

Record of Decisions



Millwood Elementary School Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday January 22, 2025 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			

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Agenda Items	Summary	I-Information D-Decision A-Action
1. Approval of the Agenda/Approval of minutes Lead: Michelle B.	Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm Minutes from our November meeting were approved as was the agenda for this evening's meeting.	I D
2. Items Brought Forward Lead: Michelle B.	None at this time	I
3. Principal's Report / SSP Update Lead: Michelle A.	Winter Showcase The Winter Showcase was a huge success and school staff felt that the event was enjoyed by the school community. Ms. Andrews added that despite Ms. Snider not have formal music education training, our Music programming is going very well this year. CYCP As yet, our CYCP position has not been filled. A majority of the work that would have been done by our CYCP has fallen to Ms. Richardson and Ms. Andrews.	I I I

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	<p>Provincial Lunch Program The Lunch Program has been successful thus far at MES. Danielle King, a parent at MES, is helping deliver the program and often has students in Grades 4 & 5 helping her.</p>	I
	<p>School Success Planning Literacy: We are now in Cycle 2 of our plan. Staff are participating in more intentional conversations with respect to writing. Across the province, and the HRCE, writing scores are lower than expected and students are not meeting benchmarks. Teachers are receiving a lot of support from our Elementary Literacy Support Teachers, Ms. Hodgson and Ms. Weston. Staff will be reflecting on our writing goal again before March Break.</p>	I
	<p>Math: Teachers are still focusing on fact fluency. Data from last year's Grade 3 Assessment showed that 78% of students met benchmarks in math, however only 35% met benchmark for synthesis and analytical questions. As a result of this data, staff will examine how teachers can help further students' skills in the area of synthesis and analysis.</p>	I

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<p>4. Wellness Update Lead: Christine</p>	<p>MES Week of Giving Ms. Richardson and Ms. McNeil shared again that we had a very successful food and toy drive in November. Our school participated in Metro Transit’s Stuff a Bus and our food donations went to Feed Nova Scotia. The toys were picked up by the Salvation Army and shared with children and their families in a ‘store’ where they could shop for Christmas gifts. The mittens, hats, gloves and other outdoor wear were used in the ‘store’ and were also distributed from the Salvation Army trucks.</p> <p>Kickoff to Kindness 2025 Ms. Andrews and Ms. Richardson started the New Year off with a renewed focus on kindness for students in Grades 4 & 5. The goal is to help students make better choices when necessary when outside on playground. Students were gathered by grade level and discussions held about what kindness was and what it looked like. Ms. Andrews also discussed what was considered discriminatory language according to the School Code of Conduct. On days when there are no issues amongst students, students can earn an extra five minutes of recess time for another day that week. Administration are keeping track of the ‘no issue’ days on a thermometer and when the thermometer is filled, students will be eligible for a greater reward.</p> <p>Grade 5 Girls Groups Our School Plus Community Outreach Worker, Laura MacAvoy, is starting two separate Girls Groups for Grade 5 girls. Each group will be held over the two lunch hours once a week in the library. The groups address our SSP Wellness Goal and will focus on building self-confidence, improving self-awareness, building positive relationships with others, dealing with conflict and peer pressure and standing up for yourself and others. Each group will meet six times.</p> <p>Literacy Day</p>	<p>I</p>

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	<p>Literacy Day will be celebrated at MES on Monday January 27. Students and staff are invited to dress as their favorite book character on that day. All staff and students will be invited to have a book ready to 'Stop, Drop and Read' throughout the day. Quotes from children's books will read on the daily announcements and classes will be able to guess which book the quote came from.</p>	
<p>5. SOS Lead: Joann</p>	<p>Ms. Nolan shared that there will be an event on the evening of February 12. Staff from the HRM Library in Sackville will be at the event. Students will be invited to write messages of kindness on paper hearts that will then be used to create a Chain of Kindness in the school.</p> <p>Spring Fling will be held on Saturday May 24. Cool Bus Treats will be returning and Ms. Nolan has been in communication with Glo Parties regarding the inflatable pieces required for that day.</p>	<p>I</p>
<p>6. Other Business Lead: Michelle</p>	<p>Community Members needed for SAC Ms. Barnhill and Ms. MacLeod shared that Amanda Guitard and Pam King have volunteered to become Community Members of our School Advisory Council. Ms. Barnhill will reach out to them and formally invite them to our next meeting.</p>	<p>I</p>

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Next Meeting: February 19, 2025 (via Zoom)