



## AJ Smeltzer Junior High School

### SAC Meeting Minutes Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023



#### Present:

Ryan Lamont (Principal), Dean Lee (Vice Principal), Michelle Halliday, Stephanie Seaboyer, Krista Hachey, Sarah Pickup, and Kathy Wedge (Chair)

#### HRCE Regional Meeting and Short Cycle Planning:

- AJ Smeltzer will be using short term planning (eight week blocks) to deepen our knowledge and understanding of how well our students are doing. The goal is to implement new strategies across the learning community to improve student learning and student achievement.
- Numeracy: Thinking classrooms are being incorporated in all Math classrooms to enable student to apply strategies in small groups to improve their problem solving skills.
- Literacy: Instruction will focus on the writing process. The goal is to create a common language, i.e. DARE, that is consistent across the learning community.
- Wellness: The goal is to have a stronger understanding of students lives outside of the school. It will create an environment where staff and students can communicate outside of the classroom.

#### Short Cycle Planning, Next Eight Weeks:

- Math: Teacher will use knowledgehooko at the beginning of a unit to determine students who may need support. They will also use the diagnostic tool at the end of the unit to learn if the intervention work to improve student learning.
- Literacy: Focus will be reading comprehension. Reading groups will be formed based on the results of an assessment. Students will participate in a reading group and receive tier two support.
- Wellness: Staff will make positive phone calls each week to communicate with families about what is going well within the classroom, i.e. good news Friday phone calls.

#### Numeracy and Literacy Provincial Assessment:

- AJ did well and showed gains on the provincial assessment from previous years. 59.7 % of students were at or above the average, 55.3 %. Reading was on par with the region. 74.3 % of students at performed at or above in writing. This surpassed the regional average of 68.6 % on the assessment.

### Technology, Food Drive, and Green Xmas:

- The school purchased thirty new chromebooks that were put into circulation to support student learning.
- Homeroom classes participated in a food drive challenge in support of local food banks. This event was a huge success.
- Staff and students participated in a green xmas event. New or gently used items were donated to the school. Homeroom classes were invited to the library to purchase items that could be given as gifts during the holidays. This event was a huge success.

### School Sports:

- Girls and Boys Volleyball teams has great seasons. They battled hard and showed growth each game
- Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball teams are currently holding tryouts.

### Principals Report and Upcoming Events:

- The Minister of Education is seeking more input from families and SAC chairs. An annual conference will provide opportunities to discuss distribution of resources. Students Families will see increased transparency and students will have more opportunities to participate at the regional level. SAC will receive \$5000 + \$41.00 per student to support academics and wellness.
- Grade Seven Immunization will be held on Tuesday December 12th, 2023
- Pancake lunch is being organized for staff and students. They will have an opportunity to attend a movie at Cineplex on the last day of school prior to the holiday break. AJ Smeltzer will host a school dance on December 14th, 2023.
- Spirit Week:
  - 16<sup>th</sup> Comfy Day 17<sup>th</sup> Hat Day 18<sup>th</sup> Sprit Day 19<sup>th</sup> Ugly Sweater Day 20<sup>th</sup> Movie Day

### Upcoming SAC Meetings:

- February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024