

SJAM SAC Meeting Minutes March 19, 2024

In Attendance: Ben Stone, Jamesie Coolican, Anita Richards, Katie Mott, Nakeah Young, Creighton Barrett, Cheyanne Tolliver, Ivy Ho, Raquel Fletcher, Amanda Meisner, Janessa Williams

Regrets: Kim Fry

Approval of February minutes and March agenda.

Literacy, Math, Well Being Goals:

Literacy:

Admin met with our SLP (Speech Language Pathologist), Colleen Liiva to review data from Grades P-2 with respect to the whole class lessons being done with the UFLI program. Attached are slides showing a comparison of Fall data and Mid-Year data. This literacy intervention was supported by SAC with funds to purchase resources and materials for SLP and classroom teacher to deliver program lessons. All literacy specialists have submitted their results from Block 1 and are working in Block 2 with students. Overall, every student who is having interventions are progressing. They are planning on testing French Immersion students in Grade 3-6. Work is also being done to translate the materials so that Primary to Grade 2 can be tested/supported. One challenge is that there is only a 50% teacher allocation for French Resource, which limits the amount of support given to French Immersion students in Grade 3-6. Cheyanne has been advocating for an increase in allocation for French Resource. There is a French Literacy teacher who supports grade 1 & 2.

Math:

Admin received the Item Description Report for Mathematics from the grade 3 and grade 6 Provincial Assessments. Attached are a couple of supplies showing where our school is meeting compared to the province and our RCE. This data will be reviewed and used to plan for next steps with our classroom teachers, Resource support, and Math Support Teacher. The focus of our PD on April 4th will be math where we will spend some time with these results and also continue to monitor through our TST (Teacher Support Team) meetings. The Math Support Teacher, Natalie Deware has reported her data for Block 1 Grade 2, and we are happy to report that 5 out of 14 students have been discontinued because they have met grade level outcomes. She will continue with her groupings and add students who weren't able to get picked up in Block 1 for Block 2.

Well Being:

GSA-Rainbow Club has had their first meeting. Administration also met with the School Counsellor, School Psychologist, and CYCP (Child & Youth Care Practitioner) to review some trends we noticed with students needing support with anxiety, focus, personal space, solving problems, etc. Together they are going to develop Tier 1 Whole Class Support for several classes with ongoing lessons and activities to support students in these areas.

Current school site update: Electronic gauges are installed, and the next step is to connect them to the system.

New school update:

No new updates.

Bussing update: No new updates. However, it has come to the school's attention that two daycares North End and Ward 5 have yet to find new sites and have to vacate their current

spot in July. A letter has been sent to the School Supervisor to advise as new routing will have to be planned out for these students and families informed for September 2024.

Staffing update:

We now have Mallory Goss returning to SJAM filling in for Heather Darwish until June. We also received a grant to hire a teacher under the African Nova Scotian Literacy Grant to work with student of African Ancestry who are not meeting in literacy. We have hired Rachael Griffith who already fills a 30% relief position at the school.

Food Program at SJAM:

Nothing to report.

School Activities:

We had a wonderful whole school assembly on February 23 celebrating our Black Educators and African Heritage. Our basketball team is doing phenomenal and have been on a great winning streak. There are a few games left in the season. Thank you to SAC for contributing to the new school jerseys. Four new soccer nets and several balls were purchased and will be set up outside this week. We are now planning for two upcoming events: DAL/SJAM day and our SJAMBoree in June. A financial request to SAC will be submitted in May or June to support with SJAMBoree. Thanking you in advance!

Budget: There is \$5795.89 left in the SAC account. A request for SJAMBoree is coming soon.

SAC innovation fund: Cheyanne suggested that she will bring it to the staff to see if they have any ideas.

Ben completed a draft letter related to GSA advocacy. He is open to feedback from SAC members.

It is ok to move forward with a questionnaire asking about community impacts of the school construction/relocation.

Ben and Katie have both contacted people to recruit community members. Jalana Lewis has agreed to join SAC once she is finished her maternity leave.

Next Meeting Tuesday April 16th