

SAC Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, May 6, 2025 • 6:00 PM • Google Meet

Attendees:

Heather Napoli, Chair - Parent Representative
Liz Hallett, Vice-Chair - Parent Representative
Lauren Bowes, Secretary - Support Staff Representative
David O'Brien - Principal
Melanie Connors-Blades - Teacher Representative
Shelley Mills - Community Representative

Regrets:

NONE

Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting

Heather Napoli made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2025 meeting as presented. Shelley Mills seconded the motion. All in favor.

Principal's Report to the SAC

David O'Brien presented the Principal's Report to the SAC:

- **Enrollment**
 - As of May 6, 2025, ESM has 82 students enrolled for the 2025/26 school year.
- **Maintenance & Safety**
 - David O'Brien shared with the SAC the Safety Presentation that was given to ESM students. The safety presentation focuses on Bus Safety and Playground Safety and was used as a refresher for students as we enter into the final weeks of the school year when students start to become more lax with following proper safety protocols.
 - Three new whiteboards have been purchased - 2 to replace old whiteboards that were no longer serving their purpose, and 1 as an addition to the Grade 3/4 classroom.
 - A new storage area under the stairs is complete and will be put to good use.
- **Academics & Data**
 - EXCEL Program
 - ESM has never had an EXCEL program, but with the growth in enrollment and the inquiries of new families, an interest survey was sent out in the fall and again at the beginning of May.
 - The survey is complete and has generated significant interest. However, we continue to await a decision.
 - ESM School Configuration for 2025-25
 - 4 Classes:
 - Primary/One
 - One/Two

- Three/Four
 - Five/Six
- Staffing Allocations
 - Music Teacher (Shared)
 - Phys Ed Teacher (Shared)
 - Instrumental Music for Grades 5/6 (Shared)
 - Resource 50%
 - Learning Centre 50%
 - Early Literacy Support Teacher 50%
 - Prep & Marking Teacher Relief 30%
 - Core French 30%
 - School Counsellor 20%
 - Librarian 20%
 - EPA Allotment (TBD)
- Grade 3 Provincial Assessments in Literacy and Math will be conducted this month over the course of 4 days. These assessments are used by teachers to plan a cycle of continuous assessment >> planning >> re-assessment >> planning. This is done when looking at individual students, classes as a whole, for discussion between staff members in Teacher Support Teams and other Collaborations, and as part of our school-wide reflection of our practices.
- **Field Trips**
 - The following trips are booked
 - Pre-Primary - Grade 2: Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park
 - The Learn to Fish program will be joining us at the park and will be teaching the students in small groups how to fish.
 - Grade 3/4: Discovery Centre
 - Grade 5/6: Bayside Camp
- **School Culture**
 - David O'Brien is continuing Roots of Empathy with success.
 - In May, we have scheduled a WITS (Writers in the Schools) visit by author and illustrator Brianna Corr Scott, who will be doing writing and art workshops for all classes.
 - Run Club, organized by Melanie Connors-Blades, is being held each Thursday for 6 weeks, culminating in a Bluenose Fun Run for Run Club participants. Once again, the Bluenose Marathon team will be joining us with the Finish Line and the Bluenose mascot, Miles. We have 27 students participating in Run Club this year.

New Business

- David O'Brien requested funding for the following:
 - Pre-Primary - Grade 2 Field Trip (Bus)
 - Heather Napoli made a motion to pay the full amount of \$381.81 to STC to cover bussing costs for the PP-2 field trip. Liz Hallett seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - Grade 3/4 Field Trip (Admission and Workshop)
 - Heather Napoli made a motion to pay the full amount of \$204 to Discovery Centre to cover the cost of admission and workshop for all students. Liz Hallett seconded the motion. All in favor
 - Classroom Teachers Year-End Needs
 - Funding request tabled due to time constraints.

- School Supplies for September 2025
 - There was a lot of discussion about the SAC budget and our ability to cover the full costs of school supplies for the 2025-26 school year and beyond. The council wants to ensure that we are able to continue providing this much needed and appreciated service to our students and their families. The decision was tabled until members could be provided with a more detailed financial outlook

Adjournment - 7:26 PM