

PSSC
April 8th, 2013

Anne Webb-Thorne
Mary McNair
Lory-Ann MacAskill
Natasha Munford

Julie Corbett
Carol Green
Mr. Bobbitt
Kelly Kyle

Melanie Patterson

Jodi Ravn

School safety

Mr. Bobbitt reported that the majority of the response to the new safety measures (i.e. locking doors) has been positive. It was unanimous around the table that we noticed the changes and it was all for increased level of safety for our children. Mr. Bobbitt noted the cost of the electronic system was approximately \$6500 with wiring being the main expense for the systems. The codes are all controlled at district level.

In order for an individual to get to the classroom area, Blanche or another staff member has to unlock the door. Parents (or caregivers) are starting to drop off items at the office to be delivered to their children instead of going to the classroom. Mr. Bobbitt advised this is not an issue for the office staff and is proving to be less disruptive to class time.

PSSC Letter concerning “Show Me What You Know”

No letter was sent and no letter will be sent as per the advice Mr. Bobbitt received from Paul Smith, Senior Education Officer for the Hampton Centre. The “Show Me What You Know” method quickly shows where a student may require more attention or review of specific outcomes. This program had great results at Hampton Elementary with improved math scores.

The math mentor is not sending home these worksheets as they are not translated due to copyright issues.

What can be done? The next step is a benchmark test for grades 1-5 that will hopefully help teachers determine if the students are grasping the concepts. As well, teachers have the option to generate their own worksheets to help determine the same.

The Parent School Support Committee has agreed to shelve the issue, however, are quite disappointed that this matter has come to this point as members felt it is a worthwhile program with proven results.

The minutes from the last meeting were read and Kelly made a motion to accept minutes as read and Lory-Ann seconded the motion carried.

Volunteer Appreciation Week

Grand persons day will be April 25, 2013 at 10:30-11:30.

Volunteer School Recognition Day will be on April 26, 2013 at 12:30-2:30 in Library.

Discussion was made of perhaps having a door prize such as gas card, grocery card, spa day.

Jodi Ravn will set up tea, coffee and invitations

Natasha will check with Greg at Kingswood for Cookies with Thank you on them wrapped, fruit, veggie, sweet trays and a punch.

Grade 5 friendly helpers to assist.

Parent Volunteer Initiatives ---community volunteer list. It was discussed a master list should be in place so that when there are clubs wanted then it can be consulted.

School Improvement plan

Tell them form Me survey. The survey was to be done by both parents and students. The parents one went really well but the student survey was a technical challenge.

Grade 1-5 School Based Assessment were just completed with questions with short answers, 3-5 math provided assessment with the answers right in booklet.

New Business

Changes to Support Services for 2013-2014. Early intervention is now a part of the Department of Education. Their office will no longer be at Horizon with the possibility of an office here in the SES. Referral system for Early intervention will not change it will start at pre-school now and they will work with them into grade 2. EECD offered office space for Early intervention. Services will remain OT and speech.

Resources framework is changing. They want to have more support in the classroom instead of taking the student away from the class. Guidelines indicate 60% time will be in classroom. Training needs to be done and planning time needs to be done. The new name will be Educational Support. Special Education Plan is out as well with new name Personal Learning Plan.

Immersion program is still up in the air if students will start Immersion in Grade 1 or 3. School enrollment numbers are 450 now with a decline coming down the road. Population down again and class sizes are down again. For the kindergarten 2013-14 group there are 61 students could change depending on numbers. 84 Grade 5 students are leaving.

There will be no transition day for grade 5 & 8 students this year, these will be done the first day of school. Kindergarten Transition Day will remain in place for this year.

Next meeting May 7th at 6:30 and then June 11 at 6:30.