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**New Maryland Elementary School**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 17, 2017**

1. **Call to Order:**

**In attendance:** Heather Hallett, Sarah Bird, David Lavigne, Aurora Reid, Stacy Coy, Natalie Holder, Terry Pond, Lisa Innes-Arnason

**Regrets:** Jennifer Bent Richard, Karyn Hamilton, Mike Pope

1. **Review and Approval of the Agenda:**
	* Identified that this is the last meeting of the year
	* Final year on the NMES PSSC for some members; Aurora Reid, Jennifer Bent-Richard, Jason Burns, Stacey Coy (They or they child are moving)
	* As Chair Aurora Reid will not be on the PSSC next year, Natalie Holder will be the interim chair for the PSSC until the fall. Thank-you to Aurora Reid for chairing the PSSC over the past school year. Her name has been added to the recognition plaque in the school office.
	* Agenda approved by Stacy Coy, Lisa Innes-Arnason seconded
2. **Approval of April Meeting Minutes:**
	* Sarah Bird approved, Natalie Holder seconded
3. **District Education Council Report- Terry Pond**
	* DEC meeting will be held tomorrow night. Budget will be on the agenda.
	* Policy 409 review of Kingsclear School has been tabled with a date to review once more information is available.
	* There will be a study on Leo Hayes to determine what would make sense financially as lease is coming up
	* Sexual Orientation and Gender policy has been tabled to allow for additional time for the committee to invite input from professionals regarding best practices.
	* Terry will be attending a weekend conference for DEC members/ PSSC chairs
	* DEC will continue to meet over summer
4. **Principals Report/Recap of the year: Heather Hallett**
* Regular Meetings: September, October, January, February, April, May
* Guest speaker meetings: March: Ryan Hamilton (Growth Mindset) ,Judith Margison (Resiliency)
* Action items for the year**:**

 -Lobbied Village of New Maryland for crosswalk signage and stop sign which was successful.

-Arranged two guest speaker evening events for parents

-Reviewed after school program issues and agreed that feasibility of hosting the programs as well as community need has declined.

-Purchased bilingual signage, external community news sign. Paper, and funded release time for a staff member to update the school website

* Update on playgrounds, outdoor library and signs: Kindergarten playground to be completed the first week of June, Grade 1-2 playground will be completed the last week of June, the outdoor book exchange will be installed the last week of May, the Community news sign will be completed by the 2nd week of June
* Staffing for next year**:** Overall student numbers are approximately the same but composition is different.  There will be three classes Grade one French Immersion and three classes grade three French Immersion. These classes will be small in size.
* Track and fieldin house event will be May 25th  District track and field event June 1
* Immunization**:** After many reminders we have 17 kindergarten students remaining whose families have not submitted immunization records.  The public health nurse says this is an excellent response.
* Kindergarten Orientationwill beMay 24th
* Gr 5 orientation**,** June 2:  All students will be bused there and back
* Provincial Assessment**:** Grade two reading only; to be facilitated next week
* Grade 5 farewell celebration June 21st (preceding family picnic)
* Family picnic June 21st
* Promotion of summer reading kick off.  Asking for book donations for a $1.00/book sale during family picnic. Reps from the local public library will also be in attendance.
* Shared April report card data
* Wellness grant summary and new application
* Re-set spaces are being used consistently. WITS: Students are using the language of this program introduced in the Fall. It is moving toward being internalized.
* Shared student transition profile that all K-4 teachers will complete.
* Writing PL: Grade K-2 teachers hosted a professional learning session on best practices in writing for Grade 3-5 teachers from NMES, Montgomery and Garden Creek
* Writer maker Space Feedback; what are our next steps?  Literacy subject co-ordinator is currently joining three classes during their Writer Maker space session and adding to our conversation.
* Second BLNA of this school year to take place this month (Balanced Literacy Needs Assessment) K-2 This is a data collection activity to serve the EECD Ten year Plan
* Growth mindset book study culminated with a strategy harvest and quotes to share with staff.
* Reading program purchased for resource teacher use is proving effective
* Thank-you to all members for your participation in the NMES PSSC!
1. **Home and School:**
	* Last meeting was held on May 2
	* $21,000 in the bank, some will be moved to the playground fund, $9000 raised with school spell-a-thon (which is more money than the Fall Frolic)
	* Purchased 12 Hoki stools for classrooms, all teachers received $100 for supplies, $1000 on paving
	* Resource will be updating a sensory room and will likely ask for financial support

**New Business:**

* + Members were asked by the Principal to provide some individual feedback on the following:

-What do you consider to be the top two things that are a focus for New Maryland School?

-What advice do you have for the new PSSC members?

1. **Next Meeting** will be held in September