

PSSC Meeting November 9th

Minutes

Attendees:

Leah Trevor	Jessica Verner	Chelsea Bayliff	Laurie Shillington
Shannon Hodder	Katie Coyle	Bonnie Hierlihy	
Jill McDonald	Nela Ramirez	Sarah Richards	

Regrets:

John Barry
Kate-Lynn Holmes
Sharf Chowdhury

1. Questions or concerns re: October minutes

- No questions or concerns

2. Update on PSSC Budget- Sidewalk Painting proposal

- Bonnie submitted a proposal to the Works and Utilities Committee via an email to Brett McLean. They met on Oct. 19 and Bonnie's email was on the agenda. Bonnie is waiting to hear the outcome of that meeting.

3. Initiatives since last meeting- Dyslexia awareness month, Canada Career Expo, Student Led Clubs

- This month was Dyslexia Awareness Month – we had announcements every day. We discussed the gifts and challenges people with Dyslexia have. We also shared some of the famous people who have Dyslexia.
- Canada Career Week was Oct. 31-Nov. 4- Our Guidance Counsellor, Kerry Casey organized a wonderful week of activities for us. On Nov. 1 we had Career Dress Up Day where many of our students and staff dressed up as a favourite career. On Nov. 2, we hosted our first in-person Career Expo since Covid. We had 21 Booths representing a range of professions. Students loved the event.
- Student Led Clubs- This year we will be having student-led clubs. These are run by gr 4-5 students who create their own clubs for 4 consecutive weeks. Students are asked to apply by submitting a proposal indicating the idea for their club; activities they will do and materials they will use. Our staff supervise the students during club time. We will have one month of clubs before the holidays beginning Nov. 21. Our second round of clubs will be in March/April. We have invited grade 3 students to be Leaders in Training. They

select a club that interests them, and we pair them with the gr 4/5 leaders

4. Second Language Consultation- EECD and EY (Ernst & Young)

- Bonnie received an email from our Director of Curriculum and Instruction asking if we would be a host school for a group of consultants investigating French Second Language Learning in the province- 2 from EECD and 3 from E&Y. They visited 3 French Immersion classes (2 Matin, 2 Gamble, 4/5 Culligan) and 1 grade 5 English class (5Sanford). They spoke with students about how they can improve school, and what they like about school. They then spoke with some of our FI teachers and an English teacher to gain their perspective.
- Yesterday, Bonnie had a Teams call with principals in the District and also sat in on the Teams call with a group of teachers and principals to discuss Second Language Learning in the province.

5. Mental Fitness and Resiliency Inventory Survey Results- full staff

- We opted to do a Mental Fitness and Resiliency Inventory survey with our entire staff. Everyone completed it on their own- teachers, custodians, educational assistants, administrative assistant. 50 staff members completed it. Scoring- awareness (needs most work), building (working on it), embedded (part of the culture). Our results indicate that we are embedded in each area:
 - i. Relatedness (92% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices contribute to our need for connection to and closeness with family, peers and our colleagues
 - ii. Competency (82% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices contribute to our need for recognition and use of gifts and strengths in achieving personal and organizational goals.
 - iii. Autonomy and Support (88% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices contribute to our need to be active participants in making choices and building solutions that affect our workplace experiences.
 - iv. Resiliency (92% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): involve skills that build social networks of support and a sense of community caring in the workplace.
 - v. Professional Assets (84% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices that build professional confidence, capacity and problem-solving skills.

- vi. Attitudinal Assets (86% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices that increase optimism and a positive disposition even in the face of difficult or challenging situations.
- vii. Emotional Intelligence Assets (88% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices that enhance the ability to understand and manage emotions, and positively communicate with others.
- viii. Adaptation Assets (88% indicated we were in the Embedded Phase): practices that facilitate adjustment to changing situations and reduce stress through positive coping and thriving strategies.
- Although our results are very good, Our Core Leadership Team will look at scores and determine areas where we can improve.

6. School Improvement Plan- Ends Policy #2 Welcoming Schools Initiative

- Staff will continue our work with the Welcoming Schools initiative to ensure that F.E.S. is a culturally and linguistically inclusive learning environment where everyone recognizes, appreciates, and capitalizes on diversity to enrich the overall learning experience. This includes ensuring students and staff learn about First Nations culture.
 - Aligned with the DIP and the 10 Year Education Plan
 - Janelle LeBlanc, First Nations Coach ASD-S as well as First Nations Elders have presented to staff.
 - Staff has participated in the First Nations and Sacred Medicines Professional Learning session. Teachers have then brought that back to the classroom through a read aloud as well as a PowerPoint created by Janelle LeBlanc
 - Students are learning and using the Wolastoqey language for Hello, See you later and, thank you
 - We have the Wolastoqey flag hanging in the school
 - We have culturally inclusive books (English and French) and dolls in classrooms K-3 representing the cultures of the students in our school
 - Professional Learning on Culturally Inclusive Play- Literacy mentors Jocelyn Roy and JoAnn Watters will present to staff on Dec. 2
 - Newcomers Mentor Committee
 - Bridging Project- One of our Kindergarten teachers, Ashley Creamer has selected inclusive play as her Bridging Project focus
 - Decorating in the school to celebrate all holidays from across cultures; read alouds read during
 - Welcoming Wall in school lobby

- Classroom newsletter section

7. Upcoming: Teacher Perception Survey & Student Wellness Survey Nov. 15th-Dec. 9th

- Completed annually across the province. Teachers will complete their survey during our staff meeting on Nov. 15
- Student survey is completed by students, gr 4-12 provincially
- Schools are able to add two questions on their own based around their priorities

8. Once Around the Table

Katie Coyle suggested having a Cultural Night