

SAC Meeting Date: January 27, 2022

SAC Meeting Time: 5:30PM – 7:00PM

SAC Meeting Attendance:

1. Sherron Grant
2. Sheyi Momoh
3. Janelle Baetiong
4. Aara Vivekananthan
5. Durward Anthony – Area Nutrition Liaison Officer
6. Mary Maduapera – Willow Park Staff
7. Ellen – Parent/Guardian
8. Peju - Parent/Guardian
9. Sharanya - Parent/Guardian
10. Ganga - Parent/Guardian
11. Miss Pierson – Willow Park Staff
12. Cecelia - Parent/Guardian
13. Felicia Ffrench-Marsh - Parent/Guardian
14. Tamiko Gray – Community Representative

Discussion Items:

1. As per Mr. Durward Anthony, chocolate milk and juices are not going to be served in Nutrition Program anymore.
2. School Improvement Plan as discussed by Miss Sherron Grant
 - a. Loaned devices are slowly returning to the school, some of the devices were not returned because some of the children decided to continue doing online school but a message has been sent to these students to have their devices returned because these are being used in the school.
 - b. Switch between in-person and virtual schooling – there are 18 students who would like to transfer to virtual school and 5 students who would like to go back to in-person schooling. The numbers are not yet final because they are still fluctuating and there are also new families moving into the community.
 - c. There is professional development learning within the teaching staff. Professional Learning Community is being done once a month to help teachers and students. Most especially for the children to learn the history and have an understanding on some of the words that are not okay to use inside the school.
 - d. Central teachers have been redeployed to fill the gaps. There are special needs assistance COVID allocation, and some schools need more assistance. The school has an additional estimate for this year to add 4 SNA and 1 EA.
 - i. Miss Wilson has been promoted to Special Needs Assistance with Miss Pierson and Mr. Emeziem as the support team.
 - e. A spare classroom will be used as a calming room where students can have a space to relax and calm down. This space will have soft music in the background, encouraging posters, and fidget items.

- i. Sharanya (parent/guardian) appreciate the plan on having a calming room and that the children will be educated on the words that are not okay to use. She also asked if there are resources available on how to respond to situation when the children are not calm.
 - 1. Miss Momoh responded that with her children, doing count down, soft music and acknowledging their emotions by knowing they are heard help to become calm but of course it depends on the child's personality. It's good to know the right tools that can be used to help calm the children.
 - 2. Miss Grant responded to get in touch with the child's teacher because every teacher should be doing this work and it will be a different approach for JK or Grade 4 or Grade 6. There are also emails that have been sent with resources on several topics. It depends on the developmental level, grade level and age level but it always starts with the teacher. Emails and TDSB website are also great resources.
- f. Zone of Regulation – this is a school-wide initiative, and this is language that is being commonly used at school. It's encouraged to engage the children at home with these zones.
 - i. Blue Day – means sad
 - ii. Yellow Day – means silly and frustrated
 - iii. Red Day – means angry
 - iv. Green Day – means happy (this is the goal for the children)
 - 1. Sharanya (parent/guardian) asked if a PDF can be downloaded to remember what those zones are so it can be easily implemented at home.
 - a. Miss Grant responded that this information can be sent through school communication system and trying to do a better job in translating items since language is another point of inclusion. The zones will be sent out to the families.
- g. Survey – a climate survey will be sent out electronically or through a paper copy and it's about 10 minutes to complete. Some of the questions on this survey is mostly about how you are feeling returning to school, how safe do you feel, inputs that parents/guardians can give on how to make it better and where it can be improved. The data that will be gathered in this survey will be used in the improvement plan.
- h. Budget – CA\$23K has been given for model schools. This is in addition to the CA\$60K general budget and the allocation of these numbers can be found in TDSB website. The funds can be used to invite guest speakers to talk about bullying, history of "N" word, education on different kind of families and look on issues of diversity. This will help the students to understand the difference. We can also do something for Lunar new year. These activities and additional teachings can be taken from the model school money. In the past, these funds can be used for field trips but since it's the pandemic there is not a lot of opportunities where to spend the money, but as the weather improves there might be more opportunities for more activities for the children. We are doing well with the budget that we have right now. As per Miss Grant, Miss Mary Maduapera has a keen eye in making sure that the school is doing very well with the budget.
- i. No extra-curricular activities are allowed because of the pandemic and parents are not allowed inside the school.

