

SAC Meeting Feb 3 2026

**Present**

Rob Huntley, Chair  
Krista Ritchie, Vice Chair  
Brenda Vaughan, VP  
Hugo, Grade 7 rep  
Gwen, Grade 8 rep  
Mike Bunin, Principal  
Chloe Kline, parent rep  
Charlie, Grade 9 rep  
Bridget, Grade 9 rep  
Pheilm Martin, teacher rep

**Regrets:**

Lorelei Burgess, community member  
Brendan McDorman, community member  
Mike Bunin, Principal

**Notes:**

Motion to start the meeting: Hugo  
Seconded by Mr Martin

Note:

*We don't have a quorum, we will wait on approval of previous minutes to the March meeting.*

**Chair Report:**

- Regarding SAC use of funds: there was a question about getting a Q&A for project funding and getting someone in to talk to us. There will be a package in March with the new criteria. If we want to talk to someone about the funding process, we can do that in March.
- They announce funding in September
- Rob has a list of projects that were approved.
- Rob reached out to Heather McMillan about doing a parent workshop on social media. This may be a possibility down the road.
- Unplugged Canada is available for March 26 for a parent event here. Would need to look into logistics and line up volunteers if we confirm that.

**Principal's Report:**

- School clothing now on sale, order deadline is Feb 14

- Sports teams - basketball teams up and running, ski team race cancelled, scheduled to attend races Feb 11 and 25
- Badminton tryouts for intermediate and junior divisions underway
- Grade 9 course selections (for Grade 10) took place last week
- Round 2 of grade 8 field trips this Friday
- Lung NSPEI will be here for vaping awareness presentations next week
- Hosting a dance Feb 12. Gorsebrook students are invited to attend.
- Lockdown drill next Wednesday
- Grade 7 girls/female identifying doing engineering event at Dal Feb 19
- MAJE Hiphop artist presentation on Feb 25

### **Teacher's Report**

- Teacher temperature check - very positive. Monthly assemblies positive for both teachers and students

*Question about popcorn during assemblies - why is this not offered? Answer: it's too much of a mess.*

### **Student Report**

- Suggestion box update - started in past few weeks. Shared the concept with different classes, and brought them questions each week. (Pie chart data included below)
- 2 questions in the past few weeks.
  - Students shared graphs and results
  - Pancake breakfast - highest response from activities you want to do
  - Grade 9 trip - overnight, Splashifax both popular options
- Spirit Week question coming
- Suggestion box - open submissions.
  - Many people said they wanted AC.
  - Some people want breakfast cart to have more options, specifically juice boxes
  - Bake sale or some kind of baking thing
- Suggestion to do Stop Drop and Read - keep a book with you and there are reading breaks during the day.
- Committee suggestions for questions for suggestion box -
  - are there books/authors you would want to see in the library
  - School logo - change it for a week

### **New business:**

#### **Proposal for a potential workshop (conference style) at school on online safety and awareness**

Halifax police gave an initial presentation on this topic; and this gave rise to concept of one day workshop that would go deeper

- Risks young people face online
- Responsibilities, code of conduct

- Social media impact on developing minds
- Ways to establish healthy relationship with tech
- Right to privacy
- How to remove offending material from internet
- AI risks and plagiarism

Put together a day-long workshop, beta test it this spring, and bring it back in September. This would be during the school day - essentially a day long conference. (Or could be a smaller version this spring)

- Comment that this is one prong of an approach that has to be broader - parents/home environment is critical. Important for students to have the information - and also acknowledging that there is responsibility of parents and adults to set limits around this.
- Suggestion to have parent input into the content of the workshops
- Suggestion for a keynote - whole school conversation that sets the tone
- Important to have food/healthy snack breaks
- Hands on/interactive activities are really important (not spending 6 hours listening to people) (students mentioned a presentation last year that was very engaging)
- Start with thinking about what sessions would be essential
- Suggestion to students to include this in the question/suggestion box - what would you want to learn more about/worried about around social media
  - Perhaps the committee or some advisors can help suggest some topics

There seems to be interest - will continue to look into this.

