

Salisbury School Council Meeting (Virtual)

Thursday, November 25, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Chair: Jacquie Surgenor

Principal: Sunny Sandhu

Teacher Rep: Cameron Archer

Student Rep: Tyler Hamilton

Trustee: Don Irwin

Parents: Rob Hamilton, Andrea Moniz, Annette Hubick, Dulcie Jarvin, Tammy Usipiuk

1. Welcome and Introductions: Jacquie Surgenor
2. Approval of Agenda: approved with addition of (i) School Council Dates
3. Approval of Minutes from October 28.
 - a. No changes noted, minutes approved
4. New Business:
 - a. Student Perspective: Tyler Hamilton
 - i. Thank you, I appreciate being here. I am part of the SAIL group and we have had lots going on at Sal. The football team played in the semi-finals against Calgary at Emerald Hills last weekend. They did end up not being successful, but they had an amazing season, and they are a super nice group. Volleyball had a very successful season and were champions. Basketball starting up – try outs are happening. Fine Arts has had shows happening, and Moana is happening right now. We were able to have audiences for the first time since the pandemic happened. Band performed at the Remembrance Day Ceremony earlier this month, with another concert happening soon. FMNI and SAIL were working together regarding the water crisis. We reached our fundraising goal of \$270.00. We had Metis Week and had Bannock in the cafeteria. In December, we have Felice Gladeau to teach phys. Ed. Classes. During our lunches, SAIL has had activities going on such as the 'Where is Mr. Sandhu Scavenger Hunt', and other events. We just finished up the Christmas Shoe Box event and Christmas Week activities are all set. SAIL also is starting up a Sabre Store by the large gym and will be opening soon.
 - b. Teacher Report: Cameron Archer
 - i. We have French, which is a nine-year program, and German, which is a three-year program. Studies have shown that students learning another language increases their focus at school and for their learning. Also, learning another language helps students to be more empathetic. We learn not just how to speak the language but also the culture from the country we are studying.
 - ii. At Sal, we have the German Exchange Program – three months which is through Alberta Education, and a two-week exchange with a school in Bad Schwalbach, which is by Frankfurt. We are very happy to be back in classes this year, very difficult to learn another language online. Last year, there was no exchange due to the pandemic and this year we are doing a virtual exchange which has been good. The students are getting to know each other this way so if we do an exchange, they will know each other well.
 - iii. Next year, we will be offering German IB, which is for students who have been studying German for longer periods of time.
 - iv. Open House we missed last year, having the students here in person. We did the virtual Open House, but it wasn't the same thing as we missed the connection with the students. I think it would be good to be able to visit the junior highs as well. Please check out my microsite to learn more at <https://carcher.schoolsites.ca/>
 - c. SRO Update: Sunny Sandhu

- i. We are excited about our new SRO, Constable Hani Sawani. Having an SRO is not just about enforcement, but for connecting with the students. Hani has been great, talking to the students and he even came in to watch Moana, and this wasn't just for the vaccine checks. Hani will come to the January meeting, and he does have some plans for presentations.
 - 1. Question: Are there any issues/concerns where an SRO would make a difference?
 - a. Sunny: No, we have no issues, but it is good to be prepared. Just look at what just happened at ABJ. We will also be running some drills in the next few weeks.
 - 2. Question: Are students considered a minor even after they turn 18 while in high school?
 - a. By law, yes, they are considered adults, but at Sal they are still our students. We would protect them here. If there are questions that need to happen, this wouldn't happen here but at detachment. We haven't had any problems.

- d. Staff Recognition: Jacquie Surgernor
 - i. Still have this happening at Salisbury. The link is built into Sabre Scene, and I have a direct link for it. Once I receive a referral comment, I email the staff and they seem to really appreciate it.
 - 1. Sunny: Our Football Coach, Cam Fraser, received one. It really meant a lot to him.
 - ii. Jacquie: Spread the word and let everyone know we are doing this.
 - iii. www.RecognizeSal.ca

- e. Assurance Model Discussion: Sunny Sandhu
 - i. This used to be called the Accountability Model. I have been at Sal now and have seen the changes. First time I was here was 2010-2015 as an assistant principal, then on to the Fort as Principal. I came back to Sal in 2019 as Principal.
 - ii. Goal #1: Students demonstrate accountability, compassion, integrity, and respect, and have a sense of belonging at Salisbury.
 - 1. Safe and Caring data has really gone up, and especially during a pandemic, this is a real celebration.
 - 2. Drop out rate went up, which is good. We are retaining kids even through going online, and the pandemic. This is unreal. This is one of our success stories.
 - iii. Goal #2: Staff use evidence-based practices to enhance student learning.
 - 1. The higher students achieve, the more go on to post-secondary.
 - 2. No diploma exams last year, so no data from that.
 - 3. Math, English are going up, but social still needs some work. We do have data from MIPI and Star.
 - 4. Alexander Rutherford Scholarship has gone up. This is not only from core subjects but from CTS as well. Improved significantly and we are above provincial average.
 - 5. We are on the right track with goal #2.
 - iv. Goal #3: Students are equipped to make informed decisions regarding their advancement through high school and beyond.
 - 1. Goal #3 is matching with the EIPS goal of life after high school.
 - 2. This one here is not a weakness but one where we need to focus on.
 - 3. We are below the provincial average and the other high schools are in the same boat. Our goal here at Sal is that all students, grades 10-12, meet with one of their Grade team, either counsellor or assistant principal, for career counselling. They have targeted questions. We are seeing some neat results with this. After the conversation with the student, a follow up call will go home to the parents.
 - a. Jacquie: Next Tuesday, there will be an EIPS Assurance Review with the high school principals, and all school council chairs will be invited to speak as well. I will be given three minutes to talk. I will be talking about the following items:
 - i. I will be talking about the high school transition with the junior high schools
 - ii. I will also talk about the Staff Recognition Program.

