

BLT Jr & BLT Sr Elementary- School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2024

Present:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Katie Sherren | Parent & Chair of SAC |
| 2) Mr. Craig Myra | Principal for BLT Sr. |
| 3) Mrs. Janet Roy | Acting Principal for BLT Jr. |
| 4) Mrs. Sarah Doxtater | English Teacher, BLT Sr. |
| 5) Mrs. Cali Huczel | French Teacher, BLT Sr. |

Regrets:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Mrs. Erin Delaney | French Teacher, BLT Sr. |
| 2) Stephanie Brown | Parent |
| 3) Debbie Isaacs | Community Member |
| 4) Tony Isaacs | Community Member |
| 5) Sarah Warfard | Parent |
| 6) Karri Lynn Davidson | Parent |
| 7) Ian Angus | Community Member |
| 8) Mrs. Tracey Quinn | Vice Principal for BLT Sr. |

Call to Order:

6:03 PM, April 29, 2024
BLT Sr. Cafeteria

BLT Sr Principal Report, Presented by Mr. Craig Myra:

Student Success Planning

- Data will be collected at End of May to share with group at last meeting. Focus of collection will be to have baseline for September.

Grade 3 Provincial Assessment

- English students write 4 days (2 Literacy, 2 Math)
- French Immersion Students write 2 days (2 Math)
- Setting students up for success
 - Question of the day in Math (Multiple choice)
 - Practice test provided by EECD o Flexible scheduling
 - Communication with parents
- 3 Math coaches (2 ENG and 1 FI) supporting over half the staff.
- Literacy coach coming back in May to work with 3 teachers.
- Teachers continuing to collect evidence of student learning to inform their instruction.

Building up to September

- Configuration and Allocation for 24-25 School Year coming next week. (More detail provided to SAC at last meeting)
- Teacher Notice of Assignments and Permanent Round Postings also next week.
- Teaching movement and leave of absences filled in June
- Mid May to End of May
 - Class Lists
 - Building Layout
 - Enrollment Currently down (619 Currently – 605 Projected)

- Provided 3 opportunities for parent request, none after June 1st (unless extreme circumstances)

Transition for Next Year

- Meeting for in school and out of school transitions taking place May/June
- Grade 5 Send off – closing ceremony June 25th at 1pm (Fun day June 21st)
- Special Needs considerations for next year, possible renovations coming over summer.

Other:

- Delmore Buddy Daye African NS History Challenges – 5 McPherson won top entry for category in Nova Scotia for their board game entry. Amazing accomplishment! Award ceremony May 15th at Halifax Central Library.
- Spring Music Concert – May 13th and 15th
- Neptune Theatre Performance Earlier in April
- Spring Fair – June 1st

BLT Jr. Principal Report, Presented by Mrs. Janet Roy:

Staffing Update:

- Principal Janice Wells will not be returning this year. She will be retiring at the end of June. Janet Roy will be continuing in the acting Principal role for the remainder of his year. The principal position was posted for the 2024-2025 school year and the successful applicant is Albert Williams. An invitation will be extended to Albert to attend our May SAC meeting.
- We will be receiving our allocation for the 2024-2025 school year on May 6th.

Student Well-being Survey Results:

- Overall, the students seem to have fun at school, have friends, feel safe and know they can talk to an adult. Results of the survey give us the percentages for each category but not the “why” for the students' answers. For future surveys, when a student answers “sometimes” or “no”, the teacher will make a note as to why beside the answer. This will help us when determining what supports to put in place.
- The reading question (6) was framed differently than the Math (7) and Writing (8) questions. “Do you like to read?” – the results were much lower than when the question was framed “ I am good at Math/ Writing”. So the students see themselves as Mathematicians and Writers. They were not asked the question – “I am good at reading” – just if they like to read. We will look at framing the questions the same for Reading, Math and Writing in the future.