#### **Traffic safety and snow removal conversation**

- Traffic incident that Hugo witnessed
- Sidewalks weren't clear yesterday on the way to school
- Letter to HRM snow removal team about lack of sidewalk clearing given that we are a walking school. Reach out to Tupper for their support.
- Communication to students about using crosswalks

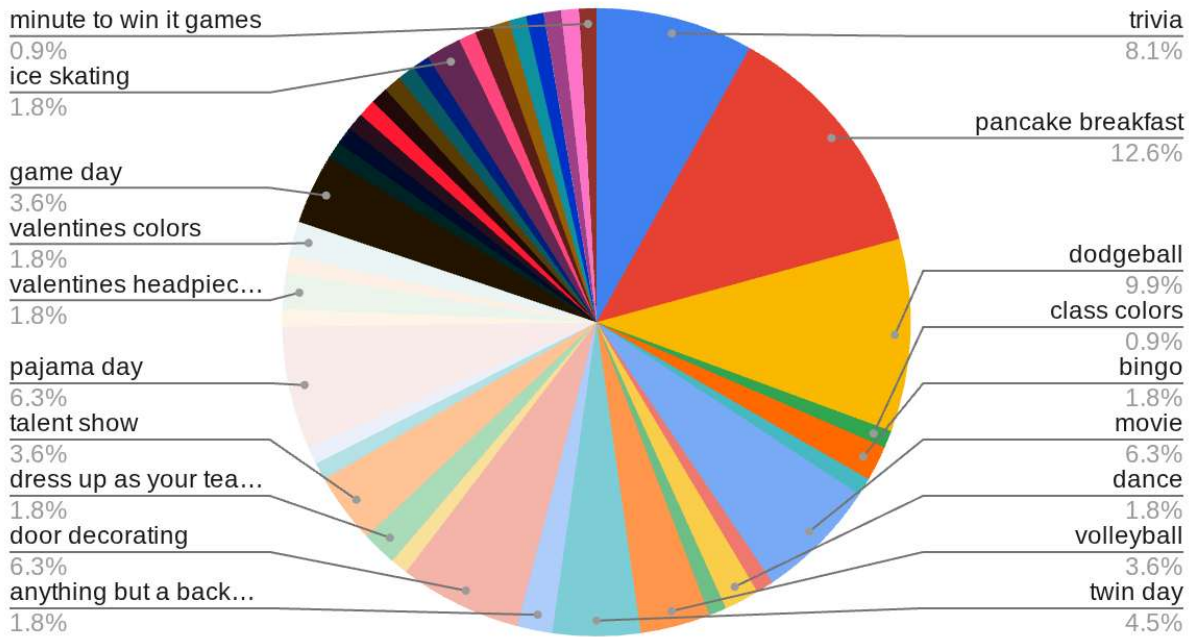
Hugo motions to end meeting

Krista seconds

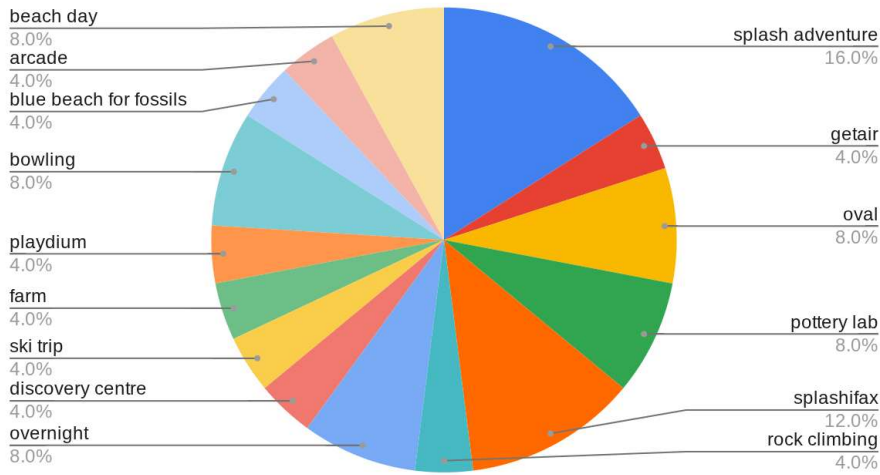
Meeting is adjourned.

Suggestion Box data:

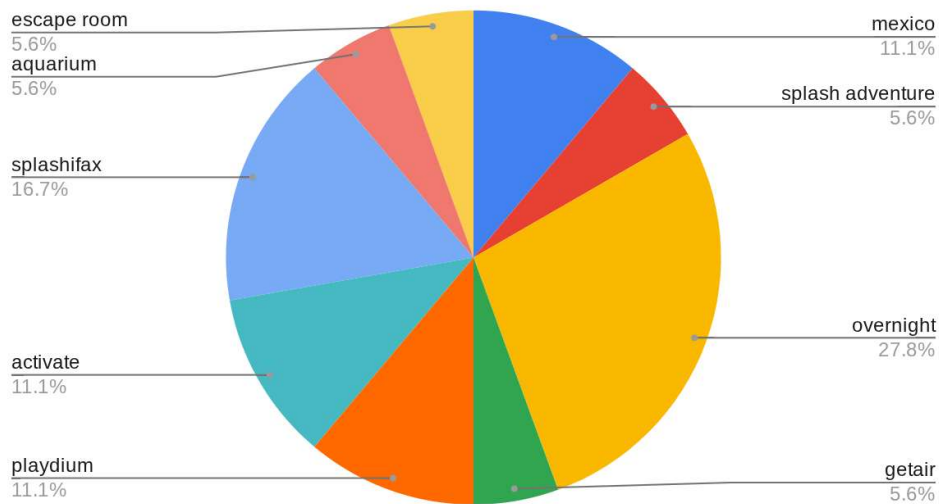
## Week1 - What activities do you wanna see during spirit week



