

**Whycocomagh Education Centre School Advisory Council**  
**Draft - Meeting Meetings**  
**February 26, 2018**

Present – Stephanie Brushett, Brenda vanZutphen, Shelley MacLean, Fiona MacEachern, Val MacEachern, Eryn Sinclair, Jo-Ann Ellis, Lindsay MacInnis

1. Call to order – Val MacEachern called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Approval of Agenda – Joanne made a motion for approval. Seconded by Stephanie.
3. Approval of Previous Minutes – Joanne made a motion to approve. Seconded by Brenda.
  - Note that minutes can be sent by email to Jenn, Jason, Patrick, Bev, Val, Brenda, Jo-Ann, Danielle, Lindsay, George, Shelley, Rick, Fiona (bcc).
4. Business from Previous Minutes
  - i) Christmas Dinner – A bill for cost sharing was provided to CPAT (\$182.50). Shelley will pass it on to Danielle through Rheanon.
  - ii) Fundraising
    - (a) School Cookbook – A detailed update is still needed.
5. Council Members – Members will take turns chairing the meetings in absence of a chairperson.
6. Special reports or presentations
  - i) Principal's Report
    - (a) Glaze Report (School Advisory Councils). Shelley provided the section that refers to SAC's.
      - (i) In terms of impact on SAC's, the report aims to review the mandate of SAC's, to provide more money and training. SAC's will not replace elected school boards. More information to come. Shelley will share when it arrives.
      - (ii) Discussion around request on Facebook for students to stay him in order to make a statement to the government of their support for teachers. This is not encouraged or suggested by the school.
    - (b) Grade 6 Provincial Assessment Results – Current WEC grade 6 students did very well.
    - (c) SRSB Mental Health Strategy:
      - (i) Making sure we have school-based resources.
      - (ii) PATHS training – teaching students how to get along

- (iii) 'Go To' training – a teacher who students often go to for help, a listening ear.
- (iv) GSA – students have not asked about it this year.
- (v) Mental Health clinician at school every Friday.
- (vi) Schools Plus
- (vii) Free 2BU – Kathleen Cheetham offering.
- (viii) Brochure available for all parents about services that are available. (this is on the SRSB website and will be updated when necessary)

(d) SRSB Literacy Strategy:

- (i) Focus on balanced literacy instruction, multi-media resources, accelerated progress in Reading Recovery.
- (ii) PD – Site based literacy mentors. Self-directed PD.
- (iii) Oral language with SLP's
- (iv) Literacy Goal – ours is organization in writing.

(e) SRSB Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Strategy

- (i) Finding ways to ensure that everyone feels as though they belong in the school, that they are honoured and can be who they are.

ii) Playground Committee

- (1) Consultant from Cobequid Consulting visited the school for a tour. He suggested that we may want to put together a comprehensive plan that includes the large playground area at the same time as the small one.
- (2) Current focus is to approach community organizations for financial support. A list of organizations will circulate within the committee and individuals will visit organizations with a letter of request.
- (3) Some individuals will be approached for letters of support for grants. Students will work with their teachers to write a letter of support.

7. School Improvement Goals:

- a. Restorative Approaches – use of circles for both teaching and classroom discussion. Circles of all sorts are used so that students realize they have something to contribute.
  - i. Culturally responsive approaches – acknowledging who we are, where we come from and how to help everyone feel valued.
- b. Math – Demonstrating an understanding of the strategies used to solve math word problems.
- c. Literacy – Organization in writing

- i. We just did a reading and writing Olympics. Students embraced this and worked to improve their writing every day. Students also did a great deal of home reading to contribute points to their team.

8. Events at the School

- a. Literacy Olympics
- b. Winter Carnival – Students council will be approached to see if/when it is happening.

9. New Business

- a. Healthy lunches – Have a presentation at the pre-primary fair. The Public Health nutritionist could be asked to present.
- b. Primary Registration – Not sure of numbers. More than 10 but less than 15.
- c. Val would be interested to move on from her position in the spring if anyone else is interested in being the community representative.

10. Next meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month – March 19 @ 6pm