

Rocky Lake Elementary SAC Meeting Minutes

Date: October 22, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting

Chair: Ivan Skeete (Principal)

Recorder: Copilot (AI Assistant)

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Principal Ivan Skeete welcomed attendees and thanked them for joining the SAC for the year.
- Introductions were made by all attendees, including staff and parent representatives:
 - Ivan Skeete – Principal
 - Heather Day – Vice Principal
 - Heather Collins – Resource Teacher
 - Lisa MacIsaac – Learning Centre Teacher
 - Kris Kohler – Teacher
 - Tabitha Wadden – Parent (children in Miss Evans and Miss Boucher's classes)
 - Dayle O'Neil – Parent (child in Miss Boucher's class)
 - Maria Gallo – Parent (child in Miss Snow's class)
 - John St. Amand – Municipal Counsellor (invited guest, may attend future meetings)

2. SAC Overview

- Mr. Skeete explained the role of SAC, especially in the absence of elected school board officials.
- Emphasis on SAC's importance in providing input, feedback, and acting as ambassadors to the community.
- SAC members are encouraged to share insights and communicate school-related information within their social circles.

3. SAC Chair and Secretary

- **Chair Role:**
 - Dayle O'Neil volunteered to serve as SAC Chair starting January 2026.
 - Maria will serve as interim Chair until December 2025.
- **Secretary Role:**
 - Lisa MacIsaac expressed interest but faced technical issues.
 - Copilot (AI) will assist with minute-taking and distribution for now.

4. SAC Meeting Schedule

- SAC is mandated to meet at least six times per year.
- Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 5:15 PM.**

5. SAC Funding

- Each school receives:
 - **\$5,000 SAC Grant** for student achievement and well-being.
 - **\$5,000 Student Support Grant** for co-curricular/extracurricular activities.
 - **\$5,000 Healthy Schools Grant** for health-related initiatives.
- Discussion on past and potential uses:
 - School T-shirts (\$3,500)
 - Sports equipment
 - Dance decorations
 - End-of-year trip to Atlantic Splash
 - Upcoming assembly with “Domino Man” (Bill Oakley)

6. School Spirit and Belonging

- Focus on enhancing student connection and pride in the school.
- Ideas discussed:
 - Clubs (Art, Chess, Drama, Music)
 - Assemblies every two months
 - Sharing student photos internally and possibly via social media (pending media consent)
 - Parent testimonials at welcome events

7. School Name Change Discussion

- Proposal to change the name from “Rocky Lake Elementary” to reflect its transitional nature (e.g., “Rocky Lake Middle School” or “Upper Elementary”).
- Goal: Improve student identity and community perception.
- SAC may initiate a formal name change process.

8. Lunch and Bus Monitor Challenges

- The school currently has 3 lunch monitors (allocated for 12).
- Difficulty recruiting due to location and low compensation.
- Bus supervision remains a concern; suggestion to explore bus monitors using lunch monitor funding.

- Mr. Skeete will investigate feasibility with HRCE.

9. Innovation Grant

- Discussion on applying for the provincial **Innovation Grant** (up to \$16,000).
- Ideas include programming to support student transition, health education, and Makerspace.
- Application opens in spring; SAC will explore options.

10. Closing

- Mr. Skeete reiterated openness to feedback and encouraged members to reach out directly.
- The meeting adjourned with thanks to all participants.
