

AES Parent School Support Committee

Minutes from Monday, Oct.21st, 2013 6:30pm

Present: Jayne Bettle-Principal, Laura Ravn-Teacher, Linda Clarke-Chair, Stephen Campbell-District Education Council, Julie Soucy, Jessie Bell, Erica Bell

Regrets: Brie Ward, Tammy Titus

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Linda. Dates/times for meetings have been confirmed by both PSSC and Home and School. They will be kept on the same evening for convenience of many members who are involved with both groups, and will tentatively meet on the third Monday of each month that we need to meet. Linda expressed the importance of having an hour long meeting as opposed to ½ hour, as it doesn't leave much time to have discussion/action towards our SIP (School Improvement Plan). It also isn't fair to run overtime and delay start of Home and School Meeting.

Mrs. Bettle, Mrs. Ravn, Linda and Stephen all attended the PSSC Orientation Event which was hosted by the DEC (District Education Council) on Saturday, October 5th at the ASD-South office in Milligeville. They all reported it was a worthwhile day, attending roundtable discussions on various topics, plus inspirational topics and a guest speaker. Stephen announced that a PSSC Cluster Meeting will take place in Sussex (Dec. 2nd tentatively), to bring several local PSSC's together to share ideas and direction. More information to follow. There is a committee being struck at the Provincial level on nutrition and how the new rules regarding food in our schools is negatively impacting our ability to fund-raise. Stephen will keep us informed as this effort progresses.

The SIP takes a three year cycle, the current AES plan is from 2012/2013 to 2015/2016. Mrs. Bettle reviewed some of the highlights of our plan, citing numeracy as our largest need for improvement, and our writing skills as our strongest area. Further discussion will take place at our next meeting regarding action items to further our goals. An idea came forward from the Orientation Day to ask students, parents, and staff three questions: "What are we doing right?", "What would you like changed?", "How can you help us change it?" This is one thing we could possibly do to get direction/feedback regarding our future vision for our school. Goals should come in a variety of sizes and terms: small/short term, medium, and larger or long term goals.

The idea of hosting a guest speaker was discussed, either "Parenting the Net" or an anti-bullying speaker. It was noted that we do have an RCMP Liaison, if we wanted to bring them in at some point. Further discussion will take place next meeting, and the idea of partnering with the AES Home & School Association will be discussed.

Next Meeting tentatively set for 6pm, Monday, Nov. 18th, 2013.

Meeting adjourned shortly before 7pm.

