**Minutes of the Parent School Support Committee of St. Malachy’s Memorial High School meeting**

**October 16, 2018**

**In Attendance**: Brad Stevens, Julia Evans, Warren Coombs, Karen Keating Small, Debbie Higgins, Tina McGloan, Kim Garnett, Andrew Dykeman, Angie Smith, Mary McKiel, Jody Pappas and Kim Skidgmore

Chair Karen Keating Small called meeting to order

1. Julia was introduced to the committee and presented her student council report, see below:
2. *First and foremost, our annual Halloween assembly is approaching. It will take place Wednesday the 31st. We have planned games such as relays, pumpkin carving, and some Jimmy Fallon inspired games as well. To change things up, we are putting a sign-up sheet for a few of our games to increase involvement in the assemblies to ensure were not always recruiting the same people. Also, we made a list of decorations and we are fully decorated the gym to enhance the Halloween atmosphere.*
3. *Aside from the assembly, a provincial leadership conference is taking place at the Delta in Fredericton from November 1st to November 4th. Myself and 5 other members of the student council are attending. We are currently in the process of preparing a presentation as we were asked to host a 40-minute workshop to showcase the spirit at Saint Malachy’s. We are accumulating photos and videos from assemblies and sporting events to demonstrate our spirit and then we will have a session where groups brainstorm initiatives to increase the school spirit and engagement in events and theme days. I’m hoping that this conference will provide us with good strategies to strengthen our student engagement and involvement.*

*3.On another note, school clothing is now available on the school website. We circulated the school today to inform all the advisory classes. The clothing is only available online, there is a link in the school website. We will be selling until parent teacher and at the parent teacher conference will be the only time to pay at the school. All the orders will be in for Christmas. We are also adding the link is the src Instagram for easy access for students.*

*4. Tonight at 6pm the Grad Class Executives are hosting an Embrace Your Childhood evening in the gymnasium which will include childhood games, music and food.*

*5.Fall sports are wrapping up with teams advancing to provincials and regionals. And winter sports are already starting up such as hockey and basketball.*

*6. Last, but not least, thisyear’ss musical is High School Musical and auditions are taking place throughout the week after school*

2. The agenda/additions (none) were approved Angie Smith/Kim Garnett

3. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved Angie Smith/Warren Coombs

4. **Students report** – see number 1, Julia left after her report for Grad activity

5. **“It Takes a Village” – update**, Karen discussed the committee’s idea for the upcoming presentation “Social Media and legalities involved” i.e. “Sexting”. Shara Munn, Crown Prosecutor and David Brown, Police Officer, will present. To be hosted by Simonds High School on Nov 20 or 27th. Discussion ensued regarding whether parents and kids should attend or have a separate assembly for kids regarding the same issue. **Action Item** – **Karen** to confirm date.

Another upcoming presentation – Dr. Chornley to present “How Social Media affects your teens” – an example of what the committee is looking for a CNN Presentation by Lisa *Ling.* Warren mentioned the new “screen time” app on the apple products and android, **Warren Action Item** – check out the name of the app and whether parents can access from other devices to see their teens screen time.

It was questioned by members whether Vaping was on the list of topics, as there has been a large increase in the number of students indulging, not currently on the list but possible future topic.

$150 from the PSSC must be allocated to the presentation from each High School to pay for the event. The committee should have enough allotment however will let each school know by end of January if needed or not.

6. **Legalization of Marijuana** – A memo was handed out to all in attendance and discussion ensued regarding teens of the age requirements and that this is still illegal for them to consume. Suspension from school is the result of using or having it on hand. **Action Item** – **Brad** to send reminder of the rules surrounding marijuana use in his next weekly News Letter.

