

## PSSC Meeting Minutes - February 16, 2023

Attendees: Jocelyn Myatt, Gina Matheson, Ginny Hooper, Erin Wilson, Jillian Kilpatrick, Melissa T(?), Josh McGrath, Courtney Smith, Moira Goodfellow, Jennifer Beney

Agenda approved by: Josh McGrath

Seconded by: Moira Goodfellow

### 1 - Chartwell's update

Province is under contract with Chartwells. They are providing lunch options part time for the rest of February and all of March - Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Lebanon on the Go will be Tuesdays and Thursdays until the end of March.

### 2 - Social worker update

The school no longer has a social worker. The position is posted and is unlikely to be filled by the end of the school year because of a lack of qualified applicants.

### 3 - K-2 When Children Succeed

Getting lots of support. Haggarty resources are coming for grades 3-5 to continue with the work from K-2. The school was gifted with nine copies of a resource and Jocelyn is going to buy more for the remaining classes.

### 4- Student lunch groups

Well received by students. Activities include bracelet making for grade 5, intermural soccer for grade 4, watercolours, striker ball, drawing, Lego, puzzles. Hoping to start lunch clubs for grade K - 2 after March break.

### 5 - VP Update

SPES qualifies for another VP, over 25 staff and 500 students. It will be a teaching role with a full teaching assignment with a focus on attendance. Interviews are being held Thursday, February 23.

Attendance discussed in more depth, with a focus on chronic absenteeism. Letters to families will be sent home after March Break to let parents/guardians know how many days their student(s) have missed. The school is required to report absences greater than 25 days to Social Development. Talked about different ways to incentivize students/parents to improve attendance and what incentives could be used if the target is achieved. Unfortunately a lot of families in this area fall outside the bus zone and the school lost the courtesy bus that used to help get students to school that lived outside the bus zone but are too far away to walk. Joelyn asked Ginny if she could approach DEC at the March 22nd meeting about a courtesy bus for SPES.

Discussed that communication is a PSSC mandate. Jocelyn asked if the PSSC would be willing to purchase paper from the budget for PSSC communication. Moira moved to use the entire budget of \$1,173 to purchase paper for PSSC communication. Josh seconded, none opposed.

## 6 - Staffing

Five teachers received their B contracts this year. There are 76 students registered for Kindergarten in the fall to make four classes. This will increase to five classes if 85 are registered. There are 24 classes this year, possibly increasing to 26/27 in the next school year. Jocelyn is going to put the school on the mobile classroom list as it is over capacity. Looking at options to partition some classrooms to make more space.

## 7 - Home & School Association update

Jen gave a quick H&S update with events and initiatives planned for the remainder of the school year:

- Bingo Night - February 23
- Movie Night - April or May
- Spring Fling - April 3-6 and how the H&S A will participate
- Fun Day - June 15
- New executive committee for next school year

## 8. Chairperson report

Gina gave a FI update on the meeting she recently attended. There were a lot of questions with no answers provided. A lot of concerns were brought forward about curriculum and staffing. As of the date of the PSSC meeting there were no finalizations or communications with the schools. Concerns had been sent to local MLA Dorothy Sheppard who gave her support to the public.

Adjourned at 7:05pm. Next meeting set for March 30 at 6pm, with Beverly Janes, When Children Succeed, joining.