



Parent School Support Committee

MINUTES

January 23, 2020

Present: Mike Belong, April Jay, Laura McManaman, Lisa Farley, Graham McCrea, Lorie Edwards, Leslie Kelly, Jill MacDonald, Donna Carter, Cathy LeBlanc, Matt Sammut, Minji Kim, Jacob Finney

Absent: Mike Williamson, Krista Kendall

Guests: Mrs. Gunn, Kiona Osowski

Minutes taken and prepared by: Lisa Farley

1. Approval of minutes from Meeting of December 10, 2019

-Moved by Leslie; seconded by Graham; Motion passed

2. Correspondence

- Roy MacMullin, Dec Representative for MHS sent his regrets; could not attend due to conflict

3. Principals Report

- **Special Presentation by Kiona Osowski**, Grade 12 student

Kiona's interview will air on CBC Radio Morning Show on January 24th

Kiona presented research from her Independent Study which addressed issues within our media on how gender is represented and the effects this has on society, youth in particular. A scanned copy of Kiona's research summary will be attached to the minutes.

The committee found the presentation to be extremely interesting and thought provoking and look forward to the next steps within the school as well as the district as a whole

- **Calendar for Semester Two** was reviewed, including upcoming days off

- **Administration Changes/Staffing** - an email will be sent out regarding upcoming maternity leaves; Mme Côté-Allain is going to the Alternative Site

- **Legacy Campaign and Friends of the Knights update** – Field is completed but money is still being raised; Friends of the Knights committee to meet soon to discuss ongoing fundraising efforts as well as a Grand Opening of the field scheduled for fall of 2020; the next phase of the field is the Field House, which would contain washrooms, change rooms, etc. – at an approximate cost of \$750,000; **or** should the focus now be on the addition of an auditorium instead? It has been discussed that school spirit has suffered due to the lack of an auditorium

- **Application for Modulars/Portables** – portables will be required in order to meet current and projected attendance numbers; attendance continues to grow; portables thought of as a “band aid solution”; current proposed location of portables is beside new field (not a good location for public visibility, especially considering attention to new field); alternate position could be the other side of school, close to technology wing

- discussion regarding possible alternatives – school boundary changes, addition of new wing; concerns about growth in the area and whether the district speaks to department responsible for immigration

- **Motion for PSSC to write a letter to the DEC regarding concerns for modulars and placement of such as well as increasing attendance numbers; moved by Lorie Edwards, seconded by Matt Sammut; Motion passed;** April will meet with Mr. Belong regarding the letter
- **Capital Projects** – Mr. Belong reviewed the policy for the sharing of Capital Projects with the PSSC annually; capital projects are those in the range of \$20K to \$1 million; the current capital projects list stands at just over \$62 million; the majority of capital projects pertain to roof repairs/replacements

4. Student Report

- Minji Kim and Jacob Finney presented the student report
- the Winter Formal was a success; there was limited space at Royal Oaks, which meant limited tickets and a wait list
- MHS took part in an event put on by BMHS – Winter Wonderland; next semester the school would like to design an activity with other schools to raise funds for a cause
- International event coming up April 22; opportunity to learn about other cultures
- Intramural dodge ball event coming up
- Valentine’s Day – items for sale will include a crush pop to give to friends
- basketball game at Avenir Centre vs BMHS on Feb. 8th; cost of \$10; proceeds to Heart & Stroke; pep rally to be held prior; invite parents as well, possibly put on School Cash Online; select businesses also selling tickets; get word out on social media

5. Teacher’s Report

- Ms. McManaman reported on the serious overcrowding issue facing MHS. Requests have been made to the district and government for portable classrooms and possible boundary changes for catchment areas for MHS, specifically area of Edith Cavell School. It was felt that it would be beneficial if formal requests for these items were also made by the PSSC.
- The Knights Community Council has been doing amazing work – recent food drive, Chapters night fundraiser, Bell Let’s Talk day; **90% of the group are newcomers to Canada**
- MHS recently hosted a fundraiser at Chapters where \$269 was raised to purchase culturally diverse books that will be presented to all students
- Student Council planning an International Event for April 22 (tentative) that will showcase the diversity within MHS; presentations by students, family members and outside groups on all aspects of the various cultures represented in the school

6. New Business

-N/A

7. Upcoming meetings - Tentative dates:

February 18 – changed to February 25

March 24

April 28

June 2

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.