7. **PSSC Funds** – Karen stated that the confirmed amount for the year was $2,181.50 with $150 ear marked for the ITAV, the rest will be used by the school for Open House and their discretion, Mary / Andrew this motion was carried unanimously

8. **Teacher’s Report** (Warren Coombs)

1. Athletics
   1. Many fall sports are coming to a close with several teams advancing to Regionals and Provincials over the next couple of weeks.
   2. Many Winter sports are having try-outs for those respective teams.
   3. New Bleachers have been installed in the gym.
   4. Outdoor pursuits have a canoe trip scheduled for this Friday.
   5. Fall Sport High Lights
      1. JV Girls and Boys Soccer Teams: Southern Conference Champions. Teams are playing in NBIAA Regionals on Saturday Oct 20th. Girls are traveling to Edmundston and Boys are playing at Arthur Miller Turf Field.
      2. Cross Country:
      3. 3 Runners have advance to Provincials on Friday Oct 19th, JV Girls: Margaret Quinn {21st}, JV Boys: Matthew Bell {2nd}, Varsity Boys: Zach Boulanger {8th}
   6. Football: Last regular season game on Saturday in Sussex, playoffs begin next week
   7. Varsity Girls and Boys Soccer: Playoffs begin this week.
   8. September Athletes of the Month: Female: Kyle Roi {Softball}, Male: Connor Hill {Baseball}
2. School Committees
   1. PBIS Committee
      1. The school PBIS committee met today and are focusing this year on revitalizing the “Super Saint Program” and was to show positive uses of personal electronic devices during class time
   2. Advisory Committee
      1. No report
   3. STM Reads Committee
      1. The committee will be looking at what the focus will be this year for STM reads which will take place next May.
   4. UNESCO Committee
      1. STM has been selected as a preliminary UNSECO school
      2. Teachers and students participated in a district wide initiative that raises the awareness and understanding of First Nation Peoples. Participant’s used a critical inquiry models and were provided learning kits.
   5. Health & Safety Committee
      1. No Report
3. Student NB Votes
   1. Students participated in a mock election and the results were similar to what occurred in the race of Saint John Harbour.
4. AP Conference
   1. Mrs. Betty Stacey, and Mrs. Amy Marshall took part in the AP conference that took place last week in Halifax.
5. Resource Fundraising
   1. The resource teachers and EAs will be selling popcorn to fundraise for extra supplies required for the resource room.
6. Entrepreneurship Class
   1. Classes have been asked to work with Enterprise SJ to showcase some of their products made for the STM market to other venues, in particular SJ Sparkles
7. Deloitte Impact Day
   1. Last week two groups of students went to an initiative sponsored by Deloitte which show cased technology, and how they can be used for potential career paths.
8. Saint in Actions
   1. This year 700 students got their first choice of Saints in Action / Study Hall
   2. This year STM will be offering the following groups:
      1. Women of Wonder
      2. Best Buddies
      3. Reconciliation Group
      4. Salvation Army
      5. Community Food Basket
      6. St. Vincent du Paul
      7. Study Hall
         1. Math
         2. Grade 9 Math Intervention
         3. Science
         4. English
         5. Humanities
      8. Celebrate STM
      9. STM Pride
      10. Paint if Forward
      11. Christian Fellowship
      12. Environmental Group
      13. Meditation
      14. Christmas Float / Shop
      15. Street Fair
      16. Maker Space

9. SIP Department Review – handout to everyone in attendance. Discussion followed about new breakdown of grades by unit on the portal. No more midterms as the break causes disruption in the learning cycle, now using comprehensive testing.

10. **Principal’s Report**

a. Concussion Training for teachers Nov.9 with Cathy Simon

b. Anaphylaxis Student Training – Sweet Caroline Video and presentations to classes about the dangers. Epi pen availability and areas that student have access in the school, should be in any food prep/serving areas.

c. Academic Awards – Thursday October 18, everyone welcome and Karen to speak on behalf of the PSSC

d. Deloitte Impact Day – Staff at Deloitte invited teens to Harbour Station to use the Virtual Reality Equipment.

e. UNESCO – St. Malachy’s is a UNESCO school – “Truth, Reconciliation, Sustainability” (Prior Year), school wide events and “connect” events.

11. The meeting was adjourned Kim / Debbie