- iii. If I have time, I would like to find out what parents think about the school goals and provide feedback.
 - 4. Sunny: There is nothing in our school goals that mention parents. There are some shifts at EIPS with their goals as well. We can talk about this and try to include our parents in our goals.
 - 5. Jacquie: Working with the other high schools as a team to go the junior highs. We will do this as a Town Hall Meeting, with parents, principals, chairs of school councils. We are on the agendas with Sherwood Heights, Fultonvale, and they love the idea.
 - 6. Don Irwin: Kudos to Sunny for his work at Sal. Was very impressed when he did his walk through with him last week.
- f. School Council Engagement Grant: Jacquie Surgenor
 - i. We received \$500.00 from the Minister of Education. We are supposed to use it to engage parents. Some ideas are presenters, collaborative programs with other school councils. We are not allowed to use this grant for anyone who is employed by EIPS. If we don't use this money, we have to give it back.
 - ii. Some suggestions in the comments to use the grant for the Draft Curriculum.
- g. School Council Engagement: Jacquie Surgenor
 - i. Anyone who wants to do this let me know.
- h. Grad: Sunny Sandhu
 - i. First meeting was on November 17, and we started with grad requirements. We start looking at their requirements for grad in August. First grad was posted on November 18, and this is a good motivator. We will have two more grad lists posted until May, which will be the final grad list. We make sure that students are on task to graduate.
 - ii. The grad committee is already meeting and are planning for multiple scenarios.
 - 1. The big venue is booked, Northlands Agricom, which was normal for us before the pandemic. Keep in mind, that we will have to follow all AHS requirements for that venue.
 - 2. The three-day grad that happened last year and the year before can be planned if needed but would be harder as now we have mandatory diploma exams. The last two years, diplomas were not written.
 - 3. We will make some decisions in January/February, and we will have some parent feedback. In March we will have a better idea.
 - 4. Safety protocols-right now no large group assemblies. We will see where we are in the spring.
 - 5. Comment: Last year was phenomenal, we really enjoyed the videos and grad. Thank you for all your hard work.
- i. School Council Dates: Jacquie Surgenor
 - i. Let us know if you have dates that don't work. We can all discuss and be coordinating with the other schools and with Mr. Irwin.

Information Reports:

1. ASCA: Jacquie Surgernor
 - a. No conference this year and will need to lay off staff due to lack of support. Our president is challenging the minister. Very different relationships with this government than with any before.

2. Principal's Report: Sunny Sandhu
 - a. Last year we were in the quarter system and classes were 172 minutes. Teachers were giving their students a break halfway through. This year we are back to 80-minute classes, no need for breaks but we were finding that students were still out in the hallways during class time. We must have rigor back in the classes and with instructional time so now we have teachers to keep their students in class until the bell rings.
 - b. Also, kids on spares, have now been directed to areas in the school, the Hub, Library, and the cafeteria. The hub and library are great for individualized study time, and the cafeteria is more for social time with their friends. This seems to be working. Upon reflection from September to October, we noted that too many students were in the hallways.
 - i. Question: I am struggling with the early dismissal days. Are teachers at the school until 3:20 p.m.? This was supposed to be a time for exams, and for students to get extra help from their teachers.
 - ii. Answer: We are governed by educational minutes. Our instructional minutes haven't changed. Our lunch break was too long, almost 60 minutes. I shortened that to 45 minutes, so we are not losing any educational minutes. This is a time for students with full course loads who can't be involved otherwise unless off the timetable, such as with SAIL. We have over 100 students involved in SAIL this year. There are also other clubs, and athletics meeting during this time. We are only three months in, maybe in future, some more formalized things could be happening.
 - iii. Question: To clarify, there used to be make up Wednesdays for exams. Now it is only one hour. My son is confused about that as classes are 80 minutes.
 - iv. Answer: If a student's ISP says they can get double time, then this can happen. We have students in there writing until 5:00 p.m. right now, so we don't kick them out at 3:20 p.m.
 - v. Question: I would like more information about the 1/1 time with the counsellor. Can you give me more information on that?
 - vi. Answer: Students meet with their counsellor or grade administrator, and then a follow up call is given to the parent. We are about 20% done, and the grade teams are working on this. Post-secondary sessions are happening as well.

3. Trustee's Report: Don Irwin

Don gave an update on his meetings and activities.

Adjournment: 8:25 p.m.