

Beaver Bank Monarch Elementary School School Advisory Council

Meeting: November 4th, 2024

In Attendance: Blair MacDonald, Lyle Mailman, Lyndsey Graham, Angel Ryan, Wendy Bell, Kathryn Arseneau, Erin McInnis, Chelsea Foley, Lisa Taylor

Regrets: Ed Thompson

DISCUSSION ITEMS	Minutes
Call to order:	3:05
Approval of agenda:	
Approval of meeting summary:	
Business arising from the meeting minutes:	
Principal's Report:	Future Meeting Dates: Jan. 13 th , April 17 th , June 16 th Opening:
	-Introductions & welcome to new members
	SAC Chair- Blair MacDonald Parent Members- Lyle Mailman & Lyndsey Graham
	Community Member- Erin McInnis, Ed Thompson; (one position unfilled)
	Staff Members- Angel Ryan, Wendy Bell, Kathryn Arseneau
	Administration- Lisa Taylor & Chelsea Foley
	-Review of SAC by-laws & SAC agreement
	Motion by Lyle to review by-laws & SAC agreement. Conversation among members about adding a Vice Chair to the SAC. Lyndsey Graham suggested that the size of the current SAC group may not warrant

the need of the Vice Chair position and as Blair MacDonald also pointed out, it is an optional and discretionary position. Conversation tabled to the next meeting.

Updates:

Staffing Overview: We are fully staffed. We have 15 classrooms (including 2 PP) and over 40 staff members with over 330 students.

Discussed class sizes are reviewed class caps (soft & hard cap). No classes are over cap, several are at cap of just below.

PD Day Overview: BBMD teamed up with BBK for the PD day. Teachers in Grades 3-5 met at BBK to work in the area of Mathematics, specifically focussing on computational fluency while teachers in Grades P-2 met at BBMD to receive instruction on the new literacy curriculum being introduced in Term 2 by our ELST teachers.

Elementary Literacy Support Teacher (ELST)

Position: The ELST role is new to HRCE schools this year. We are fortunate to have 1.5 teachers filling this position at BBMD (Ms. Arseneau & Ms. Dean). They have been busy meeting with teachers, organizing materials, introducing a new P-2 Literacy curriculum, in-servicing new teachers on UFLI, working with small groups, and have also begun to establish literacy workstations in P-2 classrooms.

The role of the ELST teacher is to build strength in classroom and Tier 1 instruction- introduce & review the curriculum, model how to teach it, be available to answer questions related to literacy instruction, and provide the resources needed to implement the curriculum appropriately.

Math Coach: We currently have a Math Coach (Liza Simpson) in the building supporting 4 teachers/ classes. Much of their work together is focused on the computational fluency aspect of our curriculum.

Lunch Program: We have completed one full week of the new lunch program. It hasn't been without hiccups, including the timing of the food arrival and the in-house delivery system, but we have received some positive feedback. Continued efforts are being made to improve the program as it works through its kinks.

Discussed the compostable packaging and the distribution guidelines we are bound by that state that meals cannot be kept longer than 2 hours and are to be thrown out after that window & not sent home.

Progress Conferences: (Formerly Parent-Teacher Conferences) Term 1 progress conferences will be traditional, in person conferences. They are scheduled for Dec. 5th. More information to come. Second term conferences will be student-led.

Book Bureau Order: Awaiting the arrival of book bureau items. Items include a variety of culturally relevant texts to support and enrich classroom literacy instruction and complement the new P-2 literacy curriculum as well as math manipulatives to support our computational fluency math focus.

Purchases update

Special reports and/or presentations:

Provincial SAC Conference: Blair & Chelsea attended the provincial SAC conference in Halifax in September. Spoke about the day, the guest speakers, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities. Blair interested in reviewing a copy of the success stories shared on behalf of other schools/centres. Admin to speak with school supervisor to try and obtain a copy for next meeting.

Remembrance Day Assembly: Our Remembrance Day assembly will be held Friday, Nov. 8th. Communication was shared with families on Friday.

Circus Arts Specialist: Our Grades 3-5 students will have an opportunity to work with Kristin Langille, the HRCE Circus Arts Specialist later this month.

Other:	
Next Meeting: Jan. 13 th , 2025	
Adjournment Time:	