

**Summerhill Street Elementary School**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**Minutes**

**Date**: December 5, 2018 **Time**: 6:30 P.M.

**Location**: Summerhill Street Elementary School, Board Room

**In Attendance:**

Dwayne Prest

Joe O’Donnell

Jon DeYoung

Jessica Hachey

Shala MacNeill

Angela Lamey-Jackson

Sheila Morgan-Paul

Melissa Walcott

Colleen Foreman

David McTimoney

Shannon Atherton

**Regrets:**

Sonya Godin

Ariana Murissi

Rhonda Morrow

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:32PM by Chair Joe O’Donnell

**Welcome:**

Members were welcomed and invited to have a snack prior to the meeting starting.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion to accept the agenda - Jon DeYoung

Seconded by Jessica Hachey

Motion Carried

**Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting, November 7, 2018:**

Motion to approve minutes from the previous meeting - Melissa Walcott

Seconded by Dwayne Prest

Motion Carried with no changes

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**1) Nutrition Programs (Donation Conversations, Reminders)**

Discussion on the floor about adding a feature for Cash online so parents can make a donation to support the nutrition program at Summerhill in lieu of sending in food. A teacher cohort was gathered and the idea was presented about adding the cash online feature. Teachers feel like there is not really a need for this feature (we are not currently in a fiscal crunch) and the recommendation from the staff was not to move forward with this feature at this time.

Shala MacNeill suggested that the feature would be a choose/not choose and parents could have the choice. It was mentioned that parents might find this option rather convenient. The item could be labeled “breakfast program” donation and have it as a mainstay on the website. The email would say this is an option for parents and the feature would be online for a couple of months.

We will park this idea for now and revisit in the future.

**New Business:**

**1) Summerhill SIP and PLEP Plan – Update in Development**

Mr. McTimoney is currently working on finalizing our plan which is still a working document. Teachers have had much input into creating and setting the goals.

The plan is a workable plan and is currently being put into practice even though it is not finalized. SIP 1 (reading engagement) and SIP 2 (increased engagement in investigative Science and inquiry) are the two school improvement goals and PLEP 1 and 2 will be merged into one concise goal for the positive learning environment. The plan will become a public document that will be posted and published. Parents will be able to access it on the school website. We would like the format to be a pamphlet and available electronically. Mr. McTimoney intends to have this prepared for our January meeting.

**2) Walkway Conversation**

A discussion was put forward for safety consideration by improving/adding a new Summerhill walkway. The walkway would allow for students to avoid having to cross 3 walkways. One concern raised was students would be walking in the direction of the buses. The new walkway would allow for more direct approach to the school.

The question was raised as to how does this proposal go forward and who does the PSSC need to contact? Would the School forward this to the District and Town of Oromocto? Alternate suggestions were put forward and further problem solving/discussions would have to take place. What would the cost be for a new walkway/path? Could this be a public walkway?

Mr. McTimoney has already begun discussions and found out a new walkway would be a Town discussion because the land belongs to the Town of Oromocto. Mr. McTimoney and Mr. O’Donnell will meet to prepare a presentation to present to our Town Councillor.

Motion made to approach the Oromocto Town Councillor (Jeff Kirkbride) and the appropriate staff member to attend our next PPSC meeting – Shala MacNeill

Seconded by Angie Jackson

Motion Carried

An additional concern was brought forth about our front walkway at the school – The Joint Health and Safety Committee can review. The benches and bike racks are used by parents and students but may not be safe. In the future, could the front of our school be beautified?

**4) Budgets**

A copy of the school global budget was presented, printed and reviewed by Mr. McTimoney. Our budget was reconciled as of November 13th. Science and reading will be supported by our budget with $6000 through the Instructional Resources category and monies will be provided to classroom teachers to purchase classroom books. For our MakerSpace/STEAM room, money will be fundraised to help support the creation of this room. Questions were answered about the budget by Mr. McTimoney.

**5) Christmas Concert**

We will be hosting our Christmas concert here, onsite, for one more year. Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold our concert at the Base Theatre. Staff were consulted and we feel that we will host the concert here at the school which is easier to plan/program for this year. Feedback from the PSSC – they felt parents will be in support of the change.

Formal communication will be in the form of a letter from the Principal, School Messenger, Twitter, teacher communication/emails and student agendas. Some questions about logistics, seating, timing and parking were raised and school personnel will be work on these issues tomorrow. Some suggestions/guidelines could be presented to parents about attendance.

**6) Nutrition Policy Changes**

As of December 5th, 2018, Provincial EECD Policy 711 has been changed by the new government and chocolate milk is now allowed to be sold in school. At Summerhill, traditionally more students choose to drink chocolate milk – ratio of 5-1 chocolate to white milk. There are also changes to how schools can fundraise and more flexibility for special events. PSSC members are invited to read amendments to the policy.

**Correspondence:**

1. Letter to the Minister – sent November 20/18

Correspondence from Minister Dominic Cardy. The Minister wrote a reply to thank the PSSC for our letter about changing the date for our PSSC election in September. The suggestion has been shared with the Policy and Planning division within EECD.

**Closing Comments:**

For new business - how can we approach all parents and listen to their concerns? Are we missing a segment of our school population? Something to consider moving forward in 2019.

**Date of Next Meeting and Potential Agenda Items:** January 9, 2019

**Adjournment at 7:39pm:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting - Melissa Walcott

Seconded by Shala MacNeill

Motion Carried