



STONY BROOK SCHOOL

9 FARMER WAY • WESTFORD, MA 01886 • 978-692-2708

Mr. Richard F. McElhinney Jr.
Interim Principal

Mr. Joseph Barnas
Interim Assistant Principal

School Advisory Council 2020-2021

The Stony Brook School Advisory Council collaborates respectfully and efficiently while developing and assessing goals towards a common objective in a fun environment that fosters listening and sharing, and encourages feedback.

Date of Meeting: October 26, 2021

Time: 2:30 Location: B105

Council Members:

Principal	Rick McElhinney	Present
Parent	Prajakta Kale	Present
Parent	Pooja Krishnamurthy	Present
Parent	Seema Pusalkar	Present
Parent	Laura Waters	No longer participating
Parent	Tom Hinkle	Present
Parent	Arty Mourtzinos	Absent
Faculty	Michele Dulczewski	Present
Faculty	Mary Larkin	Present

Agenda:

- Meet and greet SAC members
- Review SAC charge
- Elect co-chair
- Review progress SB SIP 2020-21
- Discuss projected goals/needs for 2021-22
- Next Meeting

Discussion:

Introduction of members, backgrounds.

SAC is required by education laws, provides parents and community an opportunity to be a part of education decision making. We are fortunate to have a great, transparent district with great, active parents.

2021: Were the goals accomplished?

Goal 1: COVID 19 - Operations and hygiene.	Accomplished
Goal 2: Hybrid Model implemented.	Accomplished
Goal 3: SEL goal.	Partially Accomplished
Long lasting effects that require ongoing consideration and attention	
Goal 4: Diversity. Continuation of ADL	Partially Accomplished

Previous year initiatives impacting 2021-2022 goals. Trauma invested, safety and security.

Potential change in timing for establishing the goals. Will get a district goal plan in the spring that will then allow us to get goals in place for the 2022-2023 school year. This will give time to solicit ideas from staff, district admin, parents.

Potential goals for 2021-2022:

- Trauma-invested learning
 - Started in 2019, cut off due to COVID
- Social emotional learning
 - District initiative
 - No “book” or “curriculum” but just infused in all that we do, how we teach our classes and what we think about when planning and implementing lessons
- Safety and Security
 - Revisit 2020
- Tolerance, Learning, Belonging

SAC goals to be presented to the school committee. Rick provided copies for all. Time to review info.

SEL learning: How was this emphasized in school, focusing on the readjustment?

Students have had less practice being students, so we as a staff are allowing them more opportunities to socialize and are flexible with all aspects of our practice. Rick and Joe have emphasized the idea of Belonging and relationships over curriculum to start the year. For example, groups on the first day of school comprised of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, allowing and encouraging interactions within the grades. Teachers are focused on making sure that kids have or get what they need. The extra advisory block grew out of necessity last year and worked well, so we kept it. It allows the kids to have an adult who they have an opportunity to get to know well.

Our kids are doing well, often much better than we think. We have some staff to help with SE concerns, but more staff is needed to make sure we are truly covered.

For the most part, our students are well served both at home as well as at school.

Will be presented 11/22/21 to School Committee. We will need to meet again in November to go over the goals, make any final edits, and sign the documents going to School Committee.

Decisions:

Electing a co-chair: Unanimous decision, Pooja Krishnamurthy

Vision Statement: See Rick M's notes. Motion to accept by Seema, seconded by Pooja.

Accepted as is, no changes needed.

Meeting date for next SAC meeting. November 16, 2021

Action Items & Person Responsible:

Update the SIP- Rick

Create a final Draft - Rick