

Fredericton High School Parent School Support Committee

MINUTES

Monday, December 18, 2017 – 5:30 p.m., C-22

Present:

Shane Thomas - Principal
Rhonda Baker Gordon - Chair
Coleen Gorman-Asal - Vice Chair
Andrew Rutledge - Teacher Representative
Stephanie Haslam - DEC Representative
Karen Flinn

Kim Kelly
Mark Taylor
Patricia Kennedy, Student Rep
Vashika Kaitan, Student Rep
Regrets: Pam Kitchen, Joey Bernard
Neville Peasley, Wendy Wright-Gardner

1. Welcome and Call to Order (R. Baker Gordon)

Rhonda welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Agenda & Minutes

The agenda was approved. The minutes were approved by email.

3. Reports

Student Report (P. Kennedy and V. Khaitan)

The SRC successfully held a Senior's Dinner. There were 15 Legion members in attendance. The event featured food prepared by the culinary tech class and entertainment provided by FHS students. This is an event they plan to continue in future years in conjunction with the FHS musical.

The SRC is midway through "12 Days of Christmas". Activities included: a Christmas movie, card-making, free hot chocolate, etc. There was been good participation and feedback. The SRC will be continuing activities throughout this week.

On December 19th, SRC hosted the annual Holiday Hangout. There were various performances by students and lots of games for students to play. It was held in the cafeteria from 7:30-9:00 pm.

SPR Reports

Jeremy Curnew, SPR English as an Additional Language

There are 500 international students at FHS; 110 students in the EAL program. Students come from other countries for various reasons. Some are refugees and others are fee payers.

Goal:

80% participation for newcomers in school activities. Achieved 55%.

Participation went from 12% to 55% in extracurricular activities. The male students are more likely to participate.

The new goal is to produce videos about the EAL students. EAL will partner with Dave Carson (Technology Teacher) and Shawna Allen-VanderToorn (District).

The teachers have completed a grant writing workshop to help them apply and secure funds for good equipment to produce videos.

Valerie Marshall, SPR English 22 teachers in Dept.

Goals:

English teachers will create an electronic library of mentor texts that includes at least 8 for each required curricular text form. Using NBED portal. This project continues throughout the year.

English teachers will develop at least one writing lesson around the use of mentor texts between October and May.

The writing lessons will focus on getting better writing from students, building vocabulary and language skills.

Martin Probert, SPR Math

Goal:

Formative assessment. All Math teachers have received a text which contains 75 strategies for formative assessment “Mathematics Formative Assessments -75 Practical Strategies for Linking Assessment, Instruction and Learning” by Page Keeley and Cheryl Rose Tobey.

Each teacher commits to use four different formative strategies. The goal is to come up with a binder of ideas tried out and show which are successful.

One example is Clickers- Each student given a card. And the teacher scans their answers with his phone and can tell who has the correct answer.

District Education Council Report (S. Haslam)

- Anglophone West School District West Success Stories: Kat’s Kitchen
One hundred and fifty grab and go breakfasts served each day.
- Katherine Blaney spoke about academic excellence.
- DEC Members expressed the need to get student assessment data back more quickly.
- Half day PD days brought up at meeting. The subject will be discussed at next DEC meeting. Elementary students’ parents are particularly concerned.
- Looking for more First Nations input on DEC.

Teacher’s Report (A. Rutledge)

- In response to last months’ notice of the creation of a new DEC policy on LBGTQ, the teachers would like to participate with DEC. (Jacquie DesMeules)
- Construction: Will be discussed in Principal’s report.
- Library:
 - There was an Ad hoc committee meeting.
 - Student input: will the students still have the same computers and the study space?
Students mentioned that the resources could be updated and computers would be useful.
 - Letter from student regarding library space.

Principal’s Report (S. Thomas)

Library:

- The district is asking for offices to be moved from one side of the library to the opposite. The Culinary Tech class will benefit from Library re-organization.
- The library may not lose square footage when you take into account how the space will be re-used with a new layout. Administration wants to maximize utilization of library.
- Mr. Rutledge mentioned that the “Friends of FHS Library” is an idea for next semester. It will be a level one English project. It focus will be to maximize usage of the library.
- Looking at the survey: Increase technology usage.
- Library needs books and space for studying.

Capital Equipment Budget:

- 35 white boards have been ordered.
- The blinds will be replaced, smart boards will be installed.
- The innovation lab has taken up some funds but still looking for more.
- Digital sign out front.
- Washer and dryer have been installed downstairs.
- Laptops bought for supply teachers.
- TMT stage money will go to the library.

Student survey: Tell them from us.

- Teacher survey will take place on December 19.
- Shane will share information as it comes back.

Bring your own device strategy for school.

- School will not dictate device type.
- Program will open up social media access in school.
- What happens to students who don't have devices? School will make plans so that everyone has a device. Will have a protocol developed in school.
- Administrative group, then staff, then PSSC and student feedback on the new BYOD protocol.
- What kind of problems will come when we open this up?
- What is the plan? How does it work?
- Other BYOD schools? Not in this province. We will be test pilot for program.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Library, cont: The PSSC toured the library

5. New Business

None

6. Closing Comments and Adjournment

Next meeting will take place January 29, 2018 at 5:30 PM in room C-22.

Meeting Adjourned 7:10 pm.

Minutes prepared by: C. Gorman-Asal