

**Atlantic View Elementary School  
School Advisory Council  
September 23, 2021- Meeting Summary**

*Please note: Meeting Minutes are recorded for public distribution (posted on School Website after being approved by the SAC).*

In attendance	Regrets
Carole DesBarres (Principal) Lisa Nicholson (Vice-Principal) Shaunna McNamara (Chairperson) Bernice McKenzie (Secretary) Margaret (Community Member) Jennifer Eamer (Parent) Renee Curry (Teacher)	Abigail MacEachern (Parent)

**Call to Order:** Shaunna called the meeting to order at 6:08

**Approval of Agenda:** Margaret motioned; Bernice seconded

**Approval of previous meeting's summary:** Shaunna approved

**Business arising from meeting summary:**

- **Enrolment and Staffing update**
  - 10 students higher in the spring than currently; numbers indicated that we MAY lose a teacher but had confirmation yesterday that we will not be losing a teacher so classes will remain as they are. Feeling positive about impact on student learning. Teacher staffing is not changing but additional 0.5 EPA support has been approved and is posted now.
  
- **Outdoor Learning Space Update**
  - Carole had a Capital construction meeting in August with HRCE member as well. Needed to decide which space and design we were going with. Looked at space at end of Atlantic View (coming through gate). Feel that there is more than enough space where the grassy area is - no impact to fire zone. We already have a learning space up in the woods with benches and a stream that runs through. Hoping to have leftover money from tender and will be able to create a footbridge over the stream to link the two areas. Going with log bench design - will seat approx 30 students. Works well because that's where wifi is located. Tender closed Sep 3, anticipate construction will be in the next few months. Work will be done after school.
  - Shaunna: brought up that there are tires behind school that kids were playing with and throwing around. Carole: those belong to pre-primary for activities that they use. Pre-Primary staff is ok with older kids playing with them as long as they take care of them. Not aware that kids were playing with them after school. Carole will follow up with After School staff.

**School Improvement Plan Update:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Literacy Goal:</b> Students will demonstrate improvement in reading accuracy and fluency with an emphasis on deeper comprehension.</li><li>○ <b>Math Goal:</b> Students will demonstrate improvement in number sense with a focus on representing and partitioning whole and decimal numbers.</li><li>○ <b>Well Being:</b> To continue to support and improve student well-being at Atlantic View.</li></ul> |
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Looking at goals; had a good PD day Sep 3 focusing on well-being and literacy

- **P-2 Literacy Priority**
  - P-2 literacy focus regionally; want to track students meeting or not meeting outcomes in reading. Starting next week teachers have to submit first piece of data. Sep/Oct have to submit “Meeting” or “Not Meeting” - at end of term need to submit results. Then look at students who are “not meeting” and make plan on how to support those students. School has decided to do this P-6 to support all learners.
  - Margaret noted that this is a great initiative;
  - It’s being taken very seriously; bit of a hold on it for Primary while they settle in - data will be submitted for them at a later time. Remember it’s a starting point - school will be digging deeper as time goes on and staff shouldn’t/needn’t worry that they’re getting it “wrong”
  - We know that COVID / learning from home has affected reading levels - also looking at who that has affected and how to support them.
  - Region used to have SLD support in a very narrow way - had to apply for and there was strict criteria. Now, SLD teachers are working in the schools and Camilla Doyle has been assigned to Ross Road and AVES (50/50). She is using her expertise and working in classrooms where she offers direct support to students. We anticipate this will help with not only literacy but also all students and will support teachers in developing their strategies
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- **Staff professional development focus on Well Being**
  - Well-being PD (sep3) will be continued in other PD, in addition to Treaty Ed and Black Lives Matter
  - Shaunna asked if well-being directed at students only or also staff? Carole replied that they go hand in hand, Carole needs to ensure staff well-being but goal is directed to student well-being. Staff is very cohesive and supportive of one another. Renee echoed that sentiment from her personal experience that she feels very much part of a team and supported. Lisa followed up with what the admin team does to support the staff - staff is a priority for them.

