
Fundy Middle and High School PSSC Meeting

September 2nd, 2020 - Minutes

Zoom Video Call

Attendance: Josie Chevarie (Student Representative), Mary Chevarie, Donna Domres (Chair), Shawn Draper, Sadie Gagner, Krista Kernighan, Patrick McDade (Principal), Darlene Thompson, Shane Borthwick, Shannon Keefe, Rob MacDougall, Lindsay Thompson

1. Welcome - Donna
2. Approval of Minutes from February & June, 2020 meetings. Motion to approve. Moved by Shane Borthwick, Seconded by Darlene Thompson. Motion granted. (because of COVID-19, some items from previous minutes have been 'parked' until further notice)

Summary:

The purpose of this PSSC meeting was primarily to get an update on the school start-up plan that is scheduled to begin with students next week. In light of the global pandemic, many changes have been made and continue to be made – it is a very fluid situation and communication with the school, students, parents and the community is key.

3. School Re-Opening Plan:

Patrick provided an update on the re-opening plan and answered various questions from PSSC members. A summary is provided:

- Building Open: 7:45am
- Morning Drop-off/Bus Arrival: similar to before, by the basketball net for now, staggered middle level: 7:50-8:05am with high school 8:05-8:20. The bulk of students are expected during these times but exceptions are expected for example a student in middle and another in the family in high drop off together. Message going out tomorrow re drop-offs etc.
[suggestion for Patrick to contact RCMP for the first full day, Mon Sept 14th – he will contact them for traffic control for the first few days to ensure order]
Busses will be arriving 7:45-8:40am – discussed bus pick-up/drop off issues and advice for parents is to contact transportation and/or bus driver specifically to determine if there is any change.
- Lunch – separation protocols in place, up to 32 people in cafeteria at any time, food services will begin later in Sept. Grab/Go will be handed to students as an option.
- Learning commons up to 20.
- Operating plan – a living doc to be reviewed monthly and re-evaluated (fluid, edited monthly)
- Sports – will begin this fall in most cases, clarity still needed for fans etc – fluid situation
- Afternoon Departure: approx. 3:00pm finish with a 3:15pm departure/pick-up. Some students will depart at 2:40pm due to busses [shortened day was discussed as a concern for reduced learning time – it was communicated that these were high school students that are on a reduced week in school and the materials will be posted on TEAMS.
- Learning:
 - Middle school will be in school each day begin Sept 14th, High School every other day.
 - TEAMS an MS platform will be the primary learning platform for remote learning. From the discussion it appears that teachers use this platform with a great deal of discretion that may need to be addressed ie: teacher with multiple courses posts on their same stream rather than by class making it difficult to follow.

- FMHS is considered LEVEL 1 OF 4 LEVELS of remote learning due to lack of technology **[this may be an area that the PSSC and local community needs to address moving forward]**
- Attendance is expected, remote learning days are the same with sign in expected before 3:30pm and the teacher can 'confirm' viewing of the related materials. Students are not expected to follow the 'bell' schedule as if at school but to cover related materials.
- Teachers will be expected to be accessible for remote learning students through TEAMS, primarily 'chat' feature.
- Expectations/Accountability: this topic was discussed at length. Confirmation from Patrick this was an important issue. Learning expectations will be posted on or before Sept 14th from each teach for the student guided learning plan including testing requirements. Teacher are expected to cover the related/required materials and students/parents will be provided these expectations. Public sector accountability has been a provincial issue. Discussed how spring of 2020 was effectively a 'write-off' for many students as teacher expectation/accountability was inconsistent. Lab work etc. will be covered for high school students while in school.
- Expect Sept to be 'bumpy' as some students have computers, have been issued or purchased their own (subsidy avail) and others will need some issued from lot coming on the 18th. Internet connection is an issue that has been an issue for many families.
- Materials/content: much left to teacher, union issue to have camera in classroom, teacher preference/voluntary – blended learning is expected.
- Wi-fi in school is now available.

[suggestion for Patrick to address TEAMS consistency to ensure efficient communication b/w teacher, student and parent]

- Sickness
 - Discussion around if/when sickness occurs with teachers/students either standard seasonal flu or COVID-19. Direction will come from Public Health, if visible symptoms student/teacher will be asked to self isolate in a room that can hold up to 6, 2m apart and students will have parents contacted to pick-up.
 - Teachers are in up to 3 'bubble' classes and must have a mask if within 2m of student.
 - Supply teachers as back-up are available, French teachers are all set but back-ups will be difficult to source in the event of illness. TEAMS training for supply teachers is available.
 - Expecting increase of staff and students out for flu symptoms.
 - Hand sanitizing avail in each class and cleaning protocols in place
 - 20% of day is dedicated to social/emotional learning and wellness – mental health in home room period. Will build into English ie journaling, self care

[suggestion for PSSC to recognize Janitorial Staff this year as they will be an important team to keep our community safe]

[Patrick will post PSSC openings to determine if other parents or community members are interested in joining. He will also find a teacher rep prior to next meeting in October as well.]

Adjourned 7:30pm

Next scheduled meeting Wednesday, October 7th, 2020