CHDHS SAC Meeting Minutes Tuesday, October 13, 2020

In Attendance: Dunovan, Huntley, Scott, Sandra, Sabrina, Rae-anne, and Annette

Regrets: Roxanne, Lori Anne and Susan

Meeting called to order by Dunovan & Scott at 6:36pm

Approval of Agenda

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Chair Update

Scott and Dunovan talked about the possibility of having another member become Chair of the SAC as Scott may not have the time due to work.

Principal's Report

School Opening & Daily Procedures

Dunovan explained the process for opening the school year. Informed group that planning started in July and the school plan is based on Health Authority recommendations and procedures.

Dunovan talked about how planning included many conversations with other principals and upper admin from HRCE.

Dunovan discussed the mask mandate and why refusal to wear one may lead to progressive discipline. Explained to members that some students may need relief from their masks so teachers will allow them to so outside of class.

Discussed why our schedule was changed from four 75 minute periods to two 150 minute periods. Explained it was done to reduce the amount of traffic in the building during instructional time. However, noted that teachers do take one walking break with their classes during the 150 minute period. Also informed members that most Off Block students are not on property during their assigned off block.

Dunovan explained to members that we do not have cafeteria services and that he will be talking with the company to see when they may be able to provide a modified service. Informed members that there are different rules for the cafetorium and classrooms regarding lunch. We are using classrooms on the first and third floors plus cafetorium to accommodate students. However, not having the ability to put more than 44 students in the cafetorium for lunch during periods of bad weather will be a challenge.

All desks and tables used for lunch are sprayed and wiped clean 10 minutes before the next group starts classes.

Dunovan explained that one of our concerns is that some students are becoming a bit relaxed regarding their mask. We do recognize that students have been flexible regarding the environmental changes within the school but we still need to stress the importance of wearing their masks properly.

Dunovan informed members that a lot of our mental health supports are not in place yet and that our Schools Plus person is now with us 6 days a month. With the lack of support our guidance counsellor, Ms. McLean is now quite busy trying to meet the needs of our students.

Virtual Curriculum Night seemed to go well with no concerns being expressed by the school community.

Student Information

Sabrina explained that she and others did some work last week in our school garden. She also discussed how she was using our greenhouse to develop seeds that will be sold in the spring to raise funds for feed Nova Scotia.

Finance

Dunovan asked that members take some time before the next meeting to think about the SAC budget and how best to use the funds to support our students.

Next Meeting

Dunovan will select the dates for our next couple of meetings.