November 19, 2026
SAC MEETING

Discussion Items	***Minutes***
Membership The Advisory Council shall include the following members: ▪ the principal, who is a non-voting member ▪ three parents/guardians ▪ two teachers ▪ one member of the school's support staff ▪ three community members	*Members:* *Robin Legge- Principal* *Kelly Hale- Vice Principal* *Community members:* *Dave Roberts* *Pat DeWolfe* *Parents:* *Kate Kharchuk* *Melissa Thibodeau* *Staff:* *Nicole Fredericks* *Victoria Phillips* *Regrets: Kelly Hale, Dave Roberts, Pat DeWolfe, Nicole Fredericks*
Call to order 6:16 pm	*Robin Legge the meeting to order*
Principals Report and Student Success Planning	*School Summary* *OPA has been busy, busy, busy!* • *We had a smooth Halloween Howl. This event is a team effort by all, but organized by LE teachers this year!* *Other news:* • *<u>CUPE Strike</u>- TBD* • *<u>NSTU Conference Day</u>- Teachers attended Literacy, Technology and sessions about teaching students with exceptionalities, to name a few!* • *<u>Grade 6 Provincial Assessment</u>- This has been delayed for reasons we do not know, but infer it may have to do with potential strike. We speculate it will be re-booked for Spring.* • *<u>Guest Presenter</u>- Duane Gibson, a Canadian rapper, author and motivational speaker who was recently appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for my work using hip-hop to educate and inspire young people. He was also a*

participant on Amazing Race Canada!

- *Remembrance Day- Always a successful event!*

***SSP**- To improve in all areas, Math, Literacy, and Well Being, with a focus on students of African Canadian and Indigenous descent*

Literacy- At OPA, we are continuing to grow our efforts toward the implementation of Self-Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD), which is an evidence-based teaching method that helps children become confident, independent writers by combining clear writing steps with emotional and mental self-management skills.

Developed by researchers Dr. Karen Harris and Steve Graham, it is especially effective for students who struggle with writing or have learning disabilities, though it works well for all learners from elementary through high school.

Last year, we hosted a pilot and it met with great success. Therefore, we are implementing this strategy from Grade P-6, and introducing it to JH as well!

Math- We continue our focus on fact fluency, which according to the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE), is a student's ability to solve basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems using accuracy, flexibility, and efficiency. Rather than relying on timed drills or blind rote memorization, HRCE emphasizes building deep number sense and mental math strategies so students truly understand how numbers work together.

According to HRCE parent guides and Nova Scotia curriculum standards, a child is considered fluent when they demonstrate three core skills:

- ***Accuracy.** The student can reliably arrive at the correct answer to a math problem.*
- ***Flexibility.** The student understands number relationships and can approach a problem in more than one way. For example, if a child forgets 6 + 7, they might use a "near doubles" strategy by thinking 6 + 6 = 12 and adding 1 more.*
- ***Efficiency.** The student can solve the problem in a reasonable amount of time without getting bogged down in slow methods like counting on their fingers*

Well Being- At OPA, we are continuing to strengthen our commitment to equity, inclusion and belonging through a race relations, cultural understanding and human rights lens. This work includes the establishment of a staff Equity Team to support learning and guide our efforts, a student-led anti-discrimination campaign to promote respect and challenge bias, and an upcoming student voice survey to help us better understand students' experiences, perspectives and sense of belonging. Together, these initiatives will help ensure that every student feels seen, respected, valued and supported as a member of our school community.

Review of SAC Supporting Documents-

	School Advisory Councils | Education and Early Childhood Development (ednet.ns.ca) The Role of the School Advisory Council Meetings - YouTube The Role of the School Advisory Council - Membership - YouTube
Finance SAC Grant: Ideas must be aligned with SSP goals	***The opening SAC balance was: $5 015.45*** ***The current SAC balance is: $487.90 (with $5000 grant yet to follow)*** ***Expenditures include:*** • ***$182.18 for owl pellets*** • ***$1000.00 to assist with a large art supply order*** • ***$242.77 toward an infusion of playground toys/balls*** ***Priorities to be determined once grant monies received!***
Policy Share	*For your perusal- EECD Student Attendance and Engagement Policy and Flowchart* • *Student Attendance and Engagement* • *Student Attendance and Engagement Flowchart*
AOB?	- *N/A*
Adjournment	*6:35 pm*
Upcoming Meetings	*Meeting #3- Mar. 27 (virtual or in person, TBD)* *Meeting #4: May 27 (virtual or in person, TBD)* *N.B. We are required to host four-six meetings/year. The dates above are tentative, and does not yet include a required annual meeting by HRCE/EECD.*