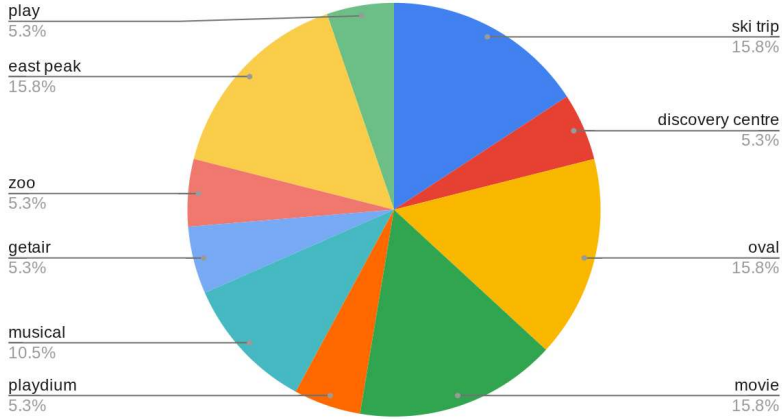
### Count of 701



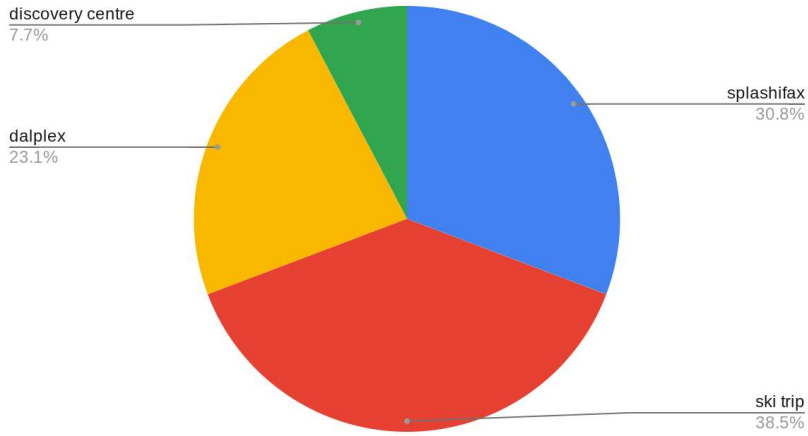
### Count of 702



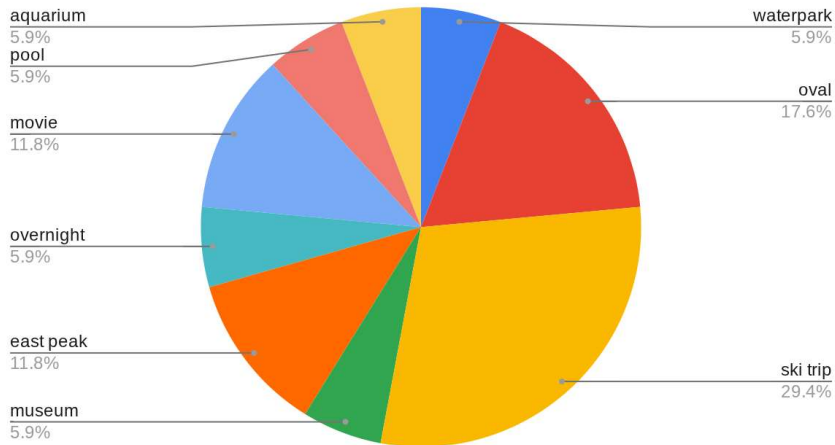
Count of 801



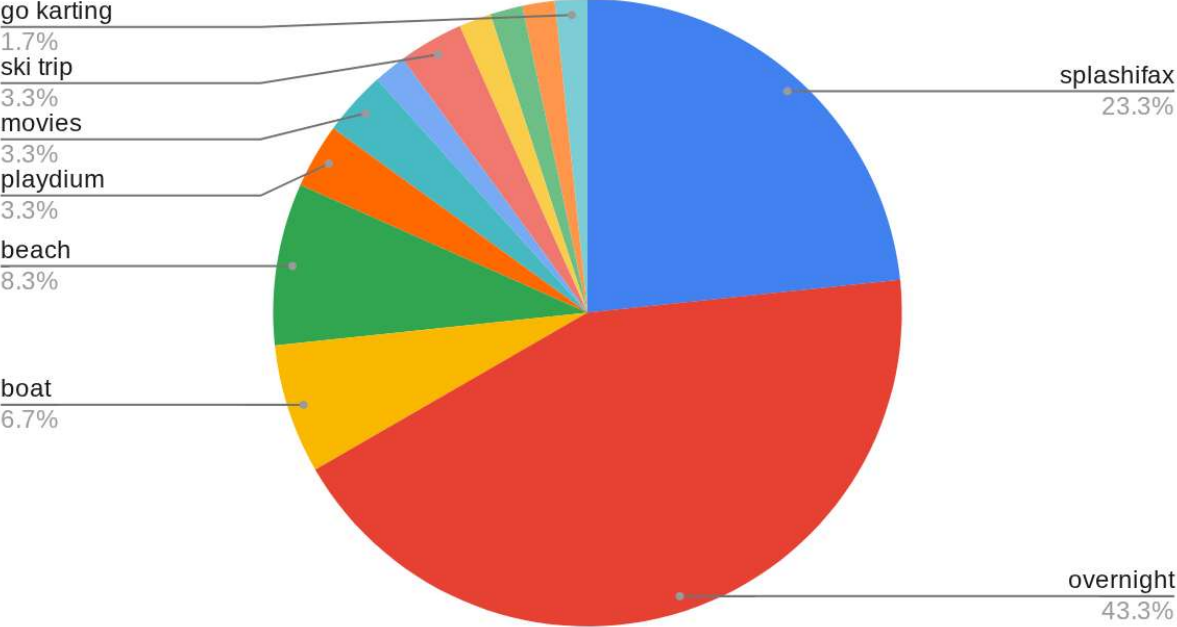
