



PSSC Meeting Agenda

Monday, Oct. 23, 2023

Attending: Rebecca Rudderham (Principal), Tyler Yost (VP), Holly Hannan, Krista Kernigan, Rowan Borthwick, Shane Borthwick

Regrets: Lindsay T, Darlene T, Tammy L, Shawn D, Sadie G, Donna S

- 1.) Welcome & Introductions
- 2.) Appointment of Secretary (on rotation) – Shane Borthwick appointed secretary for this meeting
- 3.) Review of PSSC Expectations & Guidelines – Rebecca provided a power point presentation to review roles, expectations and guidelines. A copy of the presentation will be provided to PSSC members
- 4.) Approval of September & May 2023 Minutes – Shane will send DRAFT Minutes from both May, 2023 and Sept, 2023 out to members for approval as quorum could not be achieved at last meeting or this meeting.
- 5.) Principal's Report
 - Youth Check In Survey Results – Rebecca provided results, this survey is conducted twice per year with the results from October reviewed and the next survey expected in April. Discussion around results and comparable results to other schools in the province, the district and our local region. The structure of the survey is quite new and comparing results was difficult. Given the fact that FMHS is grade 6-12 the results are not easy to compare to other middle schools or high schools. Mental health was a primary topic of the survey and the new Link Program is rolling out this week with posters and information. This is a provincial program.
 - School Improvement – SIP Day – Rebecca provided an update on the recent PD day where staff focused on academic goals etc. Academic intervention groups are being adjusted to improve student/teacher ration through an equalization of numbers and math after school tutoring is increasing.
 - Athletics – Parent Meetings/Code of Conduct/Cost Projection – Rebecca indicated that this has been implemented with various sports through parent/player meetings and expectations regarding code of conduct in representing the FMHS community.
 - Grad Class 2024 – Rebecca indicated that parents met last Wednesday to begin planning and the Grad Class executive has been recently established. Betty Anthony is helping and Tobie McGarrigle has developed a 'playbook' that can form the foundation of annual planning for each grad class.
- 8.) Student Rep. Report – Rowan Borthwick – Rowan has joined the PSSC as the student representative, she was welcomed by the group. Rowan provided various updates including: Grad Dance, Field Day, upcoming Craft Fair in November, Welcome Back Assembly, the Neo-Glow Dance and various fundraising events. Discussed the proposed trip to Greece that Mr. McGee is planning for grades 9-12 in March 2025.

Members asked about dances or socials having space for students to socialize who just want to talk. Furniture in the lobby was discussed and the need for possible fundraising through corporate sponsors through renting signage in the gym and on the field similar to what other schools are doing. Rebecca will inquire how other schools are doing this. Students could benefit from seating in the lobby and improved games/activities in the general space.

9.) DEC communication/update – Shane provided an update from the DEC. Policy 713 has unfortunately consumed much time and attention at the DEC level of late with schools in the Saint John region being particularly impacted with recent demonstrations. The DEC has expressed steadfast support to work with the district to ensure the safety of all students. The most recent DEC meeting provided an update on early childhood education, proposed boundary changes in the district and updates on the attendance policy.

10.) Other Items:

Anti-Smoking/Vaping Campaign – Rebecca and Tyler provided an update on the STOMP program and how the school could apply for a school health grant of approx. \$3,500 that was due on Wednesday. Further information about the program would be needed as the school is required to provide additional funding. What schools have participated, how effective is the program, what are the costs and commitments required are areas to investigate to determine next steps.

Newcomer PSSC representation – Shawn Draper indicated that he has interest from a Ukrainian family who would sit on the PSSC but were unable to make this particular meeting.

Funding/Grants – Holly Hannan provided information about an upcoming Canada Post grant that could benefit FMHS and we discussed Tammy Leavitt’s funding options provided at the last PSSC meeting. Rebecca felt that some of the funding applications have been applied for. Rebecca, Shane and Tammy will connect to determine what funding sources may be a good fit and report back to the PSSC.

Next meeting: Monday, November 27th, 6:30pm at the FMHS Student Commons

Meeting adjourned

EDUCATE ENRICH EMPOWER

OUR STUDENTS, OUR COMMUNITY, OUR LIVES.