**ROTHESAY PARK SCHOOL**

**PARENT SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING DATE: Wednesday Nov. 27th, 2013**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 8:06 pm**

**ATTENDEES:** Nea Stephenson, David Simms, , Kellie Simon, Julie Atkinson, Sarah Kimball, Catherine Chiasson, Laurie Young, Doug Chiasson, Jacqueline MacKinnon, Charlotte Pierce

**Absent:** Mirium London, Wendy Alexander

1. Meeting called to order. Chocolates!
2. Review of minutes from last meeting held Sept. 25th. Moved to approve by David, seconded by Kellie.
3. New business:

- We will re-visit and review and update of the Kate Robarts Outstanding Student Award in January meeting - Catherine

A. Presentation from Derek O’Brien (ASD-S Director of Curriculum and Instruction) on report cards Derek unable to make it due to weather, report cards discussed by Catherine. Cards don’t “jive” with methods students/teachers are using in class. Teaching and student learning is much more students’ driven. A lot of assessments are formed by their observation of the student but also by the teaching style. No longer the calculated percentages for assessment necessarily. Not summative evaluation. Teachers are finding that the information they gather over the term for a particular student is difficult to put into a number. What the teacher wants to portray to the parent isn’t possible in the current report card. The District has started to look at a K-8 report card and have an initial draft. There will be further opportunities for our PSSC to come together with other “clusters” to discuss the new draft. Progress reports in November & March and achievement reports January & June. Catherine reviewed the Report Card Information Sheet, the Sample Progress Report and Sample Achievement Report. Some discussion regarding the “comments” section and whether it should be expanded or specific to each strand. Main goal of progress report is to let parents know if their child is experiencing any difficulties. Exceeding expectations will be assessed on the Achievement Report. Moving away from percentage reports. Doug suggested there may not be enough options with just the four levels of achievement. Also concerns about consistency from one teacher to another. The next step will be to have a more formalized meeting for parent input. Timeline is looking like next September. Charlotte pleased we have moved forward with the report card due to the disconnect between what teachers are doing in the classroom and what the current report can express. It was suggested an info sheet with the reasoning for the change be put in with the initial progress and achievement reports. Glad to see there was space added for strength/next steps on Achievement Reports.

B. Presentation from Trevor Shea on Ends Policy 1: Positive Learning Environment

Review of the Positive Learning Environment document. Explanation of the difference between bullying and conflict as taught to students. Tell Them From Me survey - opportunity to get honest feedback from the students, indicator of progress of the Positive Learning Environment. Trevor attended workshops on Mental Fitness, targets outlined by the Wellness Movement will be added to the Ends Policy. Speaking on Friday re revamping the referral system, best practices sheet in the classrooms will help determine referrals to guidance councilor.

The Ends Policies will be presented and discussed at each PSSC meeting. School Improvement Plan runs from 2011-2014

C. Principal’s items

Catherine has been reviewing presentations for the students. Looking at the MADD presentation, for grades 7-12 (February). Feels it is appropriate for grade 7s even though they are not driving until 16. Catherine will continue to investigate, MacMurray Foundation will sponsor ($1000) fee which frees up the budget. Looking to spend the budget on something for the grade 6’s. Considering a puppet show done by MacDonald Consolidated. Looking for ideas for a presenter for the OML. Laurie suggested Janice Butler.

D. Budget – ideas for guest speaker or other options

No success so far in finding a speaker, options still open. Going to look into the suggestions given to see if we’ll actually have any budget money left.

1. Once Around the Table: Next meeting January 29th.
2. Adjournment- Laurie Motioned to adjourn, seconded by Sarah. Meeting adjourned at 8:31