

Inglis Street Elementary School  
School Advisory Council Meeting  
6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2022 via Zoom™

Nicolle Vincent	SAC Co-Chair (Parent)	Stevi Gerrior	Community Rep
Mahbubar Rahman	SAC Co-Chair (Parent)	Mirren Harris	Parent Rep
Johanna Calder	Staff Rep	Matthew Hartlen	Principal (ex officio)
Becky Campbell	Vice Principal (ex officio)		

**Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m.**

Item	Discussion	Action
SCHOOL CLIMATE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MaHa: reports that the general climate within the school remains largely positive for both students and staff. There have been some COVID cases affecting staff and students, but they have followed the updated protocols regarding isolating and testing. All staff were actively engaged in the week of online learning. Most were glad to return to in-person.</li> <li>- Attendance: Our attendance usually sits at ~ 90-95%; this week it is closer to 85-90%. Several students are not attending until second vaccination is onboard.</li> <li>- Students at Home: School work continues to be posted in Google Classrooms by teachers for those students who are at home for them to complete.</li> <li>- Recess: Now using three zones with three classrooms in each zone (Courtyard &amp; Basketball court, Playgrounds and Swings, Field and Hills), that rotate daily. There is no need to separate at lunch time, as there are no more than four classes outside together.</li> <li>- Masking: Greater emphasis on consistent and correct mask-wearing. Reminders being given and phone calls home have been made. Overall, particularly good compliance and support. Using the "Keeping others safe" message.</li> <li>- Non-Essential Visitors: ISES remains "closed" to outside visitors. Any contractors entering the school have been vetted by their employer.</li> <li>- Staffing Changes since November's meeting: Ms. Rodgers is off on maternity leave; Ms. Arora is in the Learning Center for the remainder of the school year. Ms. Saade is off on maternity leave, Ms. Rhodenizer has stepped into the 1-2 classroom; Mr. Sampson in Pre-Primary has left to take a teaching role at NSCC, Ms. Dewan is the Acting Lead in Pre-Primary. One EPA requested and was granted a Leave of Absence for the remainder of the school year and we are interviewing for an 80% term EPA on Thursday to fill this vacancy. Two teachers are seeking Literacy Coaching once these support teachers are available for assigning to schools.</li> </ul>	Information
FINANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three grants have arrived in the past week:</li> <li>- SAC (\$5000 + \$1/student enrolled), Student Support (\$8203) and Healthy Schools (\$5223). In addition, the PTO continues to have a positive balance of over \$2000, so there is ~\$18,000.00 to be utilized/earmarked by the end of June 2022. MiHa asked about rejuvenating/refreshing whiteboards, projectors, and other high-use items. MaHa responded that several whiteboards and projectors have already been updated over the past few years. He also reported that the "furniture" for the Outdoor Classroom arrived today and that there has been some brainstorming around ISES customizing, including painting, and possibly an installed outdoor whiteboard (in a locked cupboard-type casing). It was also noted by SAC members that several of the garden boxes need repair or replacing. NiVi enquired if funds could be used to finish outdoor painting/removing of the deteriorating plywood people. MaHa explained that this falls under Capital Projects that are assigned from a comprehensive "wish list" submitted by the school administration, but tasks being checked off is dependent upon how much is in the collective capital</li> </ul>	Generate & explore ideas for using grant funds for our ISES students

	<p>projects pool. MaHa added that he has reached out to an artist, Erica Mendez, about creating sensory walks in our three hallways.</p> <p>MiHa enquired about using some of the grant to re-establish the “school community” feeling that has been lacking in the COVID-19 restrictions, once it is permitted/weather is better--ice cream/family picnic idea previously mentioned. She also asked about iPads, refreshing and/or adding to flexible seating, more Heartsparks™ stationary bikes. MaHa will investigate the cost and availability of 1-2 more stationary bikes.</p> <p>NiVi asked if there was anything the SAC could do to support ISES staff with the enhanced KN95 masks. It was moved that the SAC would source and purchase KN95 masks for all ISES staff. MiHa wondered if there was something the SAC could do to from a wellness/mental health perspective for the staff. It might be an app (Calm/Headspace) a yoga session, etc. Discussion ensued around how to best demonstrate appreciation for ISES staff (snacks, lunch, subscription to a wellness app, etc.)</p>	<p>Source &amp; Purchase KN95 masks</p> <p>JoCa will create a Google Form for staff to respond to these suggestions &amp; will report back at our next meeting.</p>
Learning Centre	<p>- HRCE Student Services staff have been in again to assist LC teachers. Schedules &amp; caseloads have been reviewed and present staffing optimized. A new LC student started this week in Primary and is adjusting to her new school.</p>	Information
Professional Development	<p>- Caring Schools Community: Curriculum Updated curriculum to help shape the climate of the school in a positive, inclusive, and caring manner. Implementation underway, with PD days available for staff to dig deeper into the program. There is a PD upcoming on February 18, that creates a four-day weekend for students as it leads into the Heritage Day on the 21<sup>st</sup>.</p>	Information
Future Meetings	<p>- Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 (Zoom); Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> 5:30 in Library*; April 20<sup>th</sup> (Zoom 6:30); May 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m. in Library*; June 15<sup>th</sup> TBA</p>	Schedule/Block off/Attend

\* COVID-19 restrictions permitting

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by R.A. (Becky) Campbell