**SSHS PSSC MEETING**

**Nov. 20 2018 6:00pm**

**SSHS – Work Room**

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| Present | Absent |
| Krista Amos – Principal  Adam Harris – Vice Principal |  |
| Kallie Calder – Student  Hillary Russell - Student |  |
| Jennifer Johnston  Bruce Richardson  Nancy Snow  Jenn Gowan  Theresa Diagle  Tammy Smith |  |

Krista Amos Calls the meeting to order at 6:05. Introduces two students from SSHS ( Kallie Calder and Hillary Russell)

**SSHS Student Update**

Hillary and Kallie reviewed the fall events / Sports

School Bonfire ( Roughly 150 students – Bonfire and Outdoor Dance. Very successful event to kick off the school year.

Spirit Week – many small events throughout the week and ended the week with a school dance.

1st Pep Rally – Recognized Academic Achievement from last year and the Fall Sports Programs. House Challenges (Grade Level Teams have begun).

2 Dance have happened to date – Video dance and Halloween Dance. Both were successful.

Green Group – They have purchased and outside fountain and had it installed this Fall.

Drama – over 100 students involved in this years musical. The play will be performed Nov.29 – Dec.2

Hillary has started an Instagram account for the school to promote school spirit and get more students involved in school activities. There have been lots of pictures shared, polls run, Motivational Monday.

Grad Class Fundraiser – $15 000 raised in the Calendar fundraiser. Very successful. Every grad participated.

Fall Sports have finished. Very successful season for the Spartans. Spartan Football went 10-0 capturing the provincial banner.

Key Club- currently making Christmas Cards to distribute and preparing for a gift exchange with Milltown Elementary School.

We Group – Another successful WE SCARE FOR HUNGER – Collected 571 lbs and $25.00 in Cash to support the local food bank. They are also preparing a small Christmas show for some of the local senior complexes. Finally the WE group is preparing for their Global Imitative which purchased 20 goats for a community in Africa (goal was 5).

Best Buddies – A new mentorship program that was started last year by our Resource department ( Darren Higgins and Donnie McCallum). Our students with special needs are partnered with mentors in the school and meet once a week and have lunch and do a variety of activities. It has become one of the most popular groups in the school. Mr. Higgins did attend a provincial meeting and presented on the programs that have happened at SSHS. Bruce at this time wanted to acknowledge the job SSHS Admin have done to ensure students are included and bullying has been taken very serious.

Heather Daigle– attended the Provincial DEC Meetings. Highly recommends any DEC member to attend if they get the opportunity. Heather reports that Mental Health is a significant issue within Education and spoke to the allotment of Guidance Counsellors for schools. Heather also spoke of Assist Training for school (SSHS has had this training). Deep Learning (Global Competencies and Engagement) are also on the forefront in Education. Heather again stressed the importance of attending the provincial DEC meetings as they are very informative.

**Krista spoke to the following:**

School Improvement Plan – The Admin team have decided that it was time renew and revamp the school improvement plan. Previously we had built on the plan that we inherited and felt it had served its purpose and wanted to align with the focus from the district as well. There are 7 policies that the district has focused on and we have identified 3 that we are focusing on. However as a school we have programs running that touch on all 7 policies. We are focusing on Student Engagement, Assessment and Mental Health.

Student Engagement – Focus on how to better hook students within each department. Departments will provide example and ideas on what they are doing to engage students within their curricular areas.

Mental Health – Significant issue within the education system. SSHS will continue with Mental Helath First aid and building our relationship with the Child and Youth team. Anxiety continues to be a major issues and we have come up with the idea of the GOLDEN TICKET. Students can use it once a term to get a reprieve on a test / assignment. They are required to write the assignment but have 48hrs to get it done. YOGA has been significant with students and helping them find a balance in their life. THE HARBOUR is a video series from Jostens that deals with a variety of topics that we use to engage our AI students in conversations.

Assessment – Focus on triangulation of Data. COP. Departments are doing well with this but still have areas of growth in how to assess conversations. Students are not just being evaluated on test or products, a much more balanced approach to assessment.

Cashless Schools – Bruce has concerns that Cashless schools makes it difficult for low income families. Not all families have internet access or the means to have automatic withdrawals. Currently we have between 30 -40 % of our population using cashless schools. We will always help any family who do not have the means so their child can participate in activities at SSHS. We have had our ups and downs but overall we think it is heading in the right direction.

Policy 711 – Nutrition Policy – Policy is in effect, some great aspects of it some not so great. However one positive is we have a new chef in our cafeteria and has transformed the cafeteria food. We have gone from making $80 a day to $500. Food is incredible and students are happy. The policy has made fundraising a challenge but we are continuing to work through it. Looking to possibly adjust the lunch time to tie in with the nutrition policy.

Clean Play – Began in 1992 when there were a significant amount of deaths due to alcohol and drug related issues. It was implemented to help with this. Partying was underground. Significant changes in today’s society. Parents are much more open, buying alcohol for their child but signing off on clean play. Extremely difficult to enforce this policy when we do not have parent by in. Where do we go from here? Looking for ideas and how do we support our coaches / students/ families. Our next step is to discuss with staff.