

SAC COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES

TANTALLON JUNIOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (TJES)

ZOOM LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6531639423?omn=85435928532>

DATE: Tuesday, October 29th, 2024

ATTENDEES: Amy Riley; Erin Schnare; Brandon Rose; Jillian O'Fegan; Layna Ansell-Bennett
Diane Day; Jessica McInerney; Nikki Chartrand; Lydie Gascuel; Jeannie Miller; Ashley Zahavich

TIME: 6:30 – 7:30 PM

1. **Welcome to our two new members!** Round table introductions
 - a. Diane Day (community member)
 - b. Layna Ansell-Bennett (parent)

****Member list on page 2 with everyone's contact info!**

2. **Approval of agenda** – First and second motion Amy & Erin

3. **Approval of last meeting's minutes** - First and second motion Amy & Lydie

4. **Request from SAC to follow-up re: out of area requests**

- a. AZ gave summary of the HRCE policy re: out of area requests (French vs English) which prohibits the creation of new classes based on out of area requests. AZ informed SAC members she made many calls to HRCE at the end of last school year and the beginning of this school year to advocate for impacted families. Principal JM also connected with HRCE reps to better understand the difficult situation.
- b. JM spoke to Tantallon's situation specifically, including class caps, French teacher shortages, and the *potential* options for students to enroll in French in later grades should spaces open up.
- c. AR asked about HRCE's policy on French being available in either Grade 7 or P; concerns raised that this is *not* equivalent access.
- d. Erin asked about teacher sub's and 'non-licensed' folks coming in to teach; so far TJES has been successful in bringing in licensed subs when required.

5. **Principal's report**

- a. **Orange Shirt Day:** Great participation from staff and students during **Orange Shirt Day**. Many engaging conversations and learning opportunities are happening in the classroom on this and Miikmaq History Month.
- b. **Safety drills:** October fire drill, and will have one for November next week. Conducted a bus evacuation this month.
- c. **Oct 11 Professional Learning Day** - TJES teachers plus grade 2 and support teachers from the senior building participated in a day of learning on the updated **Literacy Curriculum** for grades Primary-2. This includes a higher focus on phonological awareness and phonics, as well as daily opportunities for students to write.

- d. **Oct 25 NSTU Conference Day**- Teachers attended conferences across the province on varying topics for a day of professional development. They choose which conference to attend based on their professional learning goals. Principal and Vice Principal have participated in learning on UDL and Threat Risk Assessment this month.
- e. **Picture Day** and retakes have been completed.
- f. **Author** to visit through Writers in the School is planned for tomorrow. All classes will participate.
Sal Sawler- "When the Ocean Came to Town"
- g. **Provincial Commitment to Safe and Caring Inclusive Schools:** Code of Conduct draft has been released. At the SAC conference in September chairs and principals had their first look and an opportunity for feedback. Now it has been sent to staff and families for their input. Please review and offer feedback. <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-safety>
- h. **Parking lot:** The concrete barriers on the pathway will be moved two feet to give more space in the parking lot.

Principal's report cont'd: Student Success plan

- i. **Literacy**- French Literacy coach working with our three FI classes. Continue to track progress and use information we get to support our learners.
- j. **Well-being**- classroom community building, circles are impactful in helping members learn about each other and discover similarities. The school counsellor is also working in classes on social emotional regulation, specifically identifying and labeling emotions. She has also done lessons on learning about personal space and respecting boundaries. A "calming area" has been set up for supporting students who need a little break or reset during the day.
- k. **Math** - building a strong sense of numbers has been our focus. We have participated in a learning session with a professional math consultant to support us with this goal.

Principal's report cont'd: Lunch Program

- l. The meals are being made off site until the cafeteria renovations are completed next door. If families are looking to provide feedback, they are welcome to send a message to lunch@hrce.ca
- m. AR – asked about the provincial SAC conference; JM gave a positive report

6. Any other business

JM requested funds (\$441) to cover costs of white boards and magnetic letters to support updates to curriculum. Lydie looking into obtaining French letters.

TJES SAC has a large pot of money to spend. AZ asked what other SAC's spend their money on so the group can come up with some different ways to support the schools.

- i. Some schools spend the money on technology
- ii. A lot has been spend on books, de-codeables
- iii. Cultural events/performances

7. SAC Bylaws

The above agenda items filled the full hour. There was no time to review the bylaws during this meeting, however they are attached and will be discussed at the next (November) meeting. Please come prepared with questions/suggested edits/concerns, etc.

Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, November 26, 6:30-7:30

Tuesday, January 28, 6:30-7:30

Tuesday, April 29, 6:30-7:30

Tuesday, May 27, 6:30-7:30

Committee Position (Static)	Name	Filling Vacancy or Full-Term	Term Start Date	Term end	Email Address
Parent/Guardian 1 of 4*	Amy Riley (French)	FT	Sept 2023		1amyriley1@gmail.com
Parent/Guardian 2 of 4*	Erin Schnare (French)	FT	Sept 2023		e.schnare@hotmail.com
Parent/Guardian 3 of 4*	Brandon Rose (English)	FT	Sept 2024		rbrandonrose@gmail.com
Parent/Guardian 4 of 4*	Jillian O’Fegan (French)	FT	Sept 2024		jillianofegan@gmail.com
Parent/Guardian 5 of 4	Layna Ansell-Bennett (pre-K)	FT	Oct 2024		laynamaria@gmail.com
Community Member 1 of 4	Tanya Morash	FT	Sept 2023		morashtanya@gmail.com
Community Member 2 of 4	Diane Day	FT	Oct 2024		dday01161954@gmail.com
Community Member 3 of 4					
Community Member 4 of 4					
Staff Member 1 of 4‡	Jessica McInerney (Primary/French)	FT	*Year 10		jmcinerney@hrce.ca
Staff Member 2 of 4‡	Nikki Chartrand (English)	FT	2021		ndebay@hrce.ca
Staff Member 3 of 4‡	Lydie Gascuel (VP/French)	FT	2021		LGascuelOBrien@hrce.ca
Staff Member 4 of 4‡					
Committee Chair	Ashley Zahavich (& French Parent)	FT	2023		ashley.zahavich@gmail.com
Principal (non-voting)	Jeannie Miller (Principal)	Full-Term	2024		jean.miller@hrce.ca

*Four parents/guardians (at least one from French Immersion and English)

‡Four Staff members (including at least one teacher from French Immersion and one teacher from the English Program)