

SIR CHARLES TUPPER SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
Tues, May 9th, 2017 @ 6pm
Library ~ 1930 Cambridge Street, Halifax, N.S
Agenda

1) Call to Order and Welcome

- a. Sarah, Nicole, Michelle, Jack, Erica B, Erica P, Victoria, Katie, Lenore, Patricia,

2) Approval of Minutes /Additions to the Agenda

3) Principal/Vice-Principal updates

- a. Patricia shared the update on the 30 additional minutes per day for the P-2 students. Students in grades P-2 will receive 30 additional minutes per week of phys ed class, for a total of 90 minutes per week. Effective Sept all students will finish at 3:30. Lego club has started and there's a great response to the Friday Running Club. P-3/4 had a field trip to the Discovery Centre. Grades 1, 2 and 2/3 went to the Conservatory for a performance. The fine arts performance night was a great success. Erica P was able to go to the "New Pedagogies in Deep Learning" conference in Toronto that included sharing from schools around the world. 6 teachers in total were there from Nova Scotia. It was not just tech focused but also focused on collaboration and problem solving. Erica felt that some of it was validation for the things we're already doing at Tupper. Patricia commented that it's great timing since we're using it to build out their plans – including 2 dedicated spaces for enhanced learning - the library and the tech room. Erica shared that there is a global hub of information/tools available that will help make connections around the world. Patricia shared that the provincial assessment results were all positive and consistent with previous years. The playground committee met to discuss how the remaining funds will be spent. The school has also received a \$750 grant for the community garden efforts.
 - i. Michelle raised concern about kids playing hide and seek by the cars afterschool and suggested it be communicated to students that the area is out of bounds – even afterschool.
 - ii. Katie asked if people can park in the school ground during off hours as she often sees young kids parking there to play ball. The signs will be updated to reflect "no authorized parking" .

4) Business Arising from March 2017 Meeting

a. Update on registration/class configuration

- i. Patricia shared that there are 189 enrolled for next year which will result in 9 classes: P, P-1,1-2, 2-3, 3, 4, 4-5, 5-6, 6. Katie asked that in classes with smaller numbers of one gender are kept together or at least with their friends with respect to a split class. Patricia shared that those considerations are included as well as other factors such as academics, ability to work independently, friendships etc.

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- b. Update on “clubs” plan for next year (from PTA mtg).
 - i. PTA was comfortable with having Michelle, Katie and Sarah move forward with the planning process for scheduling clubs for next year.

5) New Business

- a. Review of Attendance & Engagement Policy
 - i. The committee reviewed the policy and prepared responses to the required questions. The only concern raised was around the definition of “unexcused absences”. Sarah will submit the responses online.
 - ii. Lenore mentioned that our teachers will need clarification on the “unexcused” absence for record-keeping.
- b. Review of Parent Guardian Concern Policy
 - i. The committee reviewed the policy changes and prepared a response. The only comment was around the potential to add some timelines to the process.
- c. Focus Group invitation
 - i. Sarah received an invite from the school board about attending a focus group about updating the Public School Program and will send to the committee for review/response.
- d. 2017-18 SAC committee
 - i. Sarah suggested that there be some communication about the SAC Chair role for next year.

6) Motion to Adjourn

7) Next meeting: Jun 6th, 2017