



MINUTES

PSSC

13th October 2016

In Attendance:

Andrew Dobson, Beth Nixon, Paymon Tahershamsi, Lisa Lewis, Stacey Hayes-O'Hara, Emma Wallace, Stephanie Bickford Parent, Judy Booth, Julie Vanderlaan, Lory-Ann MacAskill

Topics of Discussion

Welcome- Reading and approval of minutes and agenda To check if we received minutes from last month.

- PSSC Chair Report- Tanya Stockdale - regrets
- Student Leadership Report – Emma
- DEC Report- Rob Alexander - regrets

Principal Report- Andrew Dobson

1. **Chair** – Lisa Lewis stepped in for Tanya Stockdale for this meeting
2. **Minutes** - Judy Booth approved minutes and Paymon seconded – minutes were approved

3. **Emma Wallace from SRHS Student Leadership**

Held spirit assembly – went really well

Had soup day and pink day – soup was a big hit

Grad class sold cupcakes

Interviewed Grade 9s for Leadership team – looking to take 2

Found shelving for their store

Ordering SHRS cups through Blacks, ordering shirts as well – both to sell and use as prizes. Want to keep it local so ordering from Blacks.

Will be doing Halloween Week – waiting to select Grade 9s

Concerns: Purple bathroom in the Art wing has a lot of graffiti with a lot of inappropriate words added to it, they would like to have it covered up. Mr. Dobson said the bathroom will probably be painted over completely and will talk to Mrs. Hill if they want to redo the graffiti.

Industrial classes hallway needs new paint – feels that it should be kept up the same as the rest of the school that is receiving the new paint. Mr. Dobson indicated that they had to be respectful of collective agreements and we cannot just paint where we want. He said he would look into the painting for that wing to see what they could be done.

Emma suggested that if anyone has questions she can bring forward to the Provincial Student Council Meeting to let her know – she can bring them forward to a Q&A with Minister of Education

Paymon had suggestions for the group: suggestion to make the school a global thinker, including world news in announcements on the TV they have that show announcements, Emma suggested maybe having the World Studies students/teachers to come up with facts to add to this, Stephanie suggested possibly

having BBC news running on that TV, Mr. Dobson also brought up that the French World Studies were going to be doing some fundraising for Haiti which will help raise awareness of global issues – Emma said to make sure they work with Leadership team so they can help communicate their events; second suggestion - help students think beyond just their school; the other suggestion was to have a “no cell phone” day where a period of time, cell phones were not to be used and try to talk to someone new and in a different way

4. DEC Rob Alexander – regrets

Rob did encourage everyone to attend the regional PSSC/DEC meeting next week

5. Principal’s Report

748 is our official population, down around 30 students, managed to hold on to numbers
Power School is up and running for attendance – Data Analyst from School Board came in to help and staff is doing really well in tracking attendance etc. the report was very positive. VPs are putting in a huge effort on attendance. Overall, aside from chronic absence/tardy issue, children are getting to classes and they are doing well.

Committee has \$800 to use on communications this year

Mr. Dobson is open to any suggestions for additional ways to communicate with families

Potash Mine donated 4 computers to the Learning Commons (library)– Tech team from the district is working on getting these set up and working

Updating laptop pods – will go from 5 old ones to 3 new ones which will be housed in the library –

Emma was wondering if we could donate them to a country who needs them – the computers are also very old and shipping would be too expensive

Maker Space – this has been reorganized and hoping to have it up and running for second semester – this will hold our 3D printer

Assessment – still working on evidence based assessment to try and work with students if they are not handing in students, trying to avoid just giving zeros while still teaching accountability. Want to help students and work with them in a collaborative way.

Two field trips coming up – Mr. Legere’s class is going to Oromocto; Big Data Day in Saint John – 900 students attending from across the province, sending between 25-30 students in Technology. These trips allow students to learn in a different environment and beyond the school.

Bonnie Hill’s water bottle project – assembled this at the transfer station – a lot of time and money was donating by the community

In the new year – play will be put on by an outside theatre company – Of Mice and Men

November – we are one of five high schools chosen – ballet that brings awareness to the struggle of domestic violence

Door has been added to the grade 9 wing

Concerns:

The trails out back are a concern with students who attend too much time out there – Stephanie brought up an incident with someone approaching a student during class time – difficulty is that it is considered “public property” so it’s hard to regulate- police are trying to patrol a bit more – Paymon suggested going to the Town/Province to bring up the issue – to see if there is something we can do

Garbage out front – difficult to regulate – continue to work on this – asking the tech students to be environmental

Need a new sign out front – looking for students/teachers to help build this – want to be able to add announcements - Emma suggested Jamie Brown designs

Looking to have welding group make new field hockey nets

Andrew Clark is looking for ride on lawn mowers to use in drag racing of ride on lawn mowers – would go back in as good or better shape – still don’t have approval to do this yet

Miramichi has pumpkin throwing contest each year so looking at having trebuchets built to bring up there – want to get more classes and students involved in various activities

Now have pavement to smooth out edges in areas where it was becoming dangerous and where pavement was broken up

Looking to have a large 8x10 sonic pride poster that can be seen by the road – trying to get ways to engage the community in how great a school we have

PL last week – we had teachers go to various locations and learn about various subjects

Mr. Dobson will be going to meetings to learn more about the 10 year plan

There has been a change in the delivery of the sexual health program – nurse will no longer be here once a week, district is looking for ways to replace this clinical aspect. Looking at making this a life-long learning model vs. a clinical approach. Teachers are referring students to Kelly Dunfield as required for any clinical type testing. There are however still condoms available if necessary. They are working through a change in delivery and will hopefully be able to have a Nurse Practitioner come in. – Emma is concerned given how many people still do require help and consultation.

Kelly Dunfield has also created a new epipen container – we now have two stations in the building
School year so far has been going really well

Looking at how to recognize students for good behavior without making it all about prizes – one example is a “caught you being good” type approach with recognition and ballots for each recognition for chance to win a bigger prize

Emma brought up the concern about people smoking up front, it gives a negative perception of the school – it is an issue on where to put them; need to look at more supervision out there; Judy brought up doing a smoking cessation type program, Emma agreed and wondered if we could have a program, Mr Dobson will ask the question – we will not be able to have them on the property where it is a government building – when they were out back it caused more issues

Stacey asked about the Ridgewood Addiction counselor – they don’t come regularly but we could ask them to come to do a presentation

Next Meeting- November 10 in the Library at 6:30
