

Minutes from GMCS PSSC MEETING- June 13, 2016

Attendance: Sally Cogswell, Anthony Hannaford (by phone), Lorianne Sveinson, Courtney Budgell, Rose Hogenbirk, Hunter Park

Regrets: Gina Urquhart, Jenna Rideout

1. Minutes were accepted as circulated by e-mail with all in favour.

2. Principal's Report- May 10, 2016- June 13, 2016

Grade 10 had a karaoke night/pie the teacher event that raised over \$400 for some new track and field equipment.

On May 15, MS Drama presented "The Secret Garden" which they won awards for at drama fest.

Two of our students won District Turnaround Achievement Awards.

Jump Rope for Heart was held May 26th- a fundraiser for Heart and stroke.

On May 27, Ms. Hogenbirk's Grade 2s visited a farm in Norton. They have Buddy Benches in progress.

The Grade 2 Literacy challenge (chance to win bikes) was extended by two weeks so more students could participate.

May 17- Hands only CPR done for HS with 40 kits donated for use at school or in the community.

May 31- Leah Parsons spoke to students in a "Victims and Survivors of Crime Presentation"- strong focus on respecting others.

May 30th- June 3- Spring Carnival week- including dress up days, a Rave Dance, Golden Breaker Awards, and a Fun Day with inflatables. This is a huge endeavour! Many thanks to Ms. Ward and the SRC students for their work.

One June 6th, 18 Grade 10s, 1 teacher, and 1 EA got free First Aid training.

The Saint John String quartet visited GMCS and WHES – June 7th and 8th.

Our Pre-Ks came for their Kindergarten Orientation Day on June 8th. We currently have 31 registered although not all attended the Orientation Day. Transition meetings are on-going for students at other levels.

HS Exams started today and run all week in the morning. Field Day is on Friday for K-8s.

UPCOMING GRAD EVENTS:

Picnic- June 17th- \$15 a ticket- pig roast and all the fixings- usually families of grads and school staff.

Baccalaureate- 2:30 pm at Community Life Church- June 19

Grand March- June 20th pm.

Graduation ceremony- 12 noon on June 22- early dismissal of K-8 at 11 am.

Last day of school is a half day on June 24th. Teachers attend on the 27th -28th.

Staffing- We received 26 fte for GMCS/WHES plus the District is advertising for a 1.0 Autism Resource position. Forced B transfers have been placed and Ds with recall can apply for our 9.5 open positions. If you know of available housing options, please let me know as new teachers will be looking. We have 12 EAs again. Staff changes: Tom Wetzel will be retiring from bus driving. Ms. Fitzsimmons is leaving Resource to return to classroom teaching. Ms. Waye and Ms Leslie are both on leave next year- working as literacy mentors on the mainland.

3. Who is willing to stay on PSSC next year? Tony expressed regrets- has to step down as moving off island at the end of June. Everyone else present willing to serve again. Sally will check with Jenna and Gina.
4. How to improve attendance at Back to School/ Meet the teacher event/ PSSC Elections?

Suggestions from group:

- Make it an event whole family can attend
- Ice cream social
- Try offering a door prize
- Opportunity to talk to teachers separately
- Don't use term "election"- looking for PSSC volunteers instead and take all interested persons
- Explain time commitment- 6-8 meetings a year; capped at an hour. No fundraising