

# SAC Virtual Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2021

3:15 pm

ESM

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**Attendees:** Shelley Myra, Principal  
Sissy Berringer, Administrative Assistant  
Emily Hubley, SAC Chair - Regrets  
Chris Buckley, SAC Co-Chair  
Trish Cuvelier, Grade 5/6 Teacher  
Lorie-Ann Mills, Community Member

## *Minutes*

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**Agenda item:** Approval of Minutes

**Discussion:**

The February Minutes were approved without amendment.

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**Agenda item:** Chromebooks & Budget Update

**Discussion:**

Chromebooks were ordered and received at the school. All classes now have a complete set of Chromebooks. No monies were utilized from the SAC. Chromebooks were funded from ESM Instructional budget.

Shelley explained that we may need to purchase some books recommended to us by our School Psychologist – Albertine Clements from our SAC budget. These resources will continue to support and keep students moving forward surrounding strengthening our lower elementary phonological skills. As well as apply these necessary literacy skills to increase their everyday reading skills.

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**Agenda item:** Student Success Plan Goals

**Discussion:**

**ESM's – Student Success Plan Goals (SSP)**

**Wellness Goal:** We will improve the well-being of our students.

**Strategy:** We will embed the start-up of **virtual reading buddies** to:

- Ensure ALL students, especially our invisible students to feel included, to feel self-worth, to feel confident and to feel they truly matter;
- Provide our upper elementary students with the opportunity to have a natural, leadership interaction they will take on, in modeling and supporting our lower elementary readers;
- Enable all staff to become **better acquainted** and **build long lasting relationships** with our young learners throughout their academic life at East St. Margaret's Elementary.

**Literacy Goal:** To improve student achievement in writing with a focus on ideas and organization.

**Numeracy Communication:** To improve student achievement in being able to communicate their understanding and thinking process in number sense.

Shelley discussed ESM's Student Success Plan (SSP) Goals. These goals were developed prior to Shelley and Sissy coming to ESM. Therefore, we are continuing to follow-through and seeing these goals to fruition.

Trish spoke to each goal, discussing how the goals were developed and explaining how the goals are being supported/implemented by each classroom teacher. Trish also shared ESM's school-wide Wellness Goal and as a staff, the action steps that staff have begun to implement. For example: Virtual Reading Buddie, Virtual Baking Videos, and

African Mask-Making digital DIY projects have been introduced – Grade 5/6 students peering up with students in the lower grades. The purpose of this specific action is to showcase the older students as leaders to our lower elementary students. This action also provided the opportunity for the Upper Elementary teachers to build virtual relationships with the lower level elementary students during this unique time of pandemic teaching and learning.

Shelley spoke regarding all the wonderful opportunities happening at ESM. We have had Virtual field trips, Virtual Assemblies and Virtual Guest speakers. ESM has sought opportunities to be creative in these times of COVID.

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**Agenda item:** Blended Learning Plan

**Discussion:**

Emily asked Shelley if she could speak to the COVID Plan/Blended Learning. Shelley advised that we are currently in Plan B – Partial Learning and spoke of the schools currently working/teaching from home.

Shelley advised that ESM staff are ready if we have to go to remote learning and that staff are doing a terrific job with our students and getting them well-versed should ESM need to pivot to this Plan B scenario.

Shelley referred the committee to our ESM Monthly Newsletters regarding information on Plan C – Remote Learning.

Emily asked how the SAC would proceed if we went to remote learning, Shelley advised that we would continue as normal and follow our regularly scheduled meeting plan.

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**Agenda item:** ESM Assembly Video

**Discussion:**

Shelley shared with the committee our ESM February Virtual Assembly Video. Was a chance the members could get an insight as to the natural, positive learning and climate of our school.

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**Agenda item:** Video Camera's on School Busses

**Discussion:**

Chris spoke regarding a child in HRM who was banned from the school bus due to behavioral issues. Shelley assured Chris busses from ESM or elementary schools do not have cameras. Shelley reviewed ESM's policy regarding discipline (Provincial Code of Conduct) in connection to this conversation.

Lori also mentioned that one of the busses driving up Bremnar Road, does not seem to have enough power to reach the top of the hill. Shelley advised that Chris and Lori can definitely check with our Transportation Department regarding the above issues.

Chris mentioned Shelley solves any/all problems which arise and keeps the school running smoothly and moving forward – especially during these unprecedented times.

## ***Other Information***

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Meeting Adjourned: 4:10 pm

Next SAC meeting to be held via Zoom – April 27, 2021 - 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm