk about his role and how he can help lobby for issues we may have with the school (i.e. building). He noted that Tupper has some of the “best bones” of a school in the area. He’s visited a lot of other schools on the peninsula with more serious issues (leaks, damage, etc.). Joachim offered to come back any time. May also be able to have Karen Casey join us with enough notice.
- b. He requested the names of our graduating students so he can arrange for a congratulatory letter to be sent from the government. He also has flags available if we ever want them and provided everyone his business card for any other concerns we may want to discuss with him.
- c. As for our concerns/issues – he requested we send him an email with a list of our TIR (infrastructure) related concerns. We shared with him that Dan Sheehan came to our Feb meeting and some of those changes are taking place. Joachim is going to connect with Dan to discuss the remaining issues and see where we stand.
- d. Joachim mentioned that some of the infrastructure/structures at LeMarchant School are available for other schools to take if required. Patricia will contact the principal there to find out more.
- e. We discussed what we could do to promote public (vs private) schooling to help increase our numbers. Joachim noted that much of it is based on having a strong school community. The point was raised that our building’s exterior doesn’t help with our image for those who don’t know Tupper.
- f. Once Joachim left the meeting, we itemized a list of concerns that we would share with him that includes: façade of the school, Norwood stairs, leaks, roof at some point, gym windows. Also talked about local connections that he can help with...i.e. community gardens, artists to come to the school. Sarah will share this info with Joachim via email.

4) Principal/Vice-Principal updates

- a. New grade 4-6 curriculum being rolled out next year that will be a little more streamlined and integrated. Will look a little different on the report card - Math and Language Arts will still have a specific grade but others will be on a “developmental” scale. We have traded some of our old computers for new

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chrome books. Discussing technology at the next staff meeting. Still interested in transforming the library as a fun meeting/learning space with more of a technology focus. Primary Orientation went well, all kids/families came. String night at the Forum and the school music night went well. Sadly, Mr. Cochrane is leaving for a 100% role at Rockingham School. Ms. Oгаа (art teacher) has retired so a substitute has been in place since then. Art is part of the supplementary funding so we will be able to keep our art program with Mr. Cleary teaching it (gr 4-6) starting next year.

5) Business Arising from Apr 2016 Mtg.

- a. Playground Update: Yay!! We received \$30k from the City and have been awarded another \$30K grant for the playground. Wilson Fuels also provided a \$5k donation. We also made \$2k with the school musical. Plan is to have one main playground on the Cambridge St side of the school. All kids will enter/exit the school through the main doors starting next year and everyone will play together during recess and lunch. Our fundraising efforts are complete and construction should start some time early fall. Initial rendering has been done and will be going to tender soon.

6) New Business

- a. School fees - Not really any changes for next year. We're continuing to ask parents for \$35 from the primary parents but other classes are covered via the supply lists for each classroom.
- b. Class/Teacher outlook for next year – class numbers will likely change before Sept but teacher list is as follows: Primary – Disney, 1-Compton /Cleary, 2 - Vanhouten, 2/3 - Boyd/Layton, 3/4 – Kennedy, 4/5 Vandermolen, 5 – Black, 6 – Fader.
- c. Green team has planted some veggies/plants in the garden and a parent is going to help keep it up over the summer.
- d. We Team has raised almost \$500 to donate to charity. Great job!
- e. SAC Committee for 2016-2017
 - i. We will review in September.

7) Motion to Adjourn

8) Next meeting: Oct 2016!