



SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 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.

			Time	Presenter
1.	Approval of Agenda*	Approved – delay admin report: start with SAC membership report. (see below)		
2.	Consent Agenda: 3.1 Approval of Draft SAC Minutes of February 18, 2026 Meeting	Decision		
3.	Admin Report - Term 3 is now underway in the wake of Student Progress Conferences and report cards last month. - 2026-27 Enrollment - our initial enrollment number for next year suggests that we will keep 8 homerooms and one preprimary class although we are dropping from 195 students down to 182. Next year could see significant changes if new primaries continue to decline. Thirty-two grade sixes will be leaving us this year and 22 new primaries			Marsh/Hendren

	are currently registered. Our preprimary numbers are currently sitting at six which is down from eighteen this year. - Mr. Hawkins announced that he would be leaving us before the Easter Break. Since then, many staff have come together to support our 3/4 room with extra love and supervision. Madison Allan. "Ms. Madi", started with us this week and is doing some amazing work! - Thank you to Ms. MacNeil for putting together The Masked Reader and our "Guess Who" bulletin boards. These small projects make a huge difference in school spirit and wellbeing for all. - The grade 3 provincial assessments are approaching quickly. Our Teaching Support Team has been busy establishing plans for supporting our two grade 3 classes with support structures during the assessments. Ms. Gibson is working in both rooms to help teachers with the practice assessments and lessons targeted toward building confidence with the writing process, responding to multiple choice, and comprehension strategies. We also have our math coach returning this week to support the pieces for mathematics. - We are working with HRCE Operations staff to assess what needs to be done to remove debris outside. They were in today and will get back to us tomorrow. - Thank you to Ms. McKenna for re-starting our Run Club. They had their first run yesterday during the lunch hour. Ms. McKenna is also gearing up for a grade 4-6 track meet in May. - There will be a Primary Parent/Guardian Meeting at the school on Wednesday, May 6th at 6 PM - Our PBIS Assemblies are catching momentum this year with Ms. Hendren and her Tech Team are working very hard to interview students about our			
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	behaviour matrix to show in the gym each month. - Our lower Elementary recently submitted an application for the Supernova STEM program at Dalhousie. - One of our water bottle refilling stations was recently upgraded after the old one failed in the winter.			
4.	SSP Data <u>Total Incidents Reported to Admin by Month - Feb/March Update</u> September - 30 October - 32 November - 35 December -20 January – 26 February - 47 March - 20	Discussion		Marsh/Hendren
5.	2026-27 Membership Discussion - New SAC Chair appointment - Thank you to Ms. Strowbridge-Ford for serving in the Chair position for the past three years - Posting for vacant seats - Check out: Darmouth East Community Centre; - Volunteer NS; - Woodlawn students	Discussion		Marsh/Hendren
7.	SAC Innovation Grant Update - A team from the Physics and Environmental Science departments at Dalhousie University visited to deliver mini STEM challenges to our grade 5s and 6s. - We continue to purchase supplies for STEM challenges, anchor texts, STEM kits, repairs/supplies for 3D printer, and payment for two half-day guest speakers. We began with \$9983 and are sitting near the \$6000 range before submitting new supply orders and payment to our Dalhousie Guests.	Discussion	6:45	Hendren/Marsh/Jayakumar
8.	SAC Fund Requests	Jeff moves to push all remaining funds	6:55	Marsh

	- We have upcoming professional learning for the new 3-6 curriculum that will require school to purchase professional resources. Our staff would like to have copies of these texts in each classroom (~\$1500) - A \$500 requests has been made to support the grade 6 year-end festivities - What are our thoughts on allocating remaining SAC funds to supporting school supply purchases?	<i>into school supply initiative</i>		
9.	Other Business:	<i>Discussion</i>		
10.	Adjournment	<i>Decision</i>		

Next SAC meeting: Meeting in May in lieu of the one missed in the fall?