

**Minutes**  
**Maplehurst Middle School PSSC Meeting**  
**Monday, January 18, 2021 at 7:00pm**  
**(Meeting held via Zoom)**

**Present:**

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| Tracey Redmond (Chair)                     |
| Elizabeth Nowlan (Principal)               |
| Sylvie Arseneau (Vice Principal)           |
| Marcel LeBlanc (Vice Principal)            |
| Sarah Johnson (Teacher Representative)     |
| Stacey MacAulay (Secretary)                |
| Angela Lawson (DEC Rep)                    |
| Betty Zhang (Home & School Representative) |
| Andrea Boudreau                            |
| Donald Moore                               |
| Jamie Teed                                 |
| Joy Cummings                               |
| Mandi Lawson                               |
| Michelle Lord                              |
| Ryan Edison                                |
| Sherri Leger                               |
| Tammy Orava                                |
| Tracy Doyle                                |

**Absent:**

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Tracey called the meeting to order at 7:14pm.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved by Don and seconded by Ryan.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Jamie and seconded by Andrea.
  
3. **Discuss New Guidance Provided by Minister Cardy on January 17<sup>th</sup> regarding Students Attending School during the Red Phase:**
  - New information was announced that schools will remain open during the red phase.
  - In the event that a parent chooses not to send their child to school the parent is responsible for the child's education.
  - For students who are required to self-isolate, parents can notify teachers and teachers will try to send some homework.
  - All staff will be actively screened daily. Temperatures will be taken and logged.
  - Common spaces will be prohibited (e.g. staff room).
  - Students and employees must stay home if they have one symptom.
  - It could be a challenge to get supply teachers if teachers have to be sent home or remain home due to symptoms.
  - Masks will need to be worn during Physical Education class.
  - Currently there is some complacency with students regarding mask use. In the red phase, if students don't abide by mask rules, they may be asked to stay home to ensure the safety of all involved.
  - Changes can occur to this directive as the situation changes and Public Health provides updated guidance.
  
4. **Principal's Report:** Miss Nowlan provided an overview of the Principal's Report. See Appendix 1.
  
5. **School Improvement Plan:** There were 3 goals identified this year for the School Improvement Plan. Miss Nowlan outlined that they were related to: 1) preparing for home learning, 2) a COVID-19 operational plan, and 3) improvement in building connections. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
  
6. **Teacher Appreciation Week:** To be held February 8-12<sup>th</sup>. Members are asked to think about local business owners (pizza, coffee, etc.) who may want to contribute. Mandi will write a message to send through School Cash Online and provide to Miss Nowlan who will send it to parents on behalf of the PSSC.
  
7. **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**
  - a) Wednesday March 24, 2021 at 7:00pm
  - b) Thursday May 13, 2021 at 7:00pm

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm. The motion to adjourn was made by Ryan and seconded by Joy.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday March 24, 2021 at 7:00pm

Minutes prepared by Stacey MacAulay

**Appendix 1:  
Principal's Report  
January 18, 2021**

**Update on PSSC Budget**

2 sets of phones that have remote handsets to support teacher use of phones at the school @ \$141.68

Snacks for meetings @ \$349.00

Remaining budget = \$101.32

**Student and Teacher Absenteeism for 2020-21**

Student absence for January 2021 to date has been the following:

Jan. 4 51  
Jan. 5 59  
Jan. 7 84  
Jan. 8 104  
Jan.11 57  
Jan. 12 59  
Jan. 13 34 (system down)  
Jan. 14 51  
Jan. 15 73  
Jan. 18 68

Teacher Absenteeism

We have seen a 51% increase in absences compared to the same time last year with 4 fewer teachers.

2019-20 83 absences to this date last year

2020-21 125 absences to date

October saw a spike in absences with our highest per month total at 45.

Unfilled positions for both teachers and staff are becoming challenging.

**Behaviour Mentor Position**

We are in the process of interviewing for a new Behaviour Mentor for Maplehurst. These new positions have been supported from EECF for Middle Schools. We are looking forward to having this position in place to support our Huskies.

**Staff Appreciation Week**

February 8 – 12<sup>th</sup> is Staff Appreciation Week