**ROTHESAY PARK SCHOOL**

**PARENT SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING DATE: Wednesday Jan 29th, 2014**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:04 pm**

**ATTENDEES:** David Simms, Kellie Simon, Julie Atkinson, Sarah Kimball, Catherine Chiasson, Laurie Young, Doug Chiasson, Jacqueline MacKinnon, Charlotte Pierce, Wendy Alexander

**Absent:** Mirium London, Nea Stephenson

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Review of minutes from last meeting held Nov. 27th. Moved to approve by Laurie, seconded by David.
3. Business arising from minutes:

Julie still waiting to hear from Derek O’Brien regarding meeting with some parents to discuss new report cards. Julie will send him a note to set this up.

Catherine spoke on future presentations to use up the budget. All grade 6s (as well as some grades 7s & 8s) will see a presentation pertaining to New Brunswick history/culture. Motivational speaker & Paralympian basketball player Dave Durepos will speak to all of the children. Both of these presentations will actually be funded by grants but Catherine suggested we give them lunch and a small token of appreciation. Everyone agreed. The puppet show by MacDonald Consolidated will also be presented in May.

Positive learning environment. Still trying to encourage more students to take part in leadership activities. Student lead assemblies with fun “challenges” for both students and teachers.

1. New business:

Redesign of web site. District is looking for input from parents.

1. A. Review of SIP-End’s Policy #2 – Literacy presented by Tammy Doherty. Assessment developed by Tammy & Faye Horgan and given early September to get a snap shot of where students were with their literacy. Grade 6: Common area of concern was the personal critical questions. Also some questions are simply not being answered on tests by some students. Next steps include modeling answers from stronger students, making connections in other classes, good fit books especially for boys. Grade 7 & 8: Students have just written the assessments. No data analysis completed as of yet. Tammy showed us the form used to assess the data. Just used in Anglophone South. Results are used to develop teaching strategies for the year. Kellie excitedly reported that it actually works!!

B. Principal’s Items:

Kate Robarts Outstanding Student Award Criteria – Reviewed application form. Points that had been brought up last year needed to be refined:

-“activities” were to be restricted to school activities only

-suggested we change the wording from “participated in” to tried out, applied for, etc.

-discussion continued and it was decided that Catherine would make adjustments and present at next meeting

Tell Them From Me Survey – Report on Student Outcomes & School Climate. Can be compared to other similar schools. From the survey the idea of an advocate who would stay with them for their three years at RPS was hi-lited. Still talking/thinking about logistics. Discussion around the results of “Drivers of Student Outcomes”. Concerns regarding the expectation of students to go to university and apparent lack of value given to community colleges and the trades. Students seem to be quite content with just about everything. One area hi-lited was the Grade 8 hallway. Students would like more teachers in the hallway while transitioning from their lockers. Kids also expressed their own opinions in open-ended questions. Nothing new, expressed what they did like and hope to see continued. The province needs to know that this survey is an effective use of funds. May want to touch base with other schools who have done it.

1. Once Around the Table:

Charlotte reported from the DEC meeting on Jan. 8th, changes to be made to catchment area based on new school in Quispamsis. Not affecting much in this area, no discussion of changing boundaries in other areas at this particular meeting. Numbers are decreasing at RPS, down 100 students in last 5 years. Identified three schools possibly closing in lower west side and building on to one school to house all students, takes years to make this sort of change.

Dave requested clarification on when new report cards would be rolled out, soft date of Sept. 2015 provided by Charlotte/Catherine.

1. Next scheduled meeting date: April 16th 7:00 p.m.
2. Adjournment 8:42 p.m. motion by Kellie, second by Sarah.