

Minutes
Maplehurst Middle School PSSC Meeting
Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7:00pm
(meeting held via Zoom)

Present:

Tracey Redmond (Chair)
Elizabeth Nowlan (Principal)
Marcel LeBlanc (Vice Principal)
Sarah Johnson (Teacher Representative)
Stacey MacAulay (Secretary)
Betty Zhang (Home & School Representative)
Donald Moore
Jamie Teed
Joy Cummings
Mandi Lawson
Michelle Lord
Ryan Edison
Sherri Leger
Tracy Doyle

Absent:

Andrea Boudreau
Angela Lawson (DEC Rep)
Sylvie Arseneau (Vice Principal)
Tammy Orava

Tracey called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved by Ryan and seconded by Michelle.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Michelle and seconded by Joy.
3. **Welcome to New Member:** Tracey welcomed Betty Zhang as the Home & School Representative.

4. **Letters to DEC and Maplehurst Parent Community:**

- **a) Letter sent to the DEC:** As approved at the previous PSSC meeting, a letter from the PSSC was sent to the DEC outlining concerns related to resources in light of the COVID-19 learning environment. Tracey spoke with Angela Lawson who indicated that other schools have submitted similar concerns. This will be discussed at an upcoming meeting at the end of November with Minister Cardy and Angela Lawson will provide an update to the committee after the meeting.
- **b) Letter sent to the Maplehurst Parent Community:** As approved at the previous PSSC meeting, a letter was sent on behalf of the PSSC to parents in the Maplehurst community to clearly communicate the expectations of mask use at school as per GNB requirements and Public Health Directives. Feedback was received that teachers appreciated the letter.

5. **PSSC Budget:** The budget for the year is \$592. Committee members are asked to give consideration to how this money should be spent and bring ideas to the next meeting in December. Last year the money was spent on whiteboard markers. One idea discussed was to use the money to purchase books for the library.

6. **Opportunity to Support Staff Wellness:** Michelle shared information about a virtual staff wellness session she attended by Mike Robbins (author of 'We're all in This Together'). Mr. Robbins has offered to provide a session to teachers at a substantially reduced rate. Michelle will share the recording with Miss Nowlan so it can be reviewed and considered as a topic for an upcoming staff wellness session.

7. **Principal's Report:** See Appendix 1.

8. **January Meeting:** The January meeting will be held on Monday, January 18th, 2021 at 7:00pm.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. The motion to adjourn was made by Ryan and seconded by Jamie.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 10th at 7:00pm

Minutes prepared by Stacey MacAulay

Appendix 1:

Principal's Report November 18, 2020

Crossing Guard

The City of Moncton has approved 2 new Crossing Guards: one on Twin Oaks by the path to the trail and one on Maplehurst at our driveway. The RCMP have also agreed to be present on occasion to monitor speed and yielding to the cross walk. School Zone signage is also being installed.

Playground Update/Fundraisers for playground/Home and School

The playground should be ready for use by the end of this week. Our first official fundraiser of Christmas plants has raised \$4684.00 of which about half is profit.

The next fundraiser, Coffee Pod Sales, began today. The amount required is \$80000.00 over a 3-year period.

The Home and School has 57 members to date but was not able to establish an executive.

Parent Teacher Interview (PTI) Format

Each homeroom teacher will schedule virtual interviews or a phone call with their homeroom class.

The purpose of the first PTI from academic/subject driven to student focused in support of the overall development of each Husky. The connection each homeroom teacher has to their class is obvious and this format will serve to strengthen that relationship with the home.

Subject teachers will continue to communicate with home concerning progress and will be in contact as required. The homeroom teacher is the main contact with home.

Interviews will be scheduled over the next two weeks and will conclude on December 4th.

The Grades 6 to 8 Report Card for 2020-21

Not new

- Learning is reported on the 1-4 achievement scale based on end-of-year learning goals
- N/A means insufficient evidence of learning
- A blank box means the area has not been taught yet

New

- IND means the learner is following an individualized program in a Personalized Learning Plan (PLPIND) in that area.
- **CU** means the learner is **Catching Up** on essential learnings and developing readiness for grade level outcomes
 - The CU is for the fall term
 - The code **CU** is available to indicate that a learner is currently working on concepts from the previous grade that are foundational to the prioritized learning for this year

School Population

- We have 657 students as of today (up from 644 last month)

Readiness Plan for Potential Return to Home Learning

Mr. Jamer was released for 12 days to help build the capacity of both teachers and students with the use of Microsoft Office Teams. Each student has an email and log in to Office and have been expected to use it at both school and home. Teachers are incorporating features of Teams into their lessons.

We must ensure a balance of both synchronous and asynchronous instruction to *limit screen time*:

- Maintain a balance of teacher-directed, small group student centered, and student-directed independent learning
- Provincial Daily virtual learning guidelines:

Gr. 6-7 120 minutes (cumulative maximum)

Gr. 8 150 minutes (cumulative maximum)

- Assign 20 minutes/day of independent reading. Assign 30 – 60 minutes of physical activity at home.
- Assign approximately 15 minutes of independent learning at home to follow up to each online session.

The format/schedule of (especially) synchronous learning will have to be flexible given that students are not expected to follow their regular class schedule online which would obviously exceed the expected screen time.

Our teachers function as Subject teams and have been discussing and planning for the eventuality of Home Learning during their Team Meetings.

The working hours for teachers are not changing and we need to respect their personal and family time as well.

Teachers will have learning opportunities available to students right away, but adjustments will most likely be made along the way to format/schedule to maximize students' ability to connect with their teachers.

School Connectedness

Classroom Composition/behaviour within Groupings has its challenges. (Kevin Cameron clip explaining the Impaired Closeness-Distance Cycle).

Students are doing well staying within their classroom for lunch and wearing masks while transitioning in the halls. All classrooms have been provided with games (table tennis, mini sticks, board games, chess, cards) to help with early morning arrivals and lunch time.

Student Council has been elected and have been meeting to plan activities over the next few weeks. They are now making the morning announcements. They are looking forward to being able to mix and enjoy time outside of their grouping again. They will be supporting Head Start's Toyland next week and their first fundraiser is also underway.

The Phys. Ed Team will be organizing after school intramurals for each grade level. (permission slip required)

The Immunization Clinic for grade 7 is taking place this week.

Mrs. Squires had a guest in her music classes today to teach drumming skills.

Deanna Musgraves is the artist who will complete the works of art for Maplehurst. She will work with the teachers this Friday to begin the process and information will be sent home next week.