

Springvale SAC Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, Sept 23rd , 2025, Springvale Library

In Attendance:

Michelle Lamont (Principal), Kassandra Knight (Chair/Parent), Barbara Wheeler (Vice-Chair/Parent), Katie Kirkpatrick (Parent), Jill Zhang (Teacher), Tracy McFeters (Teacher), Sheila Doucet (Community Member), Heather Dodge (Community Member)

Regrets:

Mona Atkins (Support Staff), Ariane Savi (Parent)

1. Call to order: 6:05pm

2. Review of Meeting Minutes from April 15th, 2025 - approved by Kass. Seconded by Heather

3. Principal's Report

a) i. 350 students in total registered. Number of students in classrooms are as follows:
PP – 18, PP – 19, P – 22, P/1 – 22, Gr 1 – 22, Gr 2 – 21, Gr 2 – 22, Gr 3 -26, Gr 3 – 27, Gr 3/4 - 26, Gr 4 – 26 Gr 4/5 – 25, Gr 5 – 26, Gr 6 – 24, Gr 6 - 25

ii. We have a YMCA - federal government employee - school settlement worker - working out of our school now on Mondays and Thursdays. She works with new to Canada permanent residents - will do lunch time programming - 20 or 40 students at the school. Some students have been here for a while who speak English. Some students don't have English etc. and they will be the priority.
There are 21 home languages at our school, which is a lot for only having 350 students.

b) *Vision Statement* - there is a staff and family version and a student version. It outlines the school's core values: Safety & Belonging, Kindness & Respect, Growth & Perseverance, Community & Responsibility, Curiosity & Lifelong Learning.

'At Springvale Elementary, you are safe, you are important, and you belong. We believe in you! You are here to learn, grow, be kind, and become the best version of yourself.

Behaviour Matrix - location specific - will print expectations and post in the location that the expectation applies to. Sprout the Squirrel mascot will accompany each expectation to help illustrate each location's behaviour expectation, especially helpful for those whose first language is not English.

Provincial code of conduct is available at:

<https://ednet.ns.ca/docs/provincialschoolcodeofconduct.pdf>

It is very specific and follows development of child. There is a new matrix for principals understanding aligned with impact on others

c) Assemblies each month - children will receive prizes for character traits
Springvale Stars will lead assemblies. Classes will prepare something for the assembly.
Sept - Orange shirt theme - truth and reconciliation theme
Respect, Kindness, Integrity, Well-being

d) SSP (Student Success Plan) update - to be determined on Sept 29th PD Day.

e) Upcoming dates: i. Gr 6 provincial assessments coming up: Oct 6 - 21. Will go home to Gr 6 parents. ii. SAC conference - Nov 28th

f) Financial update: \$0. Chromebook cart was paid off. \$5000 plus \$350 will be coming in November 2025 for this year.

g) Mural - a success. Encapsulates the dreamlike state the kids were in, learning etc. Michelle used AI (Artificial Intelligence) to help with designing the mural, using the kids' ideas. Emmett had to have proof of insurance, safety plans for the paints etc. School was able to pay for the materials and temporary insurance. PTA paid for the mural (\$1000/side)

4. Any Other Business - discussion around school lunch - improving packaging and working on reducing waste. Michelle will send out an email reminding parents to speak to their children about waste and only ordering what they will eat.

- Meeting Schedule:

- Sept 23, Oct 21, Nov 18, Jan 20, Feb 17, April 21, use May 19 as storm month? - 6 meetings required.

- 5. Adjourning at 6:46pm