



SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Bel Ayr Elementary School
4 Bell Street, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Meeting Minutes

Bel Ayr Elementary acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

			<u>Time</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
1.	Celebration- Thank you (pizza)		6:00	Marsh/Hendren/Strowbridge-Ford
2.	Approval of Agenda*	<i>Decision</i>	6:02	Strowbridge-Ford
3.	Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement		6:03	Strowbridge-Ford
4.	Consent Agenda: 4.1 Approval of Draft SAC Minutes of April 16, 2025 Meeting	<i>Decision approved by consent</i>	6:04	Strowbridge-Ford
5.	Admin Reports: 5.1 2025-26 Staffing/enrollment As of today, we have been allocated with 8 Homerooms and 1 PP Class for the 2025-26 school year. 5.2 New Phys Ed Teacher - May and June - Brittany Graham 5.3 PEBS School Wide Reward - Our students recently earned a new reward. 5.4 Facilities Walk-through – HRCE Operations - Last Friday 5.5 Staff Appreciation Week - Thank you to our Home and School for spoiling our staff once again!	<i>Discussion</i>	6:05	Marsh

	5.6 Spirit Week - This week is Spirit Week! Students are dressing up according to different themes each day. 5.7 Black Excellence Day – May 15th On May 15, 2025, Nova Scotia's public schools will observe Black Excellence Day, a day dedicated to honoring the achievements, stories, art, innovations, and communities of Black individuals. This day provides an opportunity for students, staff, and families to reflect on the contributions of Black Nova Scotians and to celebrate the brilliance and talents within the African diaspora. Students and staff are encouraged to wear black T-shirts to show unity and support for Black students and their success. Black Excellence Day aligns with Nova Scotia's Inclusive Education Policy, ensuring a high-quality, culturally responsive, and equitable education that supports the well-being and achievement of every student. It is a day for everyone to acknowledge and celebrate the past and present contributions and achievements of people of African descent. We invite all families to join in this meaningful celebration and to continue fostering an inclusive and supportive community for all students. 5.8 New Primary Parent-Guardian Meeting – Wednesday May 14th 6PM. We have 5.9 April 30th Professional Learning - As a whole staff, we worked on creating a Vision Statement for Bel Ayr, a new Behaviour Matrix of expectations and work on developing our cycle 3 strategies for Student Success Planning. 6.0 Mad Science Assembly - Our students earned a school Wide award. Ms. Hendren is working on scheduling a Mad Science assembly before our final assembly at the end of the year			
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6.	SSP – Focussed conversation about our new Cycle 3 literacy strategy Strategy: We will continue to improve reading comprehension and fluency through the reciprocal process of responding to text in writing and other ways of representing.	<i>Discussion</i>	6:15	Marsh
8.	SAC Grants: 8.1 SAC Grant- Artists in Residence-Update- Funds remaining as of May 6 th are approximately \$3500. We will get close to zero by June 8.2 New Proposed Innovation Grant: Alise and Nakita will work on it: are there other ideas or do we build and extend. Maybe STEM: explore links between indigenous teaching and science. Sustainability 8.3 HRCE Engagement Grant – Meeting with Scott Dillman last week - student generated. Shawn will revisit in the fall with Scott	<i>Discussion/Decision</i>	6:25	Marsh
9.	SAC Budget - Current balance is \$3798.69 with another \$65 in USD to be subtracted this week for Fundamentals math resources	<i>Decision Shawn will look at puddle tables and left over going to Supplies</i>	6:35	Marsh
10.	SAC Membership-update: Edy (community) and Dave (parent) are not returning. Flyers up, businesses. Try Volunteer Nova Scotia. Shawn will send to Woodlawn High. Representation in member would be preferential (under-represented)	<i>Discussion: change bylaw to include student</i>	6:40	Marsh
11.	SAC Annual Report Record:	<i>Discussion</i>	6:43	
12.	Macro Agenda- Items for next year Email to Nakita if there are items you'd like to see	<i>Discussion</i>	6:53	Strowbridge-Ford
13.	Other Business: 13.1 Code of Conduct & Behavioural Matrix 13.2 SAC Bylaws	<i>Discussion</i>	6:58	Strowbridge-Ford
14.	Adjournment	<i>Decision</i>	7:00	Strowbridge-Ford

Next SAC meeting: September 2025 dates will be circulated in late August