**Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School**

**67 Wyngate Dr**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**Minutes**

**Date: March 16, 2017 Time: 6:30**

**The Den**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PSSC Members Present:**  **Mike Walker, Chair**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Vice Chair**  **Teacher Rep.**  **Others**  **Ryan Gregg,**  **Joe Crummey**  **Paul Losier**  **Lauren Rogers**  **Gary Hall**  **Maryanne Bourgeois**  **PSSC Members Regrets:**  **Heidi Hoyt** | **School/DEC Representation Present:**  **Sherry Norton Graham, Principal**  **Heather Theriault, Vice-Principal**  **Julie Holt, Vice-Principal**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, DEC**  **School/DEC Representation Regrets:** |

**Call to Order:**

1. Mike Walker – 6:30

**Approval of the Agenda: Moved by: Joe Crummey, Seconded by: Ryan Gregg; motion carried**

1. **Welcome and Introductions (10 mins)**

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**Track for the soccer field – crusher dust as the base; what base for under the track? Ask district for this information. Soil needs to be reshaped and aerated. Long jump track would also be crusher dust, the pits would be sand and these would be outside of the track area. 65’X104’ is the size of the actual field. Standard track is 400 meters around – not enough room for this size track on the field. Move the end of the fence toward the shed in order to extend the size of the track to a regulation size.**

**Parking lot expansion – Mike will follow-up on this issue.**

**Transportation Survey – will be carried forward to the April meeting.**

**New Business:**

1. **PSSC budget (5 mins) - $623.67 left – motion to use this money to buy a memory stick for each teacher and copier paper. Seconded – Paul Loisier. Motion Carried**
2. **Tell Them for Me Survey (15 mins) – (HT) – grade 4 and 5 survey; provided data from these students on a variety of subjects areas (participation in clubs or sports, sense of belonging, positive relationships, value school outcomes, homework behaviours, positive behaviours at school, motivated at school, effort, effective learning time, relevancy of materials being taught to their own lives, rigor, bullying and exclusion, feeling safe at this school, positive student-teacher relationships, understanding consequences of when rules are broken, language spoken at home). Are able to compare trends from the previous year (can compare last year’s grade 4 students to this year’s grade 5 students). Action items from the survey – school data team met to look at the results. Sherry met with a group of grade 5 students (student council) to discuss some of the results. One idea was a suggestion board (Dear Gibson and Neill) where students can write a problem they are having and others can suggest solutions which are first vetted by the guidance counsellor before they are placed on the board. Starting with grades 4 and 5 this year.**
3. **Policy 711 – report from the dietitian who surveyed the school. Information was gleamed from conversations held at the school a year ago. Some of the information within the report is no longer relevant (cookie dough is no longer sold), and the fact that students are provided apples and bananas was not included). Activities that were held one time per year were given more weight than the good things that happened on a daily/weekly basis. GNMES received a grade of “F”. Maryanne will draft a letter to send to the Office of the Superintendent regarding the assessment tool used for this study. Draft will be ready for the next PSSC meeting on April 20th.**
4. **Portables Update/School Overcrowding Article (10 mins) – not extending them toward the woods, they will be turned on different angles (Sherry has seen the tentative plans). Currently have 617 students at GNMES. The Daily Gleaner had an article regarding 6 Fredericton elementary schools getting new, or additional, portables for Sept 2017. Are conversations starting to happen regarding a new elementary North Side school?**
   1. **ISD (Integrated Service Delivery – a group of professionals (psychologists, etc.) will be coming to GNMES next year and have a space to work within the school (GNMES is not their home school). This group will address work with children who have social and emotional needs.**
5. **Sidewalk Update (5 mins) – seems to have been out off indefinitely. Mike will keep pushing for it to be installed. The goal would be to have it done this summer (2017).**
6. **Major Capital Improvements Update (5 mins) – GNMES is believed to be on the list. Mike has letters in to David McTimoney and Jane Buckley regarding expansion of the school building and redefining the zoning for the school. A report is supposed to be done regarding the North Side schools as was done for the South Side ones in terms of current student numbers and school capacity. Mike will follow up with the DEC**
7. **SYSTEMA (SNG) – rep from the NB Youth Orchestra previously spoke to the K-2 teachers regarding this program (a social change program through music – originated in Venezuela). Five days/week, 3 hours/day, students who would not otherwise receive an opportunity to learn an instrument will be provided one. This is the first one in Fredericton, there are a few others in NB. Starts with grade 1 and 2, 40 students will be chosen. The applications will be sent out to all K and 1 students in May. This program has been running for 8 years, and has an 80% retention rate. Two classes of 20 which require a dedicated space (portable). Everything is supplied, only a space is required. 75% of the money is provided with the last 25% coming from fundraising (sponsors) – the school is not required to pay anything. By the end of 4 years the goal is to have 100 kids.**

**Correspondence: None at this time.**

**Closing Comments: Members were thanked for their attendance and continued support of the GNMES school community.**

**Date of Next Meetings: April 20th, 2017, 6:30 pm in The Den; May 11th, 2017 and June 8th, 2017**

**Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm by Mike Walker.**

**Mike Walker\_**

**PSSC Chair**

**Julie Holt**

**PSSC Secretary**