

**SCHOOL NAME: Ridgeview Middle School**

**Address: 102 Waasis Road, Oromocto, N.B.**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**Minutes**

**Date: November 3rd, 2020 Time: 6pm-7pm**

**Location: RMS**

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| **PSSC Members Present:**  **Jen Myshrall, Chair**  **Tammy Hudlin, Vice Chair**  **Heidi Muise, Teacher Rep.**  **Others:**  **Anita Curran, Brandi Cameron, Joanna Desormeaux**  **PSSC Members Regrets:**  **Shelley Asselin**  **April Knowles** | **School/DEC Representation Present:**  **Amanda Piron, Principal**  **Thomas Geburt, DEC**  **School/DEC Representation Regrets:** |

**Call to Order:** Jen called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

**Approval of the Agenda:** PSSC members as a whole

**Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:** PSSC members as a whole

**Business Arising from the Minutes:** None mentioned

**New Business:**

**Principal’s Report-**

We got the gymnasium curtain installed earlier than expected. This allows 2 classes in gymnasium at same time. Rise & Shine will start in November. We will begin inviting 2 bubbles of grade 8 students. Rise and Shine will run on a weekly rotation.

Badminton sign ups have been posted. Students are encouraged to sign up.

Successful season with Cross country. Mrs. Muise has done Cross country for 3 years. This year attendance was up with 17 students. The boys won the banner with the girls shortly behind.

Outdoor learning spaces will continue with outdoor phys. ed classes outside as much as possible. District and Public Health continue to encourage outdoor learning as much as possible.

Check out the twitter feed to see how students and teachers are taking their learning outside.

The book fair will be a virtual book fair this year from November 16th-30th due to Covid restrictions. Communication has been made through school messenger. Shipping costs may be up and deter students

and families.

Clubs: Best Buddies is up and running, At the first meeting 15 students showed up. Students were spread around the room and students are socially distancing. Students will eat with their classes from this point on to make the time spent in best buddies not as long. Next time, students will work on classroom bins to buy some things for when students go outside in the snow. Student Leadership is now up and running. Applicants had to write a letter or participate in an interview to highlight why they would be an asset to the Team. The Team was chosen by Vanessa Moore. In November they will focus on building the team and their leadership skills. Stay tuned for events they plan for December.

School Spirit: In October, students wore hats with money going to the John Wood foundation. Classrooms were “Booed” and a lot of positive responses from students. Parents donated treats towards this event. Lots of games and activities to build school spirit in October – virtual chocolate bar bingo, bubble dance party, design, decorate, and wear your own disposable mask.

School Spirit Day (wear school colors/RMS swag) – Students were super creative in their participation – pictures posted on Twitter.

At 10:30, November 10th the school will be having a virtual school wide assembly for Remembrance Day. More information will be sent home from Mrs. Thomson in the upcoming days.

The school had their first School Wide Assembly for Student Recognition. Student of the month is different. A letter is sent home, along with a medallion and certificate. Students are also invited to a lunch and learn with their homeroom teacher. This lunch date wills serve as a mini student forum.

The students were more engaged and had a lot of positive energy. Feedback from staff and students on our first virtual assembly was positive. Students also loved seeing all classes recognized, not just at their grade level. Staff is considering doing this even after Covid restrictions are lifted. November 27th will be the next Student Recognition Assembly.

Teachers and peers are recognized. Each morning on the announcements, 2 “Ridgeview Roars” are shared on the announcements. At every Recognition ceremony, a name from each grade level is chosen from the Ridgeview Roars bin to win RMS merch. At the end of the year, all Ridgeview Roars collected throughout the year are entered in a draw for larger prizes.

Mlle. Connors was the staff member of the month. Congratulations Mlle. Connors!

**School Plan –** The focus has been on the operational plan and settling back to school and having everyone feel safe.

The core leadership team will meet in November to work on updating and monitoring the School Plan. We will share the School Plan updates at our next PSSC meeting.

**Upcoming Parent/Teacher Interviews –** The core leadership team has decided on meeting on phone or virtually through TEAMS. A letter will be sent home to book a meeting time with individual teachers. This is new and is a trial through Teams Bookings. Meetings will be 10 minutes in length with a 5-minute buffer in between. If you want to meet multiple teachers, you need to fill out form multiple times.

If you want to meet with a teaching team, teachers will accommodate a time that works best for you outside of the designated times for parent teacher meetings scheduled for Dec. 3rd and 4th.

Parent Teacher Meetings on Dec. 3rd are from 5-8pm and December 4th will be from 9-12 noon.

Parents will book if they feel the need to discuss their child with their teacher.

The letter will also discuss troubleshooting for parents that find digital communication difficult.

Teachers are required to be at school during interview times.

**Professional Learning day** – October 30th was a replacement day for a day in February. This was a day that was focused on digital learning. Teachers were given a huge array of PL opportunities to engage in around this topic. Teachers picked what was best for their learning. Teachers focused on the learning that would best serve their students, with a lot of choices to learn from. District personnel provided support.

There was more troubleshooting and collaborating around this professional learning. The day was well organized and structured. The day was proactive for all teachers. Students have already discovered technical issues with their passwords and emails. This has allowed teachers and students to fix any problems now, should we have to move to virtual learning in the future.

**Covid Update** – Nashwaaksis Middle School was a pilot school to have students move, and teachers stay stationed. Last week, David McTimoney gave the go ahead for students at the middle school level to start travelling class to class provided there is an updated Operational Plan and safety protocols are being met. Amanda shared this information with her staff and asked them to think about it as there are pros and cons. Staff was asked to take time to process the information and asked to have conversations with other schools, colleagues, and students in their class about the possible move. Next week in our staff meeting, a decision will be made as to if the operational plan will change or if teachers will continue to move. There was a lot of great discussions around this topic. Today in a staff meeting, the teachers voted to stay status quo. This decision will be re-evaluated before Christmas break. The school and staff will continue to gather information and learn from other schools who made the move with the possibility of this changing in the new year. It does impact certain teachers more than others. The difficulty is some teachers travel from one end of the building to the other with no transition time.

The plan will continue to respect Public Health guidelines.

Carts have been ordered for teachers and should be here in November.

**Report Cards –** do have some changes. Health and PDCP (Personal Development and Career Planning) are now merged as Personal Wellness.

There is a prioritized curriculum that is new this year because of the learning gaps from last year.

All documents for curriculum are available on the Government website. “P” indicates prioritized learning.

**RMS Fundraising –** The first fundraiser will be partnering with *Pizza Twice*. More information to come. This will start in November. Goal is to buy more cafeteria tables. The focus will be on cafeteria seating. If surpassed, they will look at purchasing outside seating – benches and picnic tables.

**Correspondence: NA**

**Closing Comments:** No word on day that Harvey Photo proofs will be back. Amanda will communicate as soon as she receives this information.

**Date of Next Meeting:** December 1st. Nancy Adams will be our teacher rep.

**Adjournment:** Jen adjourned the meeting at 7:15pm.