



School Advisory Council

Ellis Elementary School

April 14, 2025, 5:30 pm, Library

Participants

Mary O'Gray, Declan O'Gray (5th grade), Meena Salah (4th grade), Malika Salah, Paige Schupp, Lexy O'Brien, Denise Zervoudis, Kacey Keligan, Natalia Guardado, Ali Belghaih, Sara Belghaih (grade 3) and Emily Taylor

Minutes

- Future Meeting Dates:
 - May 12th will be our next and last meeting. At that meeting we will discuss the roles for the SAC next year.
- Budget & CIP update - We are keeping the positions we added this year for next year. We will have a full-time art teacher and two assistant principals next year. At the end of the year, we will have a meeting to look at data for the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and reflect on the year. The SOL tests are coming up, which is a great opportunity for students to show up and do their best. The school will be sending out more information to parents regarding testing. There will be a BMX bike assembly next week to motivate our students.
- SACI update-Mrs. O'Gray attended the last two meetings. The school division discussed AI and how that is going to be utilized in our schools. They want to ensure that students and teachers are utilizing that tool appropriately. There was a discussion about how to balance screen time. This concern was shared by parents. The final budget discussion date was changed. The budget will be

discussed at the next SACI meeting on May 14. The meeting is from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Kelly Leadership Center (KLC).

- o Alternative chair member needed especially for May 14th meeting

- Important Dates:

- o Thursday 16th Carnival
- o Friday 24th Global Celebration
- o May 21st Spring Concert
- o June 5 5th grade & Kindergarten promotions

- Open chair-Students attended were asked to share any of their thoughts. Declan shared how fifth graders are paying attention during math to prepare for the SOL tests. They are also doing energy review with fourth grade review on Fridays. Meena shared a concern about how students are bringing up apps on their iPads that they shouldn't be using at that time. Sara shared about third grade habitat projects. Students made a habitat in their box and put animals in those habitats, showing how they survive and what they need. Another concern was when there is a substitute bus driver and students are waiting that we may want more teachers or adults to encourage students to stay calm.
- The Student Council Association is planning an SOL assembly, a spirit week, and a rock painting competition. They have ideas about a dance off for teachers. They also planned an Earth Day planting activity. Each student will plant a basil plant during Spanish Class.
- Attendance idea-100% attendance to be able to pie or slime members of the admin team.
- Third, Fourth, and Fifth grader classes are competing in a math competition.
- Mrs. Guardado asked parents if they had ideas on how to increase parent engagement in school activities. Parents shared that there are Spring sports practices happening after school. There may be many students playing soccer in the spring. There may not be as many students participating in Fall or Winter sports. Parents may be unsure of what their involvement would be in certain activities. We could hold events at different times.
- One parent wants their child to get more homework. To keep them off their screens.
- Perhaps the Watchdog Dad program could be implemented next year.

- Think of ways for Dads to be more involved. One example is to have them wear jerseys and have them line up for when students enter the school to give high fives to students for a special event.