

Fredericton High School Parent School Support Committee

MINUTES

Monday, April 23, 2018 – 5:30 p.m., C-22

Present:

Shane Thomas –Principal
Rhonda Baker Gordon - Chair
Coleen Gorman-Asal – Vice-Chair
Stephanie Haslam - DEC Representative
Patricia Kennedy – Student Representative
Vashika Khaitan– Student Representative
Andrew Rutledge - Teacher Representative
Joey Bernard
Karen Flinn

Kim Kelly
Pam Kitchen
Mark Taylor

Regrets:

Neville Peasley
Wendy Wright-Gardner

1. Welcome (R. Baker Gordon)

Rhonda welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approvals

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of March 26th, 2018 meeting were circulated and approved by email on April 13, 2018.

3. Reports

Student Report (Vashika and Patricia)

1. On April 5, the SRC held their second Horizons Leadership Conference. There were approximately 100 students from various schools in ASD-W. The conference involved guest speakers, leadership activities and presentations from FHS clubs. Overall the conference was a great success and the SRC is hoping to do it again next year.
2. SRC held a film festival on April 12 at lunch time in the TMT in support of TP the Town. All movies were produced by FHS students. Local professionals judged the competition. There were three student submissions. Each film was approximately 15 minutes in duration.
3. The Hawaiian Luau took place April 19th. This event included a dance, games, and video games. This event was designed to be fun for a wide variety of students, as is the goal for all SRC events.
4. The TP the Town Blitz Day occurred Saturday, April 21st. Members of the SRC were situated around town to collect toilet paper and monetary donations. The current grand total collected is approximately 15 000 rolls of toilet paper.
5. The SRC have started the application process for the SRC executive for next year 2018-2019. The candidates running for President will present speeches to the students in grades 9, 10, 11 on Friday. The remaining executive team members will be selected following the election for president.
6. Mr. Mardi Gras performance is May 3. Twenty-one boys will compete for the coveted title of Mr. Mardi Gras this year. All entrants will be judged on dance performance, talent, and their ability to answer an impromptu question.
7. The final dance of the year is scheduled for May 24th. The theme is “blacklight” and there will be many additional activities for students.
8. The provincial student council will take place at FHS this week. No FHS members are presently on the committee.

District Education Council Report (S. Haslam)

The DEC is looking for student voice for the DEC. Currently, it is challenging for a student to attend the night time meetings which change locations across the district (students must travel). Also, the current policy states that only one student member may sit on the DEC.

At the last DEC meeting, the Hanwell Neighborhood School and the Leo Hayes Tech Wing Students groups provided presentations. The students presented their case for a Leo Hayes Tech Wing. The Oromocto school study was discussed. Stephanie will forward the link. There is a need for three K to 8 schools according to the study.

This issue of “PSST” concerns was raised, regarding confidentiality/privacy. The DEC stated they have no concerns but failed to provide any evidence that the information remains confidential. Currently, there is no policy in place but parents should “Trust them”.

Collective agreement concerns have been raised by the teachers union regarding PSST process. Parents would like to see the DEC school calendar webpage updated so that the PL Days for FHS and Leo Hayes that are changed for this week and the last week of May are reflected.

The screenshot shows a calendar for April 2015 with the following events:

| Day | Event |
|--------------------|--|
| Monday, April 6 | 12:00 am - 11:59 pm: Easter Monday - No School |
| Tuesday, April 7 | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm: Report Cards issued |
| Friday, April 10 | 12:00 am - 11:59 pm: No School for Students |
| Thursday, April 16 | 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm: DEC public meeting |
| Monday, April 20 | 7:00 am - 12:00 pm: Half-day for Students - PL |
| Friday, April 24 | 12:00 am - 11:59 pm: No School for Students |

Wellness Committee Report (W. Wright-Gardner)

Wendy sends her regrets and we will all receive a copy of the This is Our Story by email to review for next meeting.

Teacher’s Report (A. Rutledge)

Teachers expressed concerns over the Half day PL Days including the late notice of the change week of April 23. Dept of Education states that PL Days won’t be changed for next year.

The Library committee held a meeting last week. The committee looked at the CAD drawings and offered ideas for the space: Upstairs quiet area of study; Downstairs common area; The new furniture appears to not have as many seats. The library committee sent the CAD drawings back with ideas. Shane says the committee provided very good recommendations.