Count of 803



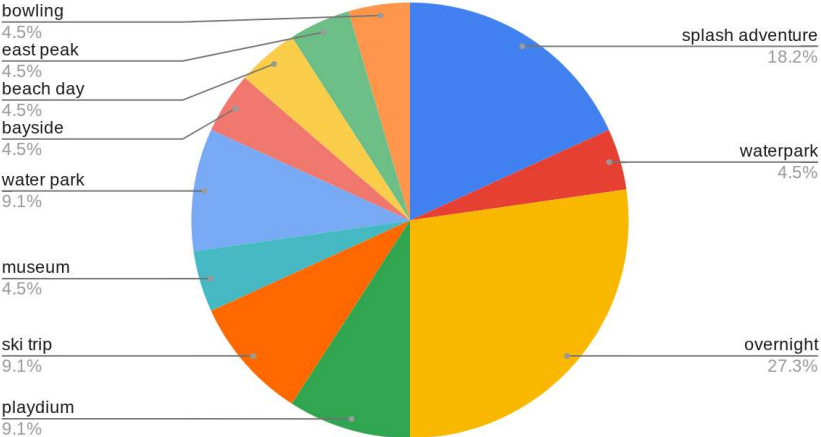
Count of 802



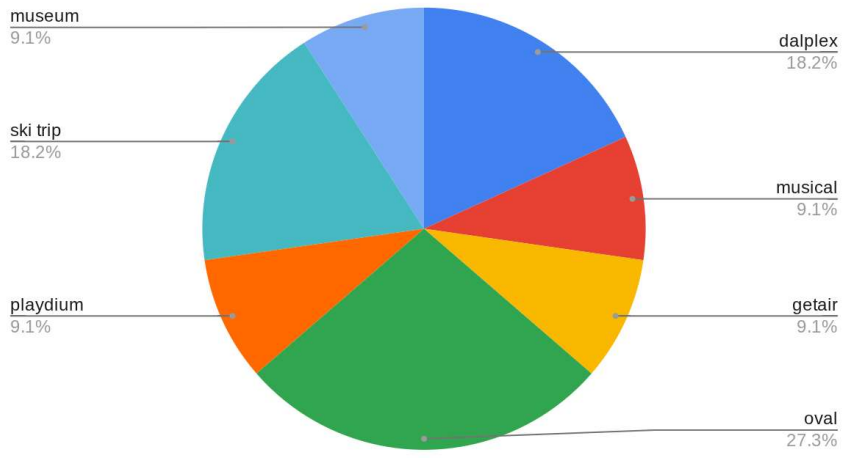
### Grade 9 trip



### Count of All grade 7's



### Count of All grade 8's



### Count of Whole school

