

## School Advisory Council Meeting

### Halifax Central Junior High

September 28, 2016

Attending Members: Robert MacMillan, Principal; Jane Grantmyre, Chair; Jack Baker, Grade 7 (new); Kathleen Connolly, Grade 7 (new); Isobel Cameron, Grade 9; Emerson Crick, Grade 9; and Ann Jessome, Teacher.

Observers: Kim Connolly, Parent.

Mr. Brian Mrezar will join the SAC as a teacher representative. A third teacher will also be invited to join.

We are still looking for a parent (grade 7 preferred) and a community member to fill vacancies left by graduating students/parents.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.

Topic	Details
Approval of Minutes	The minutes of June 15, 2015 were not available due to a technology glitch. This was deferred to next meeting.
Principals' Report Robert MacMillan	<p>Mr. MacMillan welcomed Jane Grantmyre as the incoming chair, and Mr. Jason Flinn, Vice Principal, who will be addressing the SAC later in the meeting. Mr. MacMillan also welcomed the new representatives for grade 7: Jack Baker and Kathleen Connolly. Kim Connolly, Kathleen's mother, was invited to observe the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mr. MacMillan reported that there was a very busy start to the year with many changes in the teaching staff. Ms. Hunson retired, and Ms. Ledger and Ms. Gillis are on maternity leave. Ms. Wry is covering Ms. Gillis' maternity leave. Ms. Maddalena has returned from maternity leave. Ms. Nickerson moved to a new school. New teachers on staff are Ms. Kaitlin Chisholm, Josie Boutilier, and Char MacDonald.</li><li>- The present enrollment is 168 students. There are 63 grade seven students, 45 grade eight students, and 60 grade nine students.</li><li>- Mr. MacMillan reviewed policy and the new teaching standards at the staff orientation and professional development days on September 6 &amp; 7.</li><li>- A fire drill was held on September 15. The evacuation time improved with practice. A lockdown drill was held on September 21.</li><li>- Mr. MacMillan attended a meeting of principals on September 22</li></ul>

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	<p>to review the new teaching standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Curriculum Night/Meet the Teacher was held on the evening on September 22. A new format was followed that encouraged parents to visit teachers in their classroom, after the greetings from the principal. Jane commented that she found it informative to see the teachers in their classrooms with their resources, such as reference books and lab equipment.</li> <li>- Staff members are working on their professional goals which are due at the end of the week.</li> </ul>
Invited Report from the Vice Principal – Jason Flinn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Home and School Meeting on September 26 – Update provided by Jason Flinn, VP. Mr. Flinn reviewed upcoming events and fundraising activities by the Home &amp; School Association.</li> </ul>
Grade 9 Report Isobel & Emerson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mirrors in the girls’ washrooms and change rooms need to be lowered for easier viewing.</li> <li>- Emerson asked if grade 9 students could volunteer to help at the grade 7 fun day. Mr. MacMillan indicated that some grade 9 students would be needed to help with the activities.</li> </ul>
Grade 8 Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- unavailable</li> </ul>
Grade 7 Report Jack & Kathleen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jack asked if there was a school newspaper at HCJH. He will follow-up with Mrs. Maddalena.</li> </ul>
Teacher’s Report Ann Jessome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Jessome and Mr. Mrezar will be guiding interested students who wish to compete at the upcoming Science Fair.</li> <li>- Ms. Keefe will be taking the grade 8 students to Le Bistro as part of the French curriculum, followed by a visit to the Halifax Central Library.</li> <li>- The grade 7 classes will spend a day at the Natural Resources Centre in Middle Musquodoboit, followed by activities at the school. This is part of the orientation program for HCJH.</li> </ul>
Student Success Plan (formerly CSI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HCJH is now in Year Two of its goals. The Mathematics Goal is: Students will demonstrate improvement in their ability to answer analysis level questions. The Literacy Goal is: Students will demonstrate improvement in reading comprehension through critical thinking.</li> </ul>
School Discipline Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership will be deferred until the next meeting when more SAC members are present.</li> </ul>
Draft Student Transportation Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Copies of the policy were circulated for review. Most of the policy does not apply to HCJH as our students are not transported by school bus. A parent who was observing the SAC meeting, Kim Connolly, recommended including information in the policy on transportation by parents for sporting events and field trips, etc. It was noted that</li> </ul>

	teachers will now be liable when transporting students to activities.
Future meeting dates	- We must have a minimum of six meetings per year. Our next meeting will be November 9, 2016.
Adjournment	At 7:05 pm.