Teachers indicated they would like improvement to the notification process for absenteeism. Can parents email each teacher whose class is missed? Shane will discuss with teachers and determine a path from there.

Principal’s Report (S. Thomas)

Professional learning days.

Attendance was down approximately 100 to 150 students for each PL day. 45% difference in attendance. This is significant.

PSST

Could information be placed on the school website for parents? The administration will wait to see what union's response is to the program. Information needs to be provided in a more organized manner from the District.

How will false claims be handled? For students and especially teachers.

How are students made aware of the PSST program? It has not really been promoted by the school.

Will wait until the dust settles to determine how to publicize it. How will the program be monitored?

How will they ensure confidentiality?

Student Travel and Awards:

A group of band students is going to Vancouver from May 1-7.

Four students travelling to Edmonton, AB as a part of the Skills Canada Challenge. Each received a gold medal in the New Brunswick Skills contest.

Two students who won the chess competition will travel to St.John's, Newfoundland for Canadian National Chess Tournament, May 19-21.

One grade 10 student will attend the Lloyd Auckland Invitation Mathematics Workshop, May 27 to June 2, at University of Waterloo.

One grade 10 student will attend Canada Math Camp from July 29 to August 5 at the University of Toronto for a mathematics workshop.

Black Kats Scholarship Awards will take place on May 8 at the NBTA building. Closing deadline is Friday, April 27.

Youth Action Team Symposium-Meeting with the Mayor on May 18. Students are asked to contribute their ideas for the City.

Kats Kitchen Report

- There are over 312 volunteers who serve breakfast and lunch to students at FHS.
- Each morning 135 students are served breakfast. Over 125 students are served lunch.
- Student volunteers from Kat's Kitchen work at Kim's Kitchen every Wednesday afternoon to prepare lunches for the next day.
- The following fundraisers helped to secure funds to secure the food for the Kitchen:
- Community Breakfast in New Maryland, October 2017
- Juice Box Blitz, November 2017
- Food drive for the Community Kitchen, November 2017
- Christmas at the Market
- UNB Education Society Breakfast November 2017
- Hockey tournament March 2018
- Lip Sync Battle April 2018

Catchment area changes

Keswick Valley Memorial School and students from Burton Bridge to Princess Margaret Bridge have been added to FHS. Devon Middle School students will be affected.

Assessments

PISA will take place on May 1, 2018 for grade 10 students. Randomly selected students.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Half Day Professional Learning Days (see above)

Promoting Safer Schools Together (PSST) (see above)

Diversity Showcase – Will occur on May 22, 2018 6- 7:30 PM. Night of storytelling, speakers, and displays. The PSSC will donate \$500 to the Diversity Night Showcase for food. All present approved.

5. New Business

Healthier Foods and Nutrition - Policy 711

Rhonda gave an update on a meeting she had with Beth Morrison (Dept. Education Policy and Planning) regarding Policy 711. Ms. Morrison said the new policy is waiting for official sign off. There are no significant changes, the policy is taking a holistic approach and looking at whole school environment not just the cafeteria. The policy will not interfere with what is coming from home, including what is brought in to events. There will be one policy for all age groups, no differentiation for high schools. It will be rolled out this summer to align with cafeteria contracts. Districts are responsible for cafeteria contracts, and any feedback should go to the district. Ms. Morrison will be attending the DEC symposium in Fredericton and Provincial Home and School meeting in Moncton to talk about the updates to the policy.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

The SIP will be revamped this year using data from the teachers' 10 year plan. There were 9 objectives. Surveys from the parents asked for objectives 5 and 7. Administrators asked for 5 and 7. District had asked for 2. Teachers asked for objectives 1 and 3. Shane asked them to add the above-mentioned objectives to the list. The goals will be completed by the end of May with their groups. The school will have five priorities next year. Shane will send the five priorities and the growth goals to the committee.

Construction update

Construction probably won't be completed on time (Summer 2018). Library is underway and the wall is up. Decisions are being made about the furniture and an extension has been granted for the renovations.

6. Questions/Comments

There were no questions or comments.

7. Closing Comments and Adjournment

Next meeting will take place May 28, 2018 at 5:30 PM in room C-22.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Minutes prepared by: C.Gorman-Asal