

Sussex Middle School

PSSC Minutes – March 21, 2019

**In attendance:**

Robin Baird (Principal), Christine Celeste, Newton Johnston (Staff), Lory-Ann MacAskill (DEC Rep), Joan Babineau, Mary McNair

**Staff Update:**

Mr. Johnston gave an update for the RTI happening at the school and the upcoming Math Challenge at UNB. As well, he spoke of his incorporation of woodworking into the technology courses for grade 8s. The local community and district has been supportive of this initiative. The school has not participated in the science fair this year, instead they have continued with the I<sup>3</sup> program: Invent, Investigate and Innovate.

**Principal Update:**

Mrs. Baird recognized that that it has been a difficult year for scheduling, because class sizes have been so close to the limit. Staff have weathered the changes well and hopefully this type of scenario will not repeat itself next year.

SMS has tried a new fundraiser this year: Make it Sow. It brought in around \$1800, and was a fast easy fundraiser. However, the magazine fundraiser, typically a very successful fundraiser done in the fall of the year, has not been as successful as it has been in previous years.

Paul Bedford has been in to complete session around Junior Achievement. He is interested in returning next year. Mr. Johnston said the sessions were well received by the students and Mr. Bedford was an engaging presenter.

Grade 8 Trip will be taking approximately 90 students this year.

**Chair Update:**

Budget has been spent on a variety of paper for parent communication. We are putting out a few newsletters which will contain items for both new and returning students. Some of the items that will be included in the newsletter will be information for new students on SMS and information for all parents on how the school will be incorporating the idea of 'fostering grit' into courses already taught.

**Adjournment:** 7:45pm

**Next Meeting:** May 16, 2019