BLT Jr Student Well-being Survey Results (2024)

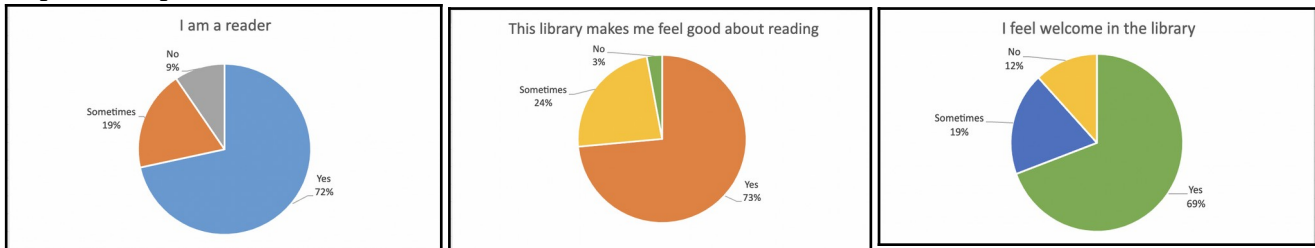
Question	Yes	Sometimes	No
I like coming to school most days.	62.12%	29.52%	8.36%
I have fun at school.	74.11%	24.69%	1.2%
I have friends at school.	83.62%	12.23%	1.7%
I feel safe at school.	80.59%	16.57%	2.84%
If I need help, there is an adult to talk to.	83.62%	13.33%	3.05%
I like to read.	58.51%	23.25%	18.24%

I am good at math.	73.69%	15.90%	10.41%
I am good at writing.	76.50%	19.16%	4.34%

Culturally Responsive Spaces Survey Results (Please see results below)




- Amanda Maher (CRP Specialist) and Jenna Fowler (Library Support Specialist) collected data from selected classrooms using a combination of surveys, Dotmocracy and conferencing to gather information about how students feel about the library space, capture their reading identity and how they felt about the book options available. Data was recorded and disaggregated, looking for patterns or trends.

- We started to add or make changes to the Library Space based on student input. This included the addition of a colorful rug for students to sit on, displaying culturally responsive books on lower shelves where students can access them, expanding book displays, new bulletin boards to display collaborative art displays, flags to represent Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, and Acadian cultures. Teachers were presented with the data to reflect on and think about action steps that can be taken for their own classroom spaces. This supports our SSP well-being goal as we work to create more culturally responsive spaces within our entire school.



I am a reader			
African Ancestry	15	1	2
Indigenous Ancestry	4	3	
Asian Ancestry	14	4	
Middle-Eastern Ancestry	4	2	2
Both African Ancestry & Indigenous Ancestry	1	1	
Acadian Ancestry	5	5	1
Acadian & Indigenous Ancestry	2		

This library makes me feel good about reading			
African Ancestry	13	5	
Indigenous Ancestry	6	1	
Asian Ancestry	16	2	
Middle-Eastern Ancestry	4	4	
Both African Ancestry & Indigenous Ancestry	1	1	
Acadian Ancestry	3	8	
Acadian & Indigenous Ancestry	2		

I feel welcome in the library			
African Ancestry	12	3	2
Indigenous Ancestry	6	1	
Asian Ancestry	15	1	2
Middle-Eastern Ancestry	5	1	1
Both African Ancestry & Indigenous Ancestry	1	1	
Acadian Ancestry	5	2	4
Acadian & Indigenous Ancestry		2	

Student Attendance and Engagement

- The Student Attendance and Engagement Policy has been reinstated. We will be using Attendance Tracker, within Power School to monitor student attendance. Attendance will be monitored regularly in order to determine when interventions need to occur.

April Assembly

- The sacred teaching of Respect was the theme of our learning throughout April and was highlighted in our April Assembly. Earth Day activities and learning was also highlighted.

French Literacy Coach

- We have a French Literacy coach working with our Primary French Immersion teachers with a focus on Oral Language development and Writing.

French Cultural Performance:

- Our Music teacher was successful in acquiring a French Cultural Connections Grant. The purpose of the grant is to immerse our French Immersion students in French Culture. We will be having a musical performance by Weldon and Josee Boudreau on May 29th.

Next meeting:

- June 3, 2024, BLT Sr. Cafeteria

* Note: this date has been changed from original schedule to allow for principals to have data to share.

Meeting Adjourned:

6:56 PM