

GEORGE STREET MIDDLE SCHOOL  
Parent School Support Committee  
Agenda & Minutes for March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Meeting

<p style="text-align: center;">PSSC Members Present:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dave Bowen (chair), Paula Emery, Darren MacKenzie, Tim Yerxa, Tina Manuel (recorder), Catherine McCain Heather O'Connell, Andrea Addison, Peter Manson, Teacher Rep.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School/DEC Representation Present:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pierre Plourde, Principal Michelle Keefe, Vice-Principal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">School/DEC Representation: Terry Pond</p>
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**1. Call to Order- 6:01**

**2. Introductions by Chair- none**

**3. Review of Minutes for November 17th, 2017-**

- **Approval of minutes** Darren MacKenzie motioned to approve the minutes. Catherine McCain seconded motion. Minutes approved.
- **Review of Minutes (Actions taken and business arising):**
  - None

**4. Chair's report-**

- **Expenditure Approval- Total Budget \$1352.97 left.**
- **Presentation by Michelle Keefe working on PSST day- Positive Mental Health Day**

Students presentations will be held March 28-29, 2018. Theme: impact technology can have on lives both positive and negative. There will be a parent presentation March 28<sup>th</sup>.  
March 28<sup>th</sup>- Keynote speaker Barb Fletcher will talk to the students about building resiliency. Deborah Spillman from Shop Fredericton magazine helped. Mme Fraser prepared a lesson that focuses on the impact technology has on brain structure. Lee Thomas will be another keynote speaker on mental health, reducing anxiety, being present and using positive self talk. Scott Macaffey will be taking doodle notes during the presentation to have a visual representation. There will also be yoga, Reiki, Naturopath, and teacher created sessions: how screen time is impacting physical self-fitness, does technology make us lonely, etc. Huge variety of sessions.  
Parents' session will be held from 6:30-8. Barb Fletcher will present and a rep from the Fredericton Police or RCMP to discuss technology, mental health.  
Funds are being requested to cover catering for speakers. Approx \$2000.  
Does this meet the PSSC mandate? The parent night would and the possibility of a video of the keynote speakers to be put online.

Tim Yerxa motioned to spend the remaining budget of \$1352 on the PSST Initiative. Heather O'Connell seconded. Motion passed.

- PSSC Chairs of feeder schools meeting is being planned for the first week of April.

**5. Teacher report**

- Has been a busy second term. Reports cards are being prepared,
- Basketball season is over and George Street did really well.
- Volleyball season has started.
- George Street production is this weekend. Guys and Dolls.
- The school choir is singing in the local music festival April 23<sup>rd</sup> and then in Halifax April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The Canada 150 art project is displayed in the student lounge.

- Some grade 8 students are involved in a young critics reading group with Westminster's Books.
- The music dept has received a generous donation which has enabled them to purchase instruments.

**6. Principal's Report**

- School Improvement Plan- March 27<sup>th</sup>- April and May (½ PD)  
See attached notes. There will be a full PD day on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be working on school improvement planning for ½ day and report cards for ½ day.
- Mr. Plourde shared two questions from the district requesting feedback on the ½ day PD and asked PSSC members to provide feedback by March 29<sup>th</sup>. He just received the questions from district last week to ask the PSSC. Some schools have sent questions out to all parents for feedback. ½ day PD was a DOE decision. There are pros and cons. Offers more often "check-ins" on initiatives but poses other challenges for students, etc. April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 29<sup>th</sup> are also ½ day PD.
- April 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30 is the GSMS Showcase and Grade 8 Marketplace- The multicultural fair will start at 5 pm. Many students' talents will be on display.
- Any feedback on cashless school program?- hasn't been used much yet but volleyball fees and Grade 8 trip will be added. Soon this will be the only option. How can it be promoted?

**7. DEC Representative**

- The last public meeting the Sexual Identity policy was passed.
- Retabled the 409 motion for Kingsclear Consolidated. Other schools are over full.
- The DEC is doing its own study on Northside elementary schools and have started a southside elementary study.

**8. New Business- none**

**9. Adjournment- 7:04** motioned by Tim Yerxa, seconded by Catherine McCain.

**Next meeting: Monday April 16th, 2018 at 6:00 pm.**

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PSSC Chair

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Date

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PSSC Secretary

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Date