

Millwood Elementary School Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday November 20, 2024 6:30 pm

Type of Meeting: Regular Business Chair: Michelle Barnhill Note taker: Nancy McNeil

Membership/Attendance:

Parent Members	Community Members	Staff Members	Administration
Michelle Barnhill Emily MacLeod Susan Harris (x)	Lynn Parsons (X) Joann Nolan	Traci George Angie MacAloney Nancy McNeil	Michelle Andrews (Principal) Christine Richardson (Vice Principal)
Guests: Christine White Amanda Guitard Pamela King			

Record of Decisions:

Agenda Items	Summary	I-Information D-Decision A-Action
 Approval of the Agenda/Approval 	Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm	I
of minutes Lead: Michelle B.	Ms. McNeil was first to recommend the approval of the agenda and Ms. Andrews seconded it. Agenda was approved. Minutes from the October 9 meeting were approved.	D
2. Items Brought Forward Lead: Michelle B.	None at this time	1
 Principal's Report / SSP Update Lead: Michelle A. 	Winter Showcase MES will be holding its Winter Showcase on December 10 and 11. There will be afternoon shows on both days and tickets will not be necessary for these shows. For the evening shows,	I
	families will receive two tickets/family/night. The office will be maintaining a list for families seeking extra tickets. Ms. Andrews shared that Ms. Snider, Music teacher, has been doing a great job with the Music program this year. Ms. Snider	I
	has worked with the ORFF Program and is also seeking support from outside resources.	I



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Provincial Lunch Program The Lunch Program launched on October 28 and is going fairly well at MES so far. Administration has been asked to submit photos of the food daily. MES has been able to hire a person who comes three hours every day to help with the distribution of approximately 250 meals each day. Ms. Nolan shared that she felt that the quality of the food was pretty good. Sanitizing the bins that the food is stored in an issue currently being looked at. Administration has reduced the number of extra meals that they have been ordering in an effort to reduce waste.	I	
	Child and Youth Care Practitioner Our CYCP, Charlotte Pike, has moved to another school. Her position has been advertised and will hopefully be filled soon. Ms. Pike provided a great deal of support to students, offering social-emotional support and working with small groups. School Success Planning Report Cards will go home on December 4 Professional Development and Progress Conferences will take place on December 5. The PD on this day will be self-directed by staff. Teachers will inform Ms. Andrews and Ms. Richardson of their intended focus for that day.	I
	LM3 Results Update Results of the Grade Three Assessment recently went home to families. Across the entire HRCE, students are struggling with writing. This is no different at MES. Reading results are consistent. Teachers continue to focus on phonics and being more intentional and targeted on small group instruction. Staff are focusing on how to bridge reading and writing, as well as the reciprocity between the two. This is a process that has to be explicitly taught to students. In the area of Math, foundational concepts results were strong. Application and analysis, however, were weaker. This applies to the deeper thinking aspect of math. Students need to apply their foundational knowledge in this area.	



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4. Wellness Update	Week of Giving	1
Lead: Christine	For the week of November 18-22, MES has been holding a week of giving. Each day has a theme (hat day, PJ day, etc.) in conjunction with a themed donation to Feed Nova Scotia and other area charities. Students have been donating meals in a can, new, unwrapped toys, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and breakfast items. The response and participation has been overwhelming. Students have been made aware that for every donation they make, their name will go in to a draw for one of three prizes: 2 tickets to a Mooseheads game and one of two family passes to Glo Halifax's Jolly Jumble. Draws for those prizes will take place on Tuesday November 26, which is the last day that donations will be accepted. Stuff a Bus will be here at the school on Friday December 6 to collect the donated food. Spirit Week During the last full week of school before Christmas Break, students and staff will have the opportunity to participate in a number of themed days, as well as other festive activities such as a school wide bingo, read alouds and sing alongs. More information will be send home to families via email in the coming weeks.	
	Remembrance Day Assembly The assembly was very successful. Sixteen military members were in attendance. Several of our class wreaths ended up being laid at the cenotaph in Lower Sackville.	
5. SOS Lead: Joann	Ms. Nolan shared that the Halloween event on the evening of October 24 was successful. There were lots of students in their costumes having fun with the families, and the weather was cooperative.	I
	Ms. Nolan shared that the SOS had the school booked for an event on February 12. February is Literacy Month. Last year	



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	the evening had a theme of "For the Love of Reading" and this may be something that is done again this year.	
6. Other Business Lead: Michelle	Community Members needed for SAC Ms. Amanda Guitard offered to be a Community Member on our SAC. Book Fair Parents asked whether the library would be hosting a Book Fair this year and Ms. Richardson shared that Ms. Parsons was planning on doing a fair in the Spring.	
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Next Meeting: January 22nd, 2025 (via Zoom)