

Northern School Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Northern SS Library

Meeting called to order: 6:30 pm

Welcome/Introductions: by Tania O. and Rita C., co-chairs

Principal's Report: Adam Marshall

Mr. Adam Marshall introduced his background and educational philosophy to the school council

- graduated in 1999 from teachers' college. Has taught in several schools and boards.
- found Arctic Bay meaningful: saw people with abilities that didn't have a place in the classroom
- has had experience as teacher, guidance, VP in two schools (one International Baccalaureate)
- thrilled to be new Principal, thinks highly of his staff, supportive of parental engagement

Concerns about Proposed Changes to Education:

- the impact of increasing class size at the expense of diversity of programming
- not sure what the true number of teachers lost will be (guidance/library allocations have not yet be announced; actual enrolment is higher than projected; more teachers lost than retiring)
- principal's concerns include: e-learning, losing the important opportunity to explore and discover oneself at this stage
- teachers' concern is losing the ability to give all students an equal sense of belonging

School Improvement Plan:

- will be developed and in place by September by the principal in consultation with all stakeholders in the interest of the students
- will cover equity (how staff work with students), well-being and achievement (student focussed)
- -Look for notifications in weekly report and email for feedback opportunities in spring and fall

Parental response to Changes to Education:

- discussion of Essential and In-depth Toolkits as resources to offer parents for giving feedback to the Ministry
- due to concerns over certain content, members approved using only an amended copy of the Essential Toolkit to send to interested parents, after it would be revised by the co-Chairs in consultation with Adam.
- no other specific advocacy plans were made by Council.

Operational Matters-

- budget update from Kasi K.
- minutes from March 26 meeting approved

Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm

Next meeting: June 5