

SAC Meeting

Jan 21, 2026

Present:

Jarrett Feeney

Victoria White

Jennifer White - SAC Chair

Andreea Cercel - Student representative

Elizabeth Sheridan

Brittney Myers

Kathy Howes

Megan Paris

Tracy Conway

Sharing from Principal

Welcome and Introductions

Principal's Message

Overview of current registration

-310 students currently enrolled, 252 on track to graduate

-52 are of African descent and 47 of Indigenous descent.

-Our current population consists of both adult learners completing the NSSAL pathway and students completing the traditional graduation pathway.

Summary of School Events from Q2

-YMCA YESP partnership is continuing with BFEC, this program visits once a week and provides one on one and small group mentorship for support with post-secondary. BFEC has received over \$3000 in scholarships thus far from this partnership.

-We have had several pre-service teachers working at BFEC this school year, there are currently 4 working at the Bedford Campus.

-Ms MacDonald and Ms Sheridan were awarded a \$5000 PDAF grant for supporting students with exceptionalities.

-GirlsWork @ Dartmouth campus began in Quarter 2 and is going well.

-Experiential learning opportunities have been happening at both campuses through the Co-op program set to begin in Quarter 3. Currently there are 18 students registered.

-BFEC participated in a Nova Scotia Public Health pilot to update their provincial health records including vaccine records. (Nov 25 - Bedford, Nov 26 - Dartmouth) - Clinics on Dec 9/10

-Holiday Giveaway at both campuses before the holiday break where donated clothing, household goods and other items were set up so students could help themselves to what they need and shop for presents for family and friends.

-Phys Ed Leadership 12 had a partnership with Sunnyside Elementary school where they worked together to provide baked goods for a Sunnyside fundraiser.

-GSA meet weekly at both campuses, They have worked at constructing displays and pronouns pins for the student body.

-Student Success Planning continues Cycle 2 is coming to an end and we are continuing to work on our goals in Math, Literacy and wellbeing. We then construct short cycle goals for Cycle 3.

Literacy : strengthening students' basic text skills in documents. Increase students' confidence as digital learners. Ex: emailing

Math: Helping students take more ownership of their learning and building in more agency in how they approach Math. Teachers are connecting Math to real life experiences. Tracking through surveys and classroom work.

Wellbeing: Student voice group met on Jan 13th in Bedford and provided student feedback on the results of our student survey administered in the fall. The group came up with tangible ideas that can be put forward.

Sharing from Andreea (Student Representative)

Andreea summarized the positives and negatives of her take aways from the SSP Bedford data.

Positives:

Students feel comfortable asking for help which shows a sense of trust and a sense of belonging at school.

Students know where supports are available within the school

Staff approachability are quite high and students want to be involved in extra-curricular activities at schools.

Somethings to work on:

More extra-curricular activities such as peer tutoring, study area in a common lunch room with snacks and low lighting

Engagement - classes are engaging but are requesting movement breaks. Once a week - school based walks during lunch time? Can add to multi-purpose room (area for tutoring in the corner). Getting more students involved with lunchtime activities.

Potential Improvements:

She then spoke on potential improvements such as more post-secondary support, more lunchtime activities, revisited the idea of a quiet lunch time space, incorporating more activity

and hands on activities into class learning. Adding more clubs to lunch time such as art club, walking club.

Sharing from Jennifer White (Parent Representative)

Jenny provided more ideas building upon Andreea's comments:

- Chill space at lunch (perhaps Tuesday and Thursday and then intramurals on M/W/F)
- walking club using step trackers to encourage students to move more while at school
- more safe collaborative learning opportunities in class

-more access to post-secondary planning, Jenny shared she may be able to get

Education assistants from the Mi'kmaq Friendship centre to provide more information to BFEC about options for funding and program availability for our Indigenous students.

-Suggestion to have students go on school based visits to local post-secondary schools, perhaps using re-engagement fund to do so.

Use of Funds:

-SAC has approximately \$5400 grant that must be used this year, Mr Feeney asked for SAC members to reflect on what they would like to do with this pot of money and bring ideas to next meeting.

-Healthy Living Grant \$5400 to be used for mental and physical health initiatives to support student wellbeing and the whole child. We need ideas on how to spend this.

-Re-engagement Grant is \$30,000 to engage students beyond the traditional practices and school based funds already provided. In the last few years much of this money went towards technology classes to incorporate print shop and purchase cameras and printers. Looking for ideas from staff and SAC members. Some funds will be used for new Chromebooks.

Next SAC Dates:

Feb 18, Apr 8, May 6, June 3