

AWEC SAC Minutes - unapproved  
March 23, 2017 – 4:00 pm  
AWEC – Seminar Room

**PRESENT:** Ashley Barteaux, Gemma Tompkins, Stephen Schell, Allan Birch, Georgia Trimper, Susan Robinson-Burnie, Glenda Robinson, Rion Microys

**REGRETS:**

**1. Call to Order**

- Rion Microys called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

**2. Approval of Agenda**

- Agenda approved as submitted

**3. Approval of Minutes – January 26, 2017**

- January 26, 2017 minutes approved as submitted

**4. Principal's Report – Mr. Schell**

- **End of Work-To-Rule** – Mr. Schell reported that there has been a slow transition back to regular school life. Teachers are taking the opportunity to reconsider what they do over and above contract requirements – the work-to-rule period was a good time for teaching
- **Early Dismissals Cancelled** – due to the many snow days over the winter all early dismissal days have been cancelled – May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- **Scheduling for Course Selection and Class Planning for 2017/2018**– this process is beginning – the number of teachers AWEC is to get will soon be known – there will be three Grade 8 classes next year to accommodate the Integrated French students – there will be three Grade 9 classes next year (66 students) and Integrated French will continue – there is some sorting to be done with Grade 9 electives, Grade 9 music will be combined with Grade 10 as there may only be 4 or 5 music students, Art and Tech are the other Grade 9 electives, Child Studies will not be offered – The Integrated French program will continue in 2017/2018

- **Principals in Focus** – Mr. Schell will be attending this meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Old Orchard Inn – the agenda for this meeting is still being compiled
- **Council to Improve Class Conditions** – Mr. Schell circulated a document that outlined some (8) of the recommendations that have come of this new working group - they involve PowerSchool (the computer program) and provincial assessments – the former will impact AWEC, there will be no required assessment tests or exams for Grade 8 or Grade 10 this school year (although the Grade 10 exams will be available if a teacher wants to use them). There are issues with student retention - More information available at [www.ednet.ns.ca/classroomcouncil](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/classroomcouncil)

## 5. **Vice Principal's Report** – Mr. Birch

- **Chromebooks** – Mid-Level chromebooks have been collected – the repair rate was the problem – it was determined that chromebooks were not increasing student performance – chromebooks will be kept in the classrooms on carts that have been ordered – students are encouraged to bring their own devices, but use of phones in the classrooms is not encouraged
- **Agendas** – staff is exploring options for students to record assignments and activities – ordering and providing agendas to students is very expensive and there is no evidence that they are well used – alternatives? Dollarama agendas?
- **Middle-Level Showcase** – May 8 at Kings County Academy (KCA) – Mr. Birch will be attending with staff – There is a full day closure – this is a blow out day of teachers helping teachers :)

## 6. **Student Council Reports**

- **Middle Level** – Georgia Trimper reported that there is a dance tonight and that Student Council activities are getting back on track now that work-to-rule is over
- **Senior Level** – Gemma Tompkins reported on two events: ***Dance Marathon on May 4*** – raising money for the IWK/Children's Miracle Network - \$225.00 has already been raised at a pop-up Farmer's Market bake sale – activities at the Dance Marathon will include a bouncy castle on the AWEC grounds – the \$10.00 ticket to the dance includes a t-shirt – Gemma will be making a

presentation to Awesome Annapolis for the monthly \$1000.00 in support of the event - *NSSSA April 8 and 9* – AWEC hosting a leadership skills building weekend for high school kids grades 9 – 12 from all over the valley, sleep over.

- **Bake Sales/Fundraising** – There was an off-shoot conversation about bake sales – they are discouraged by the school because of the policy on healthy food options – all fundraising that is done in the name of AWEC be it on-site or off-site must be vetted through the office

## 7. **Student Success Planning**

- Mr. Schell reported that this process is on hold for the time being as some in-service time has been lost because of work-to-rule and snow days – Cindy Dickie (Coordinator of Programs and Student Success Planning) is reorganizing everything

## 8. **Business Arising**

- **Communication – AWEC Handbook/Newsletter/Website** – Rion and Mr. Birch reported that the information that Paula and Rion compiled about the ARRA handbook in December has been received – Mr. Schell and Mr. Birch will work on updating the Middle-Level student handbook and bring it back to the group – we hope to have it ready for the Grade 5 students when they tour AWEC – Rion reported that there are still issues about information making it to the school calendar on the AWEC website – the website is relatively new and staff is still getting used to it
- **School Opening and Closing Times** – AWEC is open at 8:50 am on school days and closes 20 min after the final bell – AWEC is locked in the evening – Property Services (after work-to-rule) is rethinking the building use and adult supervision – some minor problems with evening and weekend use are being worked out
- **Breakfast Program** – Nine O2 students are helping out with the Breakfast Program – community is helping, 2 volunteers – teachers are involved – funding for the program comes from various sources – Steve Walker manages the funding
- **School Social Media Policy** – Teachers friending students is not encouraged – Mr. Schell has reminded teachers of the board

policy -

- **Digital Citizenship Course** – April 27 for parents at AWEC – before Parent/Teacher interviews – presented by Ryan Hainstock – it is on the school calendar and an alert will be sent out to remind parents

9. **New Business**

- **ARRA/gym Banners** – a communication and social media problem around a rumour about sports banners not going up – some misunderstanding about where the community wanted the ARRA banners to hang (old ARRA gym or AWEC) – Mr. Schell has always been willing to deal with the banners – hanging of any banners requires securing the appropriate scaffolding equipment and operator at the school and this takes time – this issue will be dealt with by staff and will be part of 2017 summer maintenance
- **AWEC Clothing** – was interrupted by work-to-rule – it has been in a queue – the grad clothing is still in progress, but the rest is coming tomorrow

10. **Sharing Time**

- **O2** – Susan Robinson-Burnie reported that the O2 presentation for 2017/2018 has been made – 23 students have applied and 17 have been interviewed, 5 are pending – applications are 50/50 male/female – many of the students self identified – Mr. Walker talks to many students about O2
- Rion reported that SAC minutes do not get updated on AWEC website – minutes are appreciated by SAC group and efforts will be made to post them

11. **Next Meeting** – Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

12. **Meeting Adjourned**

- Adjourned at 5:07 pm