

**ROTHESAY PARK SCHOOL  
PARENT SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

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**MEETING DATE: Wednesday Sept. 25th, 2013**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

**ATTENDEES:** Nea Stephenson, David Simms, Charlotte Pierce, Kellie Simon, Wendy Alexander, Miriam London, Julie Atkinson, Sarah Kimball, Catherine Chiasson

**Absent:** Laurie Young, Doug Chiasson, Jacqueline MacKinnon

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1. Meeting called to order. Welcome new members.
2. Review of minutes from last meeting held June 5th. Approved as read.
3. New business:
  - A. Role of PSSC (PowerPoint Presentation on the role of PSSC members.
  - B. Signing of Oath (New members given a handbook and asked to sign oath and return copy to the school)
  - C. Election of Chair, Secretary- Chair- Julie Atkinson, Secretary- Jacqueline MacKinnon
  - D. Completion of Election Summary Form- (Members to verified correct email, address etc.)
  - E. Determining Dates of future meetings (Catherine talked about the PSSC orientation day, October 5<sup>th</sup> 9:30-2:30. Dates of meetings Nov.27<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm, Jan.29<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm)
  - F. SIP- 4 ends policies (Catherine showed the school SIP to the members and explained that we will review 1 ends policy at each subsequent meeting. Lead teachers will be asked to be part of the presentation regarding the SIP)
  - G. Budget (Approx. 600.00)- Synrevoice( 349.65)+ Guest Speaker-Jennifer Katz???- Parent perspective( Doug Chiasson sent an email explaining that Jennifer Katz has given a quote of \$4500.00 for a visit. It was decided that we would look elsewhere for a guest presenter. Miriam and Charlotte will be contacting the Community Living Association about guest speakers and possibly a school inclusion audit)
  - H. Kate Roberts- Outstanding Student Award- Review and update questions on application form ( Catherine explained the award and the application process. She indicated that the application was not as clear as it should be and asked that committee members review the form and make suggestions for its improvement. The application improvement will be on the agenda in the November meeting)
4. Once Around the Table: Charlotte gave more details about the Orientation Day. PSSC members are welcome to come for all or part of the day
5. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 8:12

### **Ends Policy #1- Positive Learning Environment**

#### **Continue to implement proactive measures to decrease incidents of harassment or bullying**

- RPS read “ Egghead” excellent opportunity for discussion and making the right choices

*Contacted by KV Style to get perspective from students on the book and their efforts to “Pay It Forward” as the books were given to MacDonald Consolidated & Bellisle Middle School and had been received from River Valley*

- Marc Black- Presentation on perseverance and positive attitudes

*IWK baby, remarkable despite being told by medical professionals “no, no, no” Students were very respectful and took a lot away from the talk.*

- Beyond the Hurt presentation to FES

*Also part of leadership*

#### **To enhance students’ understanding of their rights and responsibilities**

- OML- Term 2 presentations on June 7<sup>th</sup>, Officer Status Crests displayed in the cafeteria, Companion Status Trip- Outdoor adventure at Rockwood Park June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Student Leadership Opportunities- Pay it Forward, Global Youth Service Mural, Heritage Fair, UNBSJ Science Challenge, Yearbook, UNBSJ Math Competition, Track and Field meet, Night of the Arts, welcoming the grade 5 students/ tour guides, transition presentations to the Elem schools, school spirit day, Band trip, Drama festival

*Kellie’s son won for the entire district! Heads to Shippigan for provincials.*

### **Ends Policy #2- Literacy**

#### **Develop Comprehension Strategies**

- OAC - Reassessed in April
- Created packets for literacy teachers to assist with teaching the strategy of Making Connections.
- One day a week will be dedicated to incorporating reading comprehension strategies in all subject areas
- A common literacy assessment ( reading and writing) assessment for each grade level 6-8 was developed to be administered in the fall of 2013
- Follow up lessons have been placed in binders for teachers to implement with groups of students after the assessment has been completed and tabulated

#### **To continue to focus on areas for growth in writing**

- Literacy teachers to continue to work on specific genres while giving feedback for growth in specific traits

*Some kids are not successful at grade 7 Provincial levels because of conventions, punctuation*

- All subject teachers to have the same expectations for writing, particularly in the area of conventions

### **Ends Policy #3- Numeracy**

#### **To improve mental Math skills-**

- Math strategies that teach the thinking behind the math rather than the timed testing

#### **To improve problem solving skills-**

- 6 computers bought to help with Balanced Math programming and differentiation
- PLC to develop a preassessment to use in September that would check students' retention of the previous year's outcomes and give starting points for individual students

*Catherine suggested we as parents need to encourage the kids to do a little reading and math over the summer holidays*

### **Ends Policy #4- Differentiation**

#### **To use formative Assessment techniques to ensure that we know where individual students are in their learning and what steps we need to take next**

Ongoing review of data to group and regroup students for work in specific areas or to help with teacher planning for next steps in their instruction

#### **To provide choice in assignment completion that reflects different learning styles**

Netbooks purchased to assist with Math centers and varying abilities within groups  
Universal Lesson Design- continued focus in 2013-2014

#### **A. Tell Them From Me- Student and Parent Surveys- Focus for September**

- Communication about learning- no agendas- daily homework and assignment outlines to be posted on the web page
- How my child is progressing in school subjects, social and emotional development??- What would parents like to see?
- Student concerns were around the cafeteria, Catherine has spoken with the company to meet with student representatives to be heard and to also teach the kids a little bit about how the food service business is run
- Parents concerns were around the report cards. They're designed by the province. Progress reports were introduced to try to bridge the gap between report cards. Was developed by parent committee. Catherine suggested next year we might want to try to think of some other way for teachers to communicate where students are socially/emotionally to parents. Laurie thought maybe parent concerns are a product of the transition in to middle school.

**6. Once Around The Table – Thank you from Catherine to Mary Ann & Tammy for their years on the committee.**

**7. Adjournment – Move to adjourn by Julie, seconded by Kellie 8:59 p.m.**