Minutes

QMS PSSC Meeting Minutes

Date | time February 22, 2021 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm

# In Attendance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | Present | Regrets |
| Jeff Nelson, Principal |  |  |
| Kelly Blakney, Chair |  |  |
| Jason Green, Vice Chair |  |  |
| Monique Lesser, Secretary |  |  |
| Michelle Boutlier |  |  |
| Natalie Folster |  |  |
| Nicole Hamming |  |  |
| Bridget Miller |  |  |
| Jen Roberts |  |  |
| Amy Wear |  |  |
| Roger Nesbitt, DEC |  |  |

# Welcome/Introduction & Approval of Minutes

* Staff members Megan Barton and Stuart Kearney joined the meeting this evening
* Jennifer moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Natalie, minutes approved.

# Social & Emotional Learning

* Stu Kearney (school guidance counsellor) and Meghan Barton (grade 6 homeroom and practical related arts) shared with the PSSC their work on Social and Emotional learning this year.
  + Both recognized that this year there needed to be a focus on being approachable and present which has also been a challenging this year.
  + Weekly Videos - Ms. Barton and Mr. Kearney have been making weekly videos starring “Mr. Stu”. These short videos are shared in the homeroom classrooms and are focused on different aspects of social and emotional learning. Mr. Kearney was able to share one of the videos with the membership, they have just completed their 20th video.
  + Brain Break initiative – focused on energizing and calming brain breaks such as 5 minute yoga, "would you rather?" questions, dad joke generator, or short guided meditation. These can be used by homeroom teachers whenever they feel it is needed. Recommended every 30mins or so.
  + Poster project – funds that have been granted to the school for school connectedness & belonging will go toward a poster project. This will focus on celebrating diversity and minorities (eg. Black history, indigenous culture, Asian culture, LGBTQ+ etc). With the use of artwork, these posters will decorate the classroom doors of the school. Still working out the details of rotating topics throughout the year.

# PSSC Priorities 2020-2021

* As per previous discussion, issue of school capacity – this is being kept on the radar
* Communications with families – Mr. Nelson suggested incorporating a virtual version of the parent café for incoming parents.
  + Looking at holding this in the spring so parents can ask questions and get information on how to get involved
  + Just need to work out a format. Membership agreed involving grade 6 staff members would also be a good idea
  + Since this won’t be until later in the year, there is time to plan and discuss in future meetings

# PSSC Budget

As per last meeting, PSSC agreed to earmark annual budget funds for wellness activities.

* Funds have been distributed to Mr. Kearney and the Phys Ed team for the purchase of pickle ball and knitting supplies.
* Two teachers have also submitted a request to purchase rocking chairs for their classrooms at $206/each
* Phys Ed teachers have proposed to use remaining funds to couple with the “rocks and rings” program to purchase curling equipment.
* This would zero the PSSC budget with about $80 remaining that the school budget would cover.
* After discussion among the memberhip, Nicole moved to approve this spending, seconded by Jennifer.

# Principal Items

* Operational plan has not changed much from previous meeting. Teachers can now take a mask break when in their own bubbled classroom and when 2 meters from others.
* Absenteeism – QMS is running at about 5-6% daily absenteeism which is slightly below the district average
* Behaviour Intervention Mentor – this position is confirmed to be permanent and is a 12month position, meaning that the BIM works 12 months of the year. This position has been filled by Jackie Thompson who is already helping out at the school. She has started working on non-attenders and is also working on poor social behaviors with aim of putting together small groups (which directly supports the work Meghan and Stu are doing)
* End of year activities - Core leadership team started to talk about what end of school year activities will look like. Last year there was a video shared with families. This year looking at maybe having a live event with students on teams (in classrooms) and then having that recorded so parents can watch. For grade 8’s, cannot have a moving on dance but would like to put something in place to celebrate moving on to high school. Some ideas are setting up a picture area and assigning times so parents/families can book a time and take some pictures with signs/balloons available. This will be discussed at future staff meetings.

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| ACTION ITEMS | |
| 1. | No action items |

# Adjournment

Natalie moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Monique.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

# Next Meeting

March 22, 2021 | 6:30pm