

Arnold H McLeod PSSC School Calendar Meeting

March 23 2025, 7:00-7:40

Attendance

- Wendy White
- Debra-Lee Pollard
- Sheila Johnston
- Becky Toogood
- Jamee Densmore
- Lydia Hawkins
- Dominic Vautour
- Marisa Jeffrey
- Byron Rayne
- Lisa Bryenton
- Charlene Handrahan

7:04 - adoption of minutes

Agenda

1. Welcome & Adoption of Minutes
2. School Calendar 2025-2026
 - Goals
 - Increase student achievement
 - Support staff: more time for Professional Learning (PL) and collaboration
 - Improve student and staff wellbeing
 - Aligns with high performing education systems in Canada
 - Why?
 - PL improves student learning
 - Increased time in class does not improve student success
 - NB has lowest student achievement scores despite currently having the most “teacher in front of class” learning time in Canada.
 - Teachers need dedicated PL time
 - Current challenges

- Teacher retention
 - Keeping a balance with Francophone Sud School District who currently have PL days biweekly
- Changes
 - Gradual transition to having 2 PL days per month
 - Long term goal of having 4 day school weeks (5 days for all staff)
 - Potential for all schools to participate, or just a selection of interested schools
 - PL days include all staff (EAs, bus drivers, custodians, admin assistants, etc.)
 - PL will be a balance of district lead, school based and time for data entry/examination
- Concerns
 - Childcare concerns among families
 - Reaching out to Early Childhood Education Centres
 - Discussion of mixed messaging when it comes to instructional hours
 - Specialties on PL days: potentially moving to a rotating schedule
- Messaging
 - Highlight student benefits
 - Emphasize alignment with high performing education systems
 - Feedback surveys going out to families

Meeting adjourned - 7:40pm