

# **Mill Valley Junior School**

## **School Advisory Council (SAC)**

### **September Minutes**

*A way for parents/caregivers, community members and school staff to be involved at Mill Valley Jr. School*

#### **ZOOM Meeting**

**Time: Sept 29th, 2021 7:03 pm**

#### **In Attendance:**

Tamara Schwarz (Principal)  
Marley King (DK Teacher on leave & SK parent)  
Stephanie Potter-Davey (Co-chair/secretary and grades 2 and 4)  
Michaela Parkinson (Co-Chair and Grade 2)  
Dan McLean (School Board Trustee)  
Lucy Campbell (Grade 5) - Rep?  
Elizabeth Laycock (Grade 5)  
Krishana Michaud (SK)  
Lindsay and Alekander Silj (Sk)  
Tomasz Czajkowski - (SK)  
Lisa (Grade 5 Virtual)  
David McLennon (JK)  
Adam & Christiana Krajewski (Sk, 2 and 4)  
Varun Madhok (JK and SK)  
Jennifer Lee (grade 2)  
Tina Marie (Grades 1, 2, and 4)

1. **Welcome Greetings**
2. **Introduction to SAC** for new people
3. **Goal and purpose of school council - what the role is and what it isn't**
  - a. The School Council is an advisory group made up of elected parents members (parents, teacher, non-teaching employee & principal) and and

executive group which gives advice & feedback to the principal on issues pertaining to the school.

- b. **Mandate:** To consult with parents of students enrolled in the school about matters under consideration by the council.
- c. **Goals & Objectives:** The School Council is the voice the larger parent group. The executive role is to facilitate communications between parents and administration, facilitate problem solving, advocate for transparency and accountability of administration and initiate fundraising to off-set costs not covered by funding. It's overall arching goal is to work together to improve student achievement for all students.

#### **4. Positions available**

- i. Chair / Co-chair, Secretary, Treasurer (limited)

#### **5. Create subcommittees**

- i. Outdoor Education
- ii. Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-racism (including positive interdependence?)
- iii. Athletics
- iv. Environmental

These descriptions will be provided to families by email with the nomination forms for the next meeting.

#### **6. Dan McLean - School Board Trustee**

- a. **Urban Indigenous Center** - Dan McLean sits on the board for this center at TDSB. Lots of connection to mother earth, nature and environmental impact. The Board passed the building of an outdoor learning building where Students can go on field trips and learn about the indigenous ways of life. It will be led by Indigenous teachers. The location will likely be in Bolton. Some are in the city and some are outside the city but it is hard to find land. First Indigenous executive superintendent appointed. TDSB also has an Indigenous school.
- b. **Pandemic** - staffing challenges, province isn't funding for all the expenses. Chromebooks being provided for grade 5s and 9s to keep for three years.

#### **7. Principals Report**

- a. **Covid19 protocols** - outbreak. School-wide testing happening. Not enough testing kits to send home with everyone if there is an outbreak. The protocol on the test kits was not clear and not enough provided from Sick Kids. n TDSB does not have the funds available to provide testing kits to everyone on a regular basis.
- b. **Staffing updates** - one staff self-isolating, DK hiring, French hiring
- c. **Yard supervision** - Ms. Grocott gone for a bit.... Looking to hire but not a full replacement. Applicants are encouraged to get in contact with Ms. Schwarz.

- d. Curriculum Night - Other years, parents and families have been able to come in and see the room, but not this year. The hope is that it will be virtual. Parents would like to see pictures of the classroom and hopefully speak with the teachers as well. Discussion about if we can get a staff photo for each person so that we know who people are.
- e. Picture Day - on hold (board decision)
- f. Truth & Reconciliation Day - Duane Gibson and QMack Virtual. Ms. Scott working with all the classes to teach about Indigenous ways of life, culture and about residential schools at an age appropriate level. The hope is to continue to communicate with families what is being learned at school in terms of this type of focus.

**News Flash:** Mill Valley is in the news for an outbreak. We would like to provide information to parents about what this means and what the school is doing.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.**

<<<<<<<<< Postponed until next meeting >>>>>>