

Minutes from Student Advisory Meeting

Forest Heights Community School

January 4 2016

In Attendance

Chair and Community Representative: Tammy Smith

Parent Representatives: Clare Rivard, Lisa Aiken, Janet Larder

Teacher Representative: Darcie Moore, Lee Lailiberte

Member at Large and Chester Recreation Representative: Jody Conrad

Principal: Miles Page

Please note that a Support staff representative is vacant and needs to be filled and a Student Council representative was unavailable due to exams.

The council reviewed minutes from last meeting in Sept/Oct. The following was also discussed

There was a welcome greeting to new members, Lisa Aiken and Janet Larder who are excited to be part of the S.A.C. There is a SAC Education session slated for Feb.3 at Hebville Academy. On the agenda will be various workshops and information sessions.

Mr. Page spoke about how well attended the November 11, 2016 presentation was and how well behaved the students were during the unveiling of the new monument honoring Private Green. There was also an anxiety presentation in the fall and was well attended by the grade 9 students. There was a lockdown drill performed with the assistance of Constable Francis and Mr. Page. Mr. Page said it was an excellent drill and will try and do two a year with the next one happening spring 2016. Mr. Page brought to the attention that the exam schedule will be posted soon and exams will commence in three weeks. Mr. Page fondly spoke of Mr. Reid, the school art teacher of many years, and how he is retiring at the end of Semester 1. This position will be posted as a term position for the remainder of the year. There is a potential candidate that may be considered for the full time position in the new academic year.

Jody Conrad spoke of a potential car show in Bridgewater in the near future with a Dragster Car racing component. This may appeal to like minded students and to date one student is extremely interested. Jody mentioned that there was a potential plan to move some of the offices of the Rec. Dept. to the empty Gold river school. However due to overwhelming costs to refurbish the school the move is not going through. Jody was excited to mention that the winter edition of Explore for Life is coming out this week and is full of exciting new programs. The after school programming that is affiliated with Forest Heights is also gearing up for the New Year. Roller Derby is presently being offered in a free skate format on Tuesdays from 7:30-9:00 and will ramp up again in the spring. The open air society is Tuesdays after school and is always looking for students to join and learn more about the outdoors. This year there are more girls joining with a lot of them coming from the grade 9 and 10 classes. The Learning Center is on the go Wednesdays after school and is need of volunteers to help with hands on activities and

organizing outdoor sports. Jody reported that the gym is good and busy from Zumba classes to football conditioning on Tuesday nights. Jody mentioned that there is a full set of sledges available to rent and would be available to use at the Chester rink during their free skate times. If anyone interested could contact Cossette at the Rec. Dept.

There is a very exciting elite world sledge hockey tournament coming to the L.C.L.C. on January 17 to 23. Mr. Waters, a competitive sledge athlete himself, has graciously facilitated with Live 50 for Forest Heights to have 150 tickets. The tickets are good for opening day Jan17 which includes two games. A presentation will take place on Jan.15 to get kids excited about the event and educate them on the acceptance on persons with disabilities. Volunteers will be needed and it's hopeful that students in the 02 program may help with the event.

Grads re take photos were scheduled for Jan. 11 but on the day there were technical issues and they need to be rescheduled again. There have been some issues about the quality of the product that Life touch has been generating. Pictures for the wall composite of the graduating class of 2011-2012 are actually being redone and replaced with a larger sized picture. There will be a meeting with Life Touch as their contract comes to an end. It is at this time the S.A.C. would like to put to tender and meet with new photographers such as Harvey Studios to improve on the schools' Student Picture services.

A parent meeting is to take place on Jan.6 to discuss the French Quebec trip. The trip is destined to be a success as over 50 kids are going with Gina Shanks and Mike Chapman as the teacher supervisors. The Italy trip is on the travelling schedule as well with a dozen students committed to go.

There was discussion to starting up the Duke of Edinburgh award program at Forest Heights. At this point we are looking for a teacher commitment to get the program under way. Jody Conrad mentioned that he may be able to help out with the outdoor component. Tammy Smith talked of an exciting program offered by The Royal Canadian Legion called the Leadership Training Camp. It is to be held in Truro at NSAC for 6 days and starts as soon as school gets out in June 2016. Students would be billeted in dorms and take part in various activities that would help develop communication, decision making and leadership skills. It is offered to students in Grades 10 and 11 and potential participants would have to register by the end of April with a refundable deposit to ensure a spot in the program. For more info students are to contact the schools Guidance Councillors.

Respectively submitted

Lisa Aiken