

School Council Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2024

In attendance: Kimberly Hurrell, Angela Rees, Melanie Cole, Ann Blackmore, Jennifer Vokey-Tobin, Shannon Goldsworthy,

Regrets: Julia Ings, Justin Taylor, Amanda Tzenov

Business arising from the September meeting:

~ **No actions required**

~ **Cookbook update:** a sample of the cookbooks arrived during the summer and were of substandard quality so they were returned to the company. A second run was requested. The company indicated that the second run had been shipped and was at the border. That was the last that they were heard of. Melanie then filed a public complaint/appeal for assistance with the situation and was approached by a Canadian company. This company, out of Winnipeg, will print the cookbooks. Hopefully, they will arrive within the next few weeks.

New Business:

School Data Results: review of data of student results. Data from family surveys is not yet available.

Angela suggested we combat negativity/concern in the school community by putting what we're doing in the newsletter

- DARE
- Anti-bullying programs
- Gwen Carroll - Safe and Inclusive Itinerant working within our school

Notes stemming from the conversation regarding school safety:

- 1) Homeless encampments - there are several tents set up on the trail close to the school. Wellness checks have been done on people who are living in these tents. Anyone having any concerns should contact EndHomelessnessNL
- 2) Sharps - if a person were to come across a used needle (sharp) call the city and they will come to safely discard it. For more information visit <https://www.stjohns.ca/en/living-in-st-johns/needle-disposal.aspx>

Professional Learning Day - Nov. 1 - reviewed School Development Plan

The focus area for our school - Instructional Practice

Morning session: Why was instructional practice chosen? What are we doing to move towards growth in this area? Where are going in the future?

Review of UDL - Universal Design for Learning. This is a means of getting through to all students.

Our school adopted UFLI last year. This is a resource that develops phonemic awareness and phonological awareness in students. These areas have been identified by the Science of Reading as a necessary component of literacy development. This is a resource that will benefit every student.

Acadience - we are investigating adoption of Acadience as an assessment tools that will be used throughout the entire school.

Upcoming Professional Learning:

- 1) November 18 - PL report card writing
- 2) November 26 - District PL - a variety of sessions offered, some mandatory and others optional for all teachers in our family of schools.

School Pledge - a new student brought the idea forward of having a school-wide daily affirmation - we are exploring the idea - it would be recited together as a school each morning
Benefits:

- Sense of community
- Contest to write a Rennie's specific pledge
- Rennie's River Cheer
- Affirmation of self and positive behaviours

Date and time of meetings - we will return to Monday at 6 pm - this time is more convenient for members.

Fundraising - typically we've done 2 a year

- This year we'll do one
- Cookbooks en route
- Toy Drive - we can suggest a toy drive as well as a food drive in December to help our school families during this very difficult time.
- Clothing Swap - at the Lantern - this information to be shared in our school memo

Next meeting - Monday, December 2

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.