

MINUTES

Fairvale Elementary School, Parent School Support Committee

October 24, 2013

The meeting was called to order by B. Hierlihy at 7:30PM in FES library.

In attendance

Judy Kilpatrick, Bonnie Hierlihy, Robin Kirkpatrick, Tricia Wilson, Tracey MacPherson, Charlotte Pierce, Heather Tait, Jana Comeau (note taker).

Regrets

Liz Tait, Peter Menchenton

Approval of Minutes

Approval of June 13, 2013 minutes: ???

Call for a New Chairperson

- Liz Tait mentioned to B. Hierlihy that she would be Chair if nobody else volunteered.
- Committee agreed Liz would make a great chair – Congratulations Liz!!!

Administrator's Update

- School Improvement Plan
 - 4 Ends Policies remain the same as last year. One ends policy will be specifically reviewed at each PSSC meeting over the course of the coming year.
 - A sampling of some of the new initiatives under the current ends policies include:
 - Wall of Fame in main hallway – each teacher has a frame in front hallway in which they are to display a sample piece of work from one of their students. Teachers are to ensure that at least one piece of art from each student is displayed throughout the school year.
 - Magic Mailbox – teachers can submit exceptional pieces of writing and they receive special praise from Principal and get to choose who they want to share their writing with from within the school. Four samples from across various grade levels have been submitted thus far.
 - B. Hierlihy seeking to find a seniors' group who would come to school one per month to read and do various activities (board games, etc.) with children. She asked PSSC members to let her know if they had any ideas on groups who would be available.
- Update on new Elementary School in Quispamsis
 - PSSC members from Lakefield, QES and FES will be invited to a meeting before Christmas to discuss new boundaries which are still being finalized.
 - Aim is to be able to get rid of portables at all 3 schools. Presently we have 4 portables, so looking at approximately 100 students being moved to new school.
 - Grandfathering will not be allowed as this would mean new school would be starting with only kindergarten students, and would take 6 years to ramp up to capacity.
 - New school will open September 2015 and is designed to house 350 students. Construction is set to begin in April 2014.
 - Boundaries have not been changed as of yet for middle school and thus far are expected to remain the same.
- Tell Them From Me Survey
 - Provincial survey that will be administered after Remembrance Day break to all grade 4 and 5 students. Aimed at gauging student perceptions about various school related activities and dimensions. Results will be shared with PSSC once compiled.
- Declaration Forms were signed for the coming year by all members.

Meeting Dates for the Year

- October 24, November 14, January 16, February 13, April 10, May 15, June 12
- All meetings will be held at 7:30PM in the FES Library with the exception of the June meeting which is held over dinner (details to be determined).

“Once Around the Table”

- C. Pierce – DEC had meeting and set new district improvement plan and policy directions that include specific focus on mental health and mental wellness in staff and students. There are also initiatives underway to incorporate more trades based training into high schools.
- Discussion around whether there would be value in bringing in a guest speaker to a PSSC meeting who could talk about mental health and anxiety issues in children. This could be an event that could be opened up to all FES parents.

Adjournment

- Meeting was called to adjournment by B. Hierlihy at 9:15PM.

Next Meeting

November 14, 2013 in FES Library. Subsequently, meeting was moved to November 13 at 7:30 in FES Library.