#### New Business (current items):

- **SAC Handbook (Agenda format, etc.)**
  - Carole sent us the handbook as a reference; no longer a separate “principal’s report” but Carole has inserted her news / comments into the agenda. Carole and Shaunna will work together before meetings to review agenda.
- **SAC Membership**
  - SAC membership:
    - Amy Smith stepped down as a member;
    - Bernice has been Secretary for four years and would like to step down and become a Member this year – Jennifer volunteered to assume the role of Secretary;
    - Community member – the SAC membership should have two community members: Bernice has somebody in mind and will ask her before next meeting. If it doesn’t work out we will communicate our need to the community.
- **Grade 6 Assessment**
  - Gr 6 assessment needs to happen in October; 4 days of assessment 2 Literacy and 2 Math; this will be the first assessment in two years for 6s (due to COVID closures and restrictions)
- **Culvert at Atlantic View Drive**
  - Culvert on Atlantic View Drive is provincial roadway. The province communicated to Carole that it isn’t their responsibility because it’s like being a homeowner, if you put in a driveway you’re responsible for it. Carole pushed back against that because a school is a provincial building. DoT employee called Carole and stated that he was the driver that put the culvert in. The plan was that when they are in the area doing planned work they plan to fix the area. Other issue is who is responsible for plowing the area - that job is contracted by snow removal of HRCE; Carole got a copy of contract which states it is part of the responsibility of the snow remover and she will share that with the people who come to do it this year.

## - **Pandemic Update**

- Cases within schools are not being reported publicly right now as in the past, we need to move forward with how we live with Covid in our communities. From the principal meeting this morning - discussion about the time delay of when community is informed after the school is informed that there is a case. Once a principal is told by parent, they have to go to their Supervisor, who goes to Public Health, who has to confirm and ensure information is correct. School is not permitted to do anything until they hear back from Public Health with directions/confirmation. It is not intentional hiding of information, it's following the communication process and ensuring accuracy - could take 6-8 hours. School level is responsible for contact tracing.
- Rules for isolation have changed because of numbers vaccinated. Some may need to isolate 7-14 days, some may not. If needed, at-home learning will not look the same as it did last year; teacher would be given time to figure out how things would work best to ensure students are able to progress academically. Every scenario will be different now. (need to consider absences, bussing, after school programming, people who entered classrooms, etc.) If students are outdoors it's not considered close contact anymore. Ex: Terry Fox walk - student will be paired with another class because the activity is outdoors.
- Not sure yet what masking will look like after Phase 5 restrictions (likely October 4).

## Special Reports or Presentations:

- **Vegetable Garden Project** - Ms Diamond took it on last year. Amazing amount of produce that came from it. She connected with the Food Bank; she collect it and delivered it to Food Bank as it was harvested.

## Public Input:

- Bernice asked if there would be a newsletter this year. Carole responded that last year a very small percentage of people were opening newsletter (this can be tracked). Moved to updates instead for giving important information. There was a discussion about members' preferences. Lisa suggested a newsletter may be too long and perhaps a calendar format with short blurbs as needed as a follow up. Carole will send something out asking for feedback and will make decision after that.
- Shaunna asked if Breakfast Program would be reinstated in the way it was previously where parents come in and make breakfast for the kids as it was something she enjoyed doing. Carole is waiting to see how things unfold with Covid protocols but hopes that there will be a return of that. She doesn't want to start something then have to end it because of a change in restrictions but at this point it looks like it will be able to move forward. Carole isn't allowed to ask if people are vaccinated or not so precautions are being taken to work with that as best we can for parents in the building but is trying to balance not having the info and wanting a breakfast program. Shaunna stated that she understands we have to be careful being in a building with unvaccinated children and that it makes sense to wait and see how the next few months go. Carole is concerned about student vulnerability and wondering what will happen when places like restaurants are allowed to ask for vaccine info. Carole mentioned that Jeff Meaney previously took care of purchasing and organizing Breakfast Program and wasn't sure where he stood with it now; Bernice stated that Jeff would be open to a phone call to discuss.
- In-person meetings: All members were in favour of moving from Zoom meetings to in-person beginning in October.
- Bernice asked about Curriculum Night and the possibility of having videos sent by staff rather than / in addition to a brochure with outcomes and home. Lisa noted that last year other schools had privacy concerns about having a live event / video meets for some people. This year AVES will use the same format as last year and teachers will be given the option of sending something on paper or a video. Each teacher can choose to do it the way they want to, some are emailing directly or creating a video ahead of time. With several schools having cases, still can't be done in person.

## Next Meeting Date and Time:

-Bernice asked if other members found it difficult to make a 6:00 meeting and if the SAC could consider moving the meetings to 6:30. All members present agreed that this would work well.

- Next meetings set for the third Thursday of selected months from 6:30-7:30:
  - Oct 21
  - Nov 18
  - Jan 20

**Adjournment:**

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.