

SAC Meeting Minutes: October 19th, 2023.

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Members Present:

- Michelle Kavanaugh Principal
- Christine McKenna Vice-Principal
- Brooke VanTassel Teacher (Absent)
- Diana Hatchette Teacher (Absent)
- Angela Murphy Parent
- Amanda Dowling Parent
- Natasha Riley Parent (Absent)
- Michelle Garcia Schools Plus Community Outreach Worker
- Tyrell Grosse Grade 7 student representative
- Kassidy Molineux- Ross Grade 9 student representative

Currently looking for community members to join the SAC- advertised on JM/JH X (Twitter) account and on JM/JH website

Michelle shared:

- Discussed main purpose of the SAC
- Decisions made last year during SAC: approved soccer uniforms for the school, t-shirts with the bee kind shirt and teachers were provided \$200 each to purchase resources for their classrooms

Michelle shared:

- Enrollment currently at 262 students currently
- Currently three grade 7 classes, four grade 8 classes, three grade 9 classes, and two grade 6 classes
- Grade 6 classes both currently at cap
- Discussed support teachers currently at JM/JH
 - Math support teacher- Lacey Cyr
 - 50% student support teacher- Matt Malone
 - 2.5 LC teachers- Missy Watts, Scott Bakker, Tarndeeep Kaur
 - 1 resource teacher- Marina Clyde
- - Events and activities, sports happening this year
 - Fine arts program opportunities provided through HRCE- provided for free for students

Student Achievement:

- SSP-literacy, math and student well being goals based on Student Success Surveys from last May
- Strategies and actions set for short cycles of 6-8 weeks
- Staff have participated in diversity training- attacks on identity being recorded and reported to ensure support and resources are provided

- Math scores: improved 8.5% during 2021-2022- schools year from provincial RWM8
- Literacy goal will focus on the area of writing to support students in becoming more detailed in their writing – focus of the first short week cycle
- Data shows that males are struggling more than female students
- Math coach (Lacey Cyr) blocks have changed from longer blocks last year to shorter blocks this year
- Shared additional support time in schedule used for literacy and math support- targeted instruction for small groups
- Students experienced success last year in fraction unit last year
- 2022 assessment results RWM8 will be going home soon to families

Students shared:

- They enjoy when they have extra support in class- more teachers means more help for students, helps increase understanding, students connect with different teachers, enjoy small group instruction, provide an alternate location for assessments as needed, different leveled assessments (mild, medium, and spicy) provides choice
- Tyrell shared he sometimes feels he needs more of a challenge in math.
- Michelle shared that staff goal is to encourage risk taking and development of confidence building
- Angela shared that grade 9 math makes meeting outcomes in grade 10 challenging. We will look into this.

Information Regarding Food Programs:

- North Grove Hot Lunch program:
 - partnership arranged for once-a-week lunch, Boys and Girls Club provide transport, North Grove prepares food, JMJH provides funding
 - We've noticed that one meal last two days
 - Will be able to determine how many lunches per week can be offered when expenditures are firmed up
- Discussed food insecurity being a huge issue
- Amanda shared: North Grove provides community lunch on Tuesday and provides space for 3-4 tables of JMJH students
- Christine shared: Grab and go options always available for students who miss breakfast program. Wanda has fruit available for students to access at any point in the day.
- Christine shared: JMJH will be offering a turkey dinner this year before holidays. Nova Scotia Power provides food and provides people to prepare the food and will encourage student involvement in preparing food in JMJH kitchen.

Cost of busses with southland is exorbitant and makes trips and cost difficult

Transit Pass Pilot Program:

- Christine shared: HRM transit pass program is not being renewed

- recommend reaching out to Tony Mancini and Susan LeBlanc to discuss why the transit program is not being renewed for JMjH and feeder schools.s.
- Transit passes expire December 31, 2023.

Additional Information shared:

- Angela Murray- Cheer coach- wondering if any coaches are willing to do coaching at the junior high level, will research further and report back.
 - Kade shared views on lockers- feels they aren't needed, students put bookbags on chairs, keep supplies in bookbags
 - Michelle- positives and negatives- congestion in the hallways, lockers, no funding to purchase new lockers, 100 lockers available for the entire school
 - Christine- looking into damaged lockers to be removed,
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- **Next meeting November 30 (virtual option made available)**
 - **February virtual session**