

## **Hillcrest Academy School Advisory Council**

**Meeting Agenda - Tuesday, May 28, 2024**

### **1. Call to Order: 6:00**

**Present: Dorien Bouma, Sandy Organ, Sherry Young, Rachel Daury, Tara Goulden, Tracey Pothier, Erika Goulden, Lisa Holmes, Karla Swansburg, Jody Dyer**

### **2. Approval of Agenda: Karla seconded the approval**

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

- February 15, 2024 meeting minutes (special meeting) [SAC Minutes February 15 2024.docx](#)
- April 2, 2024 meeting minutes [SAC MINUTES - April 2 2024 SAC.docx](#)
- May 13, 2024 meeting minutes (special meeting) [May 13 Agenda and Minutes - Special Meeting.docx](#)
- Rachael seconded the approval of the minutes

### **4. Old Business**

- Hillcrest SAC Agreement and By-laws (T. Pothier)- Here to help with the changing of the by-laws - No one group of the membership can be more than one third. Each group must be equal in size. 3 community members -1 Indigenous member, 1 African Nova Scotian, 1 other member (potentially). A motion was made to table changing our bylaws to be reconsidered in September when we can invite community members and generate some interest. Dorien moved and Sherry seconded the motion.
- School Time Change update (D. Bouma)- After the last meeting, Dorien reached out to Jared to ask about the switching of hours. He asked her to leave it with him and he'll touch base.
- Innovation Fund update - Tracey shared that the committee met and has made decisions. These decisions will be made public very soon as to who receives funds.
- Parking Lot and Land Purchase- No recent updates. The land purchase has not been approved. We are waiting to hear from the region or the province for further information.
- Visibility SAC (D. Bouma)-How can we give the SAC more visibility and make it known to parents and the community? Pamphlets at the Meet and Greet at the beginning of the year? A Facebook page for SAC specifically? Speak at the beginning meeting at the Meet and Greet to explain SAC (Dorien give some information).

### **5. New Business**

Ideas from a parent on potential projects/focus for SAC (D. Bouma)

1. Mental Health Initiatives: Prioritizing student mental health is crucial. Programs like peer counseling or mindfulness sessions could be really beneficial.
2. Technology in Education: Investing in new tech to enhance learning seems promising, especially tools that make lessons more interactive.
3. Environmental Projects: Initiatives like a school garden or recycling drive not only teach responsibility but also care for our planet

Arts and Cultural Exposure: 4. Bringing local artists into the school or celebrating diverse cultures would enrich our children's educational experience.

5. Student-Led Research: Encouraging students to tackle real-world problems can develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

6. Health and Nutrition Programs: Activities focusing on physical health and good eating habits are essential for well-rounded development.

7. Community Engagement: Involving students in community service could foster a sense of social responsibility.

8. Career and Technical Education: Updating resources in this area could provide practical skills that align with the evolving job market.

9. Peer Tutoring and Mentoring: This could be a great way to support both academic and personal growth among students.

10. Language Programs: Offering a variety of languages, including less commonly taught ones, would be a great addition.

11. STEM Activities: Programs in science and technology, like robotics clubs, could spark interest in these fields.

12. Inclusive Education: Ensuring resources are available for all types of learners is important for an inclusive school environment.

13. Parental and Community Involvement: Increasing opportunities for families to engage with the school would be wonderful.

14. Reading and Literacy Focus: Enhancing our library and organizing reading clubs would support literacy development.

Lunch Program for 2024-2025 (T. Goulden)- we do not have all the information yet. By October we will be fully up and running. Online and a pay- what- you- can. Menus will be tweaked to fit the service.

TCRCE Policy Review (T. Goulden)-4 policies were under review. Some information was given and will be added to the shared drive.

Set dates for 2024-2025 meetings- Begin Tuesday, September 24th

2023-2024 Annual Report [HILLCREST ACADEMY - SAC Annual Report 2023-24.docx](#)- Tara shared this with everyone. We discussed and summarized this report.

## **6. Principal's Report** [SAC Principal's Report - May 28 2024](#)

- Student Enrolment and Staffing Updates
- School Events
- Student Success Planning -submitted by June 14th.
- CLTs
- Spotlight on Reading
- Teacher Growth and Evaluation
- Finance Report [Finance Report for May 28 Meeting.pdf](#)

Dorien will touch base with Jared to discuss bussing and start times and the times changing. (question posed by a guest- Jody Dyer)

## **7. Next Meeting Date**

- Tuesday, September 24th at 6pm (Hillcrest Library)

**8. Adjournment: 7:18**

**seconded by Sandy**