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Friday, May 20, 2022

Please see details below regarding the SAC Survey.

*Susan*

Susan Tomie  
Director, Programs and System Services

Hi All,

As you may know, we are beginning consultations on enhancing local voice. Please read and forward the following email to all SAC Chairs and Principals.

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The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) wants input from School Advisory Councils (SACs) and comités d'école consultatifs (CEC) around the province as to how local voice can be enhanced in Nova Scotia's education system. As a first step in a multistep consultation process, we're asking each SAC and CEC to complete an online survey.

The goal of this consultation is to listen and better understand what parts of the education system would benefit from enhanced local voice, the opportunities that exist for enhancing local voice as well as any challenges that prevent local voice from being heard.

EECD will host a series of engagement opportunities with SAC/CEC members in May and June. Starting now and continuing over the next month, EECD will be seeking input through the following engagements:

- On-line survey – one per SAC / CEC
- On-line thought exchange – open to all SAC/CEC members
- Regional / CSAP focus groups – limited seats available

**This email is your SAC/CEC's invitation to participate in the on-line survey.** The main purpose of this survey is to gather feedback from SACs/CECs on the current challenges to hearing local voice as well as the opportunities that exists for enhancing local voice.

Local voice refers to the values, opinions, beliefs, perspectives, and cultural backgrounds of the people in a school community—including students, school staff, parents/guardians, and local citizens. Enhancing local voice means having the opportunity to provide meaningful feedback and input based on your experiences and the unique needs of your school community to inform education policy and decision making to support student learning and well-being.

**The survey will be open until June 30, 2022.** Please note that only **one survey per SAC/CEC should be completed and submitted**. We recommend that SACs/CECs discuss their responses as a group, and then have a designated member enter the responses into the online survey. There will be more opportunities for individuals to provide feedback on their own.

We thank you for your participation in this important survey, your input is very valuable. All responses to the survey

are confidential and will only be analyzed at an aggregate (grouped) level.

We appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey. The information collected will be used to enhance opportunities for local voice and improve the school system for our students.

**Please click the link below to access the survey.**

<https://forms.gle/PVb31wQYYgQmbWpw7>

If you have any questions on the survey, please contact Kate Calnan: [kcalnan@gnspecs.ca](mailto:kcalnan@gnspecs.ca)