

## **MES PSSC Minutes -Monday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Present:** Melissa Brown, Christina Gillmor, Judy Haley, Bob Burnside Krista McGlinchey, Sara Smith, Mary Dow, Erin Comeau, Crystal Kerfont, and Cathy Halstead

### **1. Welcome and Introductions.**

### **2. Review norms from previous year.**

- a. Bob recommended that we stay with five meetings per school year - Sept, Nov, Feb, April, May.
- b. Meetings will be one hour in length
- c. Discussions would focus on issues pertaining to all students. Any issues that are student specific should be brought to principal or vice-principal privately.
- d. Bob was elected Chair and Cathy is to be secretary again this year.

### **3. Business arising from last meeting. (6:45-6:55)**

- a. School supplies- 6/36 of kindergarten students paid the supply fee as opposed to purchasing their own supplies. Committee reported that parents are excited to buy the school supplies in kindergarten. Melissa will see what the teachers recommend for next year. Melissa reported that a few people were concerned about the practice of sharing supplies, but overall, most people seem unconcerned. Bob and Mary reported that they've heard a lot of negative comments from parents regarding sharing supplies – parents don't like it. Bob expressed concern about having to purchase supplies that don't appear to get used. He, also, questioned what is done with the unused supplies. Krista shared that Stationery Plus was selling the kindergarten supply packages at a cheaper price than the school was offering.

### **4. Principal's report (information only)**

- a. Staffing this year- over the summer, Heather Bell-Williams was seconded to the Ed. Center for this school year, leaving Melissa Brown and Christina Gillmor in acting positions as this year's admin team. We have Caleigh Dunfield working in the 1-2 split, and Jeff Gregor here in the afternoons teaching grade 5 math and some Phys. Ed. We have a Guidance Counselor this year, Tammy Surrrette, who is shared with 6 other schools. Alison England-Blanchard is on staff this year as Itinerant Resource Teacher. Sara Smith is our Speech-Language Pathologist.
- b. Kick-off to Kindergarten-registration for next year's group will be during the week of October 13<sup>th</sup>, with our kick-off to kindergarten event happening on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Please encourage anyone you know with a child going into kindergarten in the fall of 2015 to register.
- c. Speech-Language Pathologist - kindergarten screening – Sara Smith explained her role at MES. New: every child in kindergarten will get screening this year.
- d. FAST-updates – FAST will begin on Oct. 1. We are presently recruiting new families.

- e. Swimming/Skating- Cathy is in the process of getting this organized and we should have a schedule soon. We are anticipating the creation of a project with K-kids and the Charlotte County Aces as a way to raise funds for the skating program.

The addition of a regular swimming schedule is pretty expensive for this school year, however we are looking at ways to raise some money so that intermediate kids may at least be able to have a couple of opportunities to use the new facility. Cathy reported that there are no daytime lifeguards hired yet at the Civic Centre, so swimming is not an option at present time. Erin suggested that we look into SSS co-op student as there are many students at SSS that are lifeguards. Cathy will be apply to the Bob Flewelling Sports Fund at Fundy Community Foundation to help fund skating. As well, the Aces will be giving us flex passes to raffle.

- f. Family Movie Night-updates – The Million Dollar Arm was scheduled for Friday, September 26, however, the Christian Centre has brought it to our attention that there is some questionable language in the film, so we are not going to show it. Instead, the centre is looking into what is available on their Netflix. Cathy reported that the town has, once again, funded our movie license.

#### **5. School Improvement Planning and Monitoring (7:15-7:30)**

- a. Targets and goals have been chosen for this school year, and teacher teams are working on making these goals SMART-should be complete this week and will be posted on the school website. This will be completed by the meeting in November.

With regards to writing, we are focusing on conventions this year (spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar), as this is often the writing category that brings the total outcome down.

We are working on increasing math achievement in numbers and operations, engaging families and fostering community partnerships, and foster positive mental health in our students and their families. With regards to mental health, teachers will be receiving PD on depression and anxiety. We will, also, be offering a series of parenting courses.

Next Meeting: November \_\_