# GEORGE STREET MIDDLE SCHOOL Parent School Support Committee Agenda & Minutes for January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Meeting

PSSC Members Present:
Dave Bowen (chair),
Paula Emery, Jeff Earle, Darren MacKenzie,
Tim Yerxa, Tina Manuel (recorder), Catherine McCain
Heather O'Connell, Andrea Addison,
Peter Manson, Teacher Rep.

School/DEC Representation Present: Pierre Plourde, Principal

School/DEC Representation: Terry Pond

#### 1. Call to Order- 6:01

## 2. Introductions by Chair- none

- 3. Review of Minutes for November 17th, 2017-
  - Approval of minutes Paula Emery motioned to approve the minutes. Catherine McCain seconded motion. Minutes approved.
  - Review of Minutes (Actions taken and business arising):
    - Mental Health is too busy this month. David to meet with then next month.
    - o Action: School Improvement Plan discussion will be added to agenda of next meeting

#### 4. Chair's report-

- Expenditure Approval- Total Budget \$1352.97 Follow up. Ideas discussed: Extracurricular Handbooks
  for grade 6, Translating Welcome Letter into more languages (Mr. Plourde to ask ESL teacher if more
  languages are required.) ?Any other documents that could be translated. Parked for now. Healthy
  Learner Committee will plan to present at the February meeting. May be a parent component that could
  use funding.
- DEC chair is holding a meeting on Jan 18, 2018 to meet with PSSC chairs.
- Planning underway for PSSC chairs from GSMS and feeder schools to meet to discuss future planning and attempt to ensure communication is accurate. David hasn't been able to get the name of the PSSC chair for Priestman Street Elementary.
- DEC Symposium is May 4-6, 2018. Deadline is Jan 22, 2018 to notify Terry Pond if interested. There will be a draw for names to attend.

#### 5. Principal's Report

- Tell Them from Me Data- The survey, completed by students, was finished Dec 12, 2017. Mr. Plourde shared the Student Engagement and Bullying and School Safety summary reports with the agenda. Staff has seen the data. The results show the anxiety level at GSMS is higher than other jurisdictions. This will be going back to the students in a Think Tank.
- Grade 6 Provincial Data- Some data from the grade 6 science and math assessment was shared.
   Approximately 5% of students get exempt for ESL, etc. This number is not taken out of the denominator.
   It is important to look at trends across years for long term goals vs one year in isolation. GSMS results were over the provincial and district average for the successful category.
- First Healthy Learners School Initiative Project- Mr. Plourde shared notes from the meeting held Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. There was another meeting today. There is around \$3000 to use for the initiative. PSSC might be able to help. This group will present at the PSSC meeting in February. They are able to partner with the Fredericton Downtown Health Centre.

#### 6. Teacher's Report

- Varsity Boys basketball won a tournament last weekend.
- Band was awarded \$2000 from the city for use for tutoring.
- Band and choir going to Atlantic Music Festival in April.
- Guys and Dolls production will be held March 23-24.
- A local band, Motherhood, helped 8D with a choral arrangement and will be performing Saturday evening at the Shivering Songs Festival at the Charlotte Street Arts Festival.
- SPARK starts next Friday.
- TTFM results are in. Teachers are discuss Friday during SPARK.
- Pink Shirt Day is coming soon.
- Mr. Manson presented the concerns around parent/teacher interviews and messages to students brought up at the last PSSC meeting at a staff meeting. Although, a bit contentious during the meeting professional conversations were noticed afterward. It was overall a constructive discussion.

#### 7. Home and School Report

- November event raised around the same amount as last year.
- Will decide if another event will be held and how left over gift cards will be used.
- Magazine campaign will be held around March Break.

### 7. DEC Representative

- Information meeting was held in Woodstock Education Center last week. There was a presentation on sexual orientation from the Gay Straight Alliance. No specific policy on this topic yet. Requires more discussion.
- All PSSC meeting dates must be submitted to the DEC. GSMS has done this. Many schools have not.
- Next meeting will also be held in Woodstock on January 25, 2018.
- 8. New Business- Next meeting will be Feb 12<sup>th</sup> as Feb 19<sup>th</sup> is Family Day. Healthy Learners will be presenting so may be a bit longer.

9. Adjournment- 6:55. motioned by Paula Emery, seconded by Andrea Addison.

Next meeting: Monday February 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

SSC Secretary

**Date** 

Mach 19/2018