

Dartmouth High School
School Advisory Council

Chairperson: Paul Black
c/o Dartmouth High School
95 Victoria Road
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 1V2
Email:

DHS SAC Minutes – June 10, 2024; 5:30 pm

ATTENDANCE

- Paul Black, Tara Arseneau, Jane Brison, Shirlene Dancause, Andrea Doucette, Melanie Ellis, Gary Gallant, Robyne Gorman, Rohen Hayne, Shane MacLeod, Elizabeth MacPherson, Maureen MacVicar, John Mercer, Eartha Monard, Terri-Lynn Rapitta, Bowan Thompson-Watson
- **Regrets:** Robyn Brown, Sarah Conde, Sandy Gillis, Reagan McMeekin, Rosella Winship

1. Call to Order

- Called to order at 5:45PM

2. Approval of Agenda – unanimously approved

3. Approval of Minutes from last meeting (April 29, 2024) - unanimously approved

4. Student Council Report

- Last week of April:
 - Earth Spirit Week: In celebration of Earth Day; the activities such as rock painting and face painting, had a great turnout.
- May:
 - Co-President Elections: There were 4 candidates. Each of them presented an activity, and did a speech over the announcements. An election was held and Jimmy Tia and Celine Hoyeck won.
 - Incoming executives and new council structure were chosen today, pending admin approval.
 - Mascot Showdown: About 30 volunteers, 35 DHS students, and 14 schools across HRM were in attendance. There was an

- amazing turnout; it was great to see everyone's school spirit. Auburn Drive placed first, CPA second, and Mosaïque third. The event was coordinated and organized by students and there were no issues. It was great competition among all schools and a successful event that was enjoyed by everyone.
- June:
 - Senior Spirit Week: Adam Sandler Day (great turnout), Walking Yearbook (seniors wear white t-shirts which other students may sign).
 - Family Feud is Wednesday, Orientation (led by new Co-Presidents) and Goodbye Grad taking place Friday.
 - Two forms have been sent out to narrow down senior superlatives (AKA Flushie Awards), send-off video is a WIP.

5. Correspondence & SAC Updates

- Cell Phone Use in Schools – new policy being imposed by the EECD (see attachment)
- Lengthy Discussion regarding cellphone use in schools; NOTE: DHS staff have not yet had an opportunity to discuss implementation – to be revisited in Fall.
- Chair directed by members to follow up with HRCE.
- Principal to connect with SAC chair about policy development and implementation, etc.

6. Principals' Report

- Math Boot Camp – 2 days, late August. 39 students signed up so far.
- SSP Reflections; Short Cycle Planning – creating reports
- TA: Literacy: switched focus from silent reading to silent writing; Many strategies for writing development
- TA: Improved writing conventions (i.e capitals, etc.); Students “more positive” about writing
- TA: Moving to pen & paper; Slow everything down – focus on process more than product

- AD: Short-Cycle Planning: Small-group conferencing; building relationships with students; Using conversations and observation data as assessment data
- Recognition: Mike Diabo Retiring; Was “instrumental” in developing our music program.
- Sports Awards & Letters Ceremony on Thursday, June 13, 2024
- Gr.12 Activity: Hatfield Farms Trip (120 attendees); many students dressed thematically (Cowboy hats & Plaid)
- Trip to Boston: Fun. Enriching experience. Enjoyed by students/staff; Visited Harvard, MIT Museum, Baseball Game; Salem; Fine-Arts Museum; various film locations. Students were appreciative of the experience.
- Hosted Black Excellence Day: Keynote Maestro Fresh Wes, successful and inspirational event. Event produced by Halifax Regional Arts with Cyndi Cain-Holmes
- Fringe Festival (Inaugural): Drama & Dance Students performances/presentations
- Annual SAC update to come which includes the financial update

7. New Business

Prom Update

- Fundraising complete; lots of fundraising activities, started early and as a result, we are able to offer \$60 prom ticket. Also supporting some students with this payment
- @ Lord Nelson – doors open at 5PM. Supper at 6PM.
- Glow Promotions will do decorations
- Discussion about organization/volunteers; Handbook/Binder does exist to support future volunteers
- Grade 12 BBQ on Friday, June 14. SAC volunteers will be appreciated
- PB: Many thanks to the Prom Organizing Committee, on behalf of SAC
- TA: Literacy Activity: Murder Mystery for Seminar students

8. Next meeting(s)

- September 23, 2024 (TBC)

9. Adjournment @ 7:05PM