Rothesay Elementary School

Parent School Support Committee (PSSC) 2015/16

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, November 3, 2015

1. Meeting Called to order at 6:33 PM

Members Present: Charlene Carroll (Principal RES), Wendy Romeo (Co-Chairperson), Natalie McClune (parent representative), Kim MacDonald (Co-Chairperson), Amanda Higgins (Secretary), Glenda Munro (community representative) and Jonathon Kierstead (faculty representative).

Members Absent: Kristy Mark (parent representative)

All parents are invited to sit in any of the PSSC meetings to listen to the discussions regarding the School Plan. Only members of the PSSC are able to vote on issues. Individual issues should still be addressed by either the student’s teacher or the principal, not during these meetings.

2. Review of last Month’s Minutes

Minutes were sent by email to each member. No issues, comments or concerns regarding last month’s minutes.

3. Budget Discussion

The PSSC has a budget of roughly $1009. This is made up of a $500.00 flat rate for all PSSCs and then so much money per student attending the school. These monies are used to help foster communication between the school and parents of all the children attending the school.

Charlene Carroll presented a signage idea to help with the attendance matters plan. The sign would be on display outside the school where children are dropped off. Side A of the sign would indicate children have arrived to school on time and ready to start the day. At 8:10 AM the sign would be flipped and Side B would indicate that School is in progress and that an adult needs to sign the child(ren) in at the office. This is an RES initiative to try and work with families who are having difficulty with late or tardiness issues. Charlene obtained three quotes for three different sign sizes from a company called “Do in it right”.

**Action**

Loch Lomand School is doing a similar idea. **Charlene is going to check with the principal at this school as to what company was used, price, size and quality of sign material. She will also see if other schools in our district are interested in a bulk order and perhaps we can have a reduction in price for initiating a bulk order.**

If the above mentioned actions are not possible the committee members agreed that this would be a good use of funds and will pay the quoted $345.00 for a sign that is 32”wide and 32”tall.

The rest of the monies will go towards paying for Synervoice which is around $900.00/year.

4. School Profile

This will be available on the PSSC website. A new student transferred to RES last week bringing the total number of students in the school to 439. Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes are almost to the maximum number. There are no split classes in any grades this year. Two grade two teachers have chosen to co-teach their classes. The grade 5 teaching team has planned everything together, so these classes will be doing the same learning activities. The resource teacher is also involved in either assisting or teaching some classes. There are 318 students in the English program (grades 3, 4, and 5) and 121 students in the French program.

Action

**Charlene will post the School Profile on the PSSC website with the minutes.**

5. School Report Card/ Assessment results (May and June 2015)

The provincial assessment results for Grade two students in May and June 2015 for reading skills showed a small percentage decrease from 2014. There were a lot of red EYE-DA scores for this group of students. There have been cuts to the literacy program and RES now shares a literacy teacher with Fairvale Elementary teacher. These students are now in grade three and the literacy teacher is offering some assistance to these students who are struggling with reading skills.

The Provincial assessment results showed an increase in the percentage of grade 2 students who are at an appropriate development level for reading comprehension, but a decrease in the percentage of grade 2 students who have a strong performance in reading comprehension. Need to focus on how to move more students from the appropriate level category to strong performance category. However RES appropriate development and strong performance development percentages are above reading comprehension results for the district and the province.

The District Grade 4 Math Benchmark results showed areas of math concepts where more review was required, skills that were at the acceptable level and those skills that have been learned. These benchmarks are performed in November, March, and June. This helps to direct teachers on what math skills need to be reviewed or practiced more during the school year.

Key Math Screener Data results showed that by end of June 2015 based on 7 questions presented to the students in each of the grades (8 questions for Grade 3); Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 average scores were at an acceptable level. Grade 4 and Grade 5 scores were low. There is a plan in place this year to use the resource teacher as well as the math mentor to help to raise these key math scores in these two grades. The school average key math score was 74%. Goal is to raise this score to 82% within the next three years, focusing on the higher grade levels.

6. November School Report

The principal and guidance staff looked at the Positive Learning Environment Plan (PLEP) and has focused on two areas. 1) Attendance 2) CARS model introducing more student led enrichment programs.

The core leadership group is looking at providing a stretch bulletin board where teachers can post strategies, project ideas, or problem based learning ideas. The purpose is to give teachers access to what their colleagues are doing or what strategies are working in certain classes. This group is also looking at organizing some positive incentive programs at the school and in the community. One example was the Fit Fright Night for Halloween, 300 people attended this event.

7. New Business

No new business items.

8. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting closed at 7:46 PM. The date of the next meeting is December 1, 2015 in the meeting room at RES.