
FMHS PSSC Meeting Agenda

Sept 18th, 2023 at 6:30pm

FMHS Learning Commons

Attending: (Principal) Rebecca R, (VP) Tyler J, Shane B, Krista K, Sadie G, Tammy L.

- **Welcome and introductions**
- **Appointment of secretary on rotation** – Shane B. was appointed
- **Review of PSSC Expectations & Guidelines (PPT)** – Rebecca R. was scheduled to present this but it was decided to hold off until the next PSSC meeting when additional PSSC members could be in attendance.
- **Approval of minutes of last PSSC meeting** – May 15th, 2023 – we reviewed these minutes briefly but it was decided not to vote on approval as we had no Quorum. The PSSC decided to circulate the minutes to the PSSC members to have approved via email and posted on the FMHS website rather than delay further. In future, it was recommended to circulate May minutes to have approved and posted before the end of the school year in June rather than wait until the new school year in the fall.
- **Review of School Improvement Plan – Handout:** Rebecca R reviewed the handouts and touched on the key pieces of the SIP.
- **Principals Report** – Rebecca R.
 - Start Up - FMHS student population has increased from approximately 560 to 590 from June to September. Adequate teacher and support levels are in place at this time.
 - AI (academic intervention) programs are underway to provide additional supports for students.
 - Holistic Curriculum Pilot / Accelerated Learning – Literacy & Numeracy: the program is designed to support the whole student and is a pilot program. Many schools are part of this pilot program. Extra supports are provided. Cameron Rudderham has been appointed as the accelerated learning coach – math and ELA teacher. Coaching and co-teaching support to provide additional supports for grade 6 initially on the ‘science of reading’. Able to blend ages based on abilities.

- Athletics: athletic programs are underway. Detailed discussion surrounding updated policy surrounding integrity & behaviour. Players are expected to meet have strong attendance at school and for their sport, solid academic results. Suggestion was made to have coaches hold team and parent meetings at the beginning of the season to set the tone for the season and would include:
 - Player expectations – attendance and school and their sport, solid academic results, behaviour to represent their school community and have the player sign off on this expectation. Accountability is expected by the coach and school for poor performance in these areas.
 - Cost/expenses for the upcoming year for the team – with discussion around potential tournaments.
 - Transportation/insurance review for the transportation of players to/from games by parents/others.
- Grad Class 2024 – FMHS will be providing cost estimates for graduation to provide parents advanced notice. Discussion about a potential ‘playbook’ that was being developed for the grad class 2023. Rebecca will contact Tobi McGarrigle to see if this has been completed and can provide a framework for future grad classes including 2024. Discussions surrounded the need to have the graduating students at the center of planning and other stakeholders should be supportive of their requests. Stakeholders include: parents, the school administration and staff, PSSC, Home & School and the Eastern Charlotte Regional Municipality to name a few. Student leaders will be meeting in the coming weeks to begin planning for the 2024 graduation and it was asked to have the PSSC updated on this to allow us to support early on.
- **Recruitment for PSSC** – the FMHS PSSC is an important advisory committee designed to support the school community. Discussion about potential members of PSSC for this school year. It is believed that up to 12 voting members can sit on the PSSC while all meetings are open to the public.
 - Past Members include: Shane Borthwick, Krista Kernighan, Sadie Gagne, Darlene Thompson, Lindsay Thompson, Shawn Draper, Holly Hannan
 - Potential members discussed: Tammy Leavitte, Donna Fairweather, Jenny Baird, Bambie Scott
 - Potential student member(s): Ella Smith, Molly Cooke, Andie Mason and Grace Pineau will be contacted as they are the grade 12 student leaders on the SRC and can either participate or maybe recommend another student in grade 11 or 12. One (or more) may want to sit on the PSSC.

- Given the increase in newcomers to FMHS representation from this community is encouraged.
- **District Education Council (DEC) update** – Shane provided a brief update from the DEC. Policy 713 has been one of the predominant issues at DEC the previous few meetings as changes have been frequent. DEC has provided a response to the Minister’s most recent changes. HR attendance has been on the agenda and a campaign to improve both student and staff attendance is a priority of the DEC.
- Upcoming events/initiatives
 - **Outdoor Activities Center:** discussion around potential grant funding that is available. Tammy L provided some examples and the PSSC discussed the possibility of the Mariner Alumni Association being the organization that could apply for funding. We discussed the fact that any outdoor activity center that could be funded should be student centered and have input from the student community. The Regional Development Corp, Fundy Boys & Girls, Eastern Charlotte Regional Municipality and Fundy Community Foundation were discussed as possible funding partners as well as potential corporate/alumni sponsors. Tammy L will help spearhead this funding project and work with Rebecca and Shane to reach out to the Mariner Alumni (Anne Dewar / Mandy Chambers) to determine interest.
 - **Anti-Smoking/Vaping Campaign:** messaging is a priority that was discussed. District messaging will be determined, Shane B will inquire through DEC and district on this initiative.
 - **Beyond the hurt program:** this program has begun. This is a Red Cross proactive program designed to prevent bullying. This 6-8 week program is targeted toward middle level grades.
 - **Local Food Bank:** the local food bank has volunteered to plant flowers and outdoor improvements. Discussion around the use of the greenhouse, Amy Cooke is the teacher leading the Eco-club and it is believe she and her club will be utilizing the greenhouse. Tyler J has expressed interest in having this greenhouse utilized and other PSSC members agreed fully on this importance of this initiative.
- Next meeting: Monday October 23rd, 2023 6:30pm at the FMHS Learning Commons
- Meeting Adjourned: motion by Sadie and seconded by Tammy