- j. School Uniforms – we will talk about this item when there are more parents present. There might be a survey that will be sent out by the end of school year to see if it's still something that the parents want or needed. We need to revisit this if this is something we still want to reinforce.
- k. (ASE 1 Move) – the home school is going to be Willow Park. These are high school students that will be moving into the building in September, and this is a decision that has been made in June under Miss Smalley. ASE 1 is an alternative high school for only Grade 11 and 12. This is a specialized high school and there will be about 120 students. They will be occupying half of the second floor, on the wing where the Grade 5 class is now. They will occupy the area where the EDP is. EDP will now take place in classrooms because their space will be for ASE 1. Monthly meetings are happening right now but there is no definite date on when the construction will begin, most likely this will take place on summer. ASE 1 will start on September.
 - i. As per Miss Grant, ASE 1 was in St Andrew school for 15 years and she has talked to the current principal, and she said that there were no complaints at all since the children were all lovely. Miss Grant is going to be the site supervisor and she will handle if there will be any building issues, security issues and if there will be on the spot behavioral issues. More general behavioral issues will be handled by the ASE 1 principal and there are another 7-8 schools that this principal will be responsible for.
 - ii. ASE 1 is also going to have a functional kitchen that will be located behind the library where the EDP program is now.

3. Additional Questions from Parents

- a. Miss Momoh asked that there is a parent who wants to volunteer on lunch but confused on what the protocol is right now, if parents are allowed in the building. She wants to volunteer to help with the children, but the parents are not allowed at the moment.
 - i. Miss Grant responded by confirming that parents are not allowed at the moment and the school has the Big Brother, Big Sister program where 1 other student is helping another. Photo day is also cancelled because there are no extra-curricular activities allowed. Eventually volunteering might be allowed but a triple vaccination and rapid antigen test might be required when the time comes.
- b. Miss Momoh asked how the kids are receiving help when it comes to reading.
 - i. Miss Grant responded that there are 1 reading coach and a reading teacher lead available from the early years department and focused on Grade 1 and 2. They are working since November but unfortunately because of the lack of staff, we have to pull them and place them whenever their help will be needed. We have received a report from them yesterday that talks about their goal. They wanted to increase literacy achievement by building teacher capacity. One of their focus is to work directly with teachers and students. They come in and they assess to see what the needs are and to work on those needs. In addition to building teacher capacity, they are also working on cultural relevance and responsiveness. They are slowly going to that direction and making an impact. They wanted the kids to learn a strategy when they are stuck, deepen their learning and advocate for themselves at

- home and at school and on how to share these strategies at home. They are only supposed to work with 2 classrooms, but they are now working in all 3.
- c. Miss Peju would like to know more about French Immersion Program and if the school will offer this.
 - i. Miss Grant responded that French immersion starts in SK up until this year an application for French immersion in SK was last November. However, starting this year French Immersion will start in JK. There will be a JK cohort and an SK cohort. There may be a Grade 4 entry point, but at Grade 4 everyone will get Core French. Miss Grant will check and print some information.
 - d. Miss Momoh asked information on EQAO and how will this reflect on Willow Park as a school.
 - i. Miss Grant responded that EQAO is a go. We did the CAT-4 and the CCAT for Grade 3 gifted screening. All these results will be taken, but it's a different year because of the pandemic. Miss Grant is not going to put additional pressure to staff, students, and parents this year.
 - e. Miss Tamiko acknowledged Miss Grant and the team on the effort and on how things are moving along especially during this difficult year. Miss Tamiko appreciates that we can count on Miss Grant's leadership and the administration team.
 - i. Miss Grant responded by recognizing that the staff are all very hardworking and that they show up to work and give their 110% to all the children. Miss Grant appreciates the acknowledgment and it's good to have that affirmation the team is making a difference.
 - f. There was a reading celebration happening at the same time the SAC meeting was held, so to split the duty Mr. Charles and Ms. Reeves attended the reading celebration while Miss Grant attended the SAC meeting.
 - g. Miss Momoh encouraged the team to inform other parents to join the next SAC meeting so their voices can be heard.
 - h. There will be 3 more meeting afterwards and the next meetings will be on February 24, April 28, and June 16.
 - i. Mr. Charles will lead the next SAC meeting on February 24 because Miss Grant will not be in school.

Minutes of the meeting prepared by:
Janelle Baetiong
January 27, 2022