

Tantallon Sr. SAC Meeting Minutes  
February 27, 2024

Attendees: G. Davy, N. Snow, E. Schnare, A. Gouthro, A. Smit, C. Nicholl  
Regrets: S. Penny, A. Margeson, A. Kinley, J. McClure

1. Principal's Report:

- Goatwork's Drumming Presentation - happened last Friday, included sessions presented in French. Will potentially schedule another presentation for October based on availability and drummers.
- Skating Trip - March 8th. Split into two groups then further divided between two rinks. If you need skates or helmets email Grant Davy and he will make arrangements.
- Volleyball Tournament - Grade 5s, last week. Teachers Smith, Siscoe and MacDonald oversaw and participants had a fantastic time.
- Lunch Clubs:
  - Quiet Club (M-Th)
  - Lego Club (F)
- Library - New librarian (Beth Rogers) has come on board and is doing amazing things!
  - Space changes and updates
  - Activity changes, curriculum and plans to work with teachers to reflect and compliment classroom units and learning goals
  - Library Helpers from upper-level students
  - TESPAs funding
- Michelle MacDonald continues as a long-term substitute in place of J. Allen (4/5 English)
- Implementing a change in how some issues and behaviours are addressed modelled on restorative justice practices. This is largely being piloted with one class (4/5 MacDonald).
- Vice-Principal update -
  - S. Penny out until at least April 1st, but due to the nature of concussions is unlikely to return this year.
  - Jane has been in as a sub but because she is retired her days to work are capped and they are coming to an end, so to prolong time available she will be moving to three days a week.
  - The current plan is to backfill with staff interested in trying out an admin role, Grant will ask who is interested at next staff meeting and those teachers will cover 2 days each week on a rotational basis and a sub will cover those classrooms as it is easier to find coverage there.
- Grade 2 Literacy Scores
  - Incredibly big changes as the year progresses. At the start of the year in French Immersion 27 out of 31 students were not meeting literacy standards, now only 13 out of 31 are not and there is continued improvement each day. On the English side 10 are not currently meeting out of 42
- Reading vs. Writing - Grade 6 students this year (last years Grade 5s from TSES) scored 81% on the reading side of provincial assessments this year but only 70% on the writing side. Looking into ways we can work to bridge this gap. How do we help kids with the connection between the two?
- Fiscal Year End notes

2. TESPAs Report:

- Spring Fling - June 7th (Friday) from 5:00pm - 8:00pm!
- Recap of recent fundraisers (Seeds, Valentine's Candy Grams)
- Teacher Grants (\$100 per FTE in the fall and another \$100 in the winter/spring)

- Issues with spending this funding due to HRCE spending policies - how can TESPAs help?
- What kind of bulk items are needed that we can purchase directly for the school?
- TESPAs Funding Request form available on our website ([tantallonespa.ca](http://tantallonespa.ca))
- Dance
  - Grant has made multiple date requests to the HRM and all have been denied. The gym is booked every evening for the remainder of the year.
  - HRM has not been receptive to alternative ideas, so it is unlikely we will be able to host another dance in the evening this year.
  - Ann and Grant will submit dance dates in June for the 2024-2025 school year to avoid this problem, hopefully.
  - Suggestion: Daytime Dance? SMBE does this, as did other schools some staff previously worked at. 2 hour block, do Grades 2/3 in the first hour and 4/5 in the second. Have snacks, glow sticks, etc. available. Ann will present this to TESPAs to consider in future, but at this point all our manpower is focused on Spring Fling.