

# BIRCHMOUNT PSSC MEETING MINUTES

Monday February 12, 2024

## Attendees:

Christa Kirk	Tim Carson	Owen Brinson
Dominic Vautour	Grant Bourque	Melanie Doucet
Suzanne Steeves	Craig Murphy	Lara Falana
Vivian Shannon	Lisa Bourgeois	Chima Okoroigwe
Kelly Olaveson	Sandra Savard	Krista Young (On Teams)

## Meeting started at 6:39pm by Grant Bourque

### 1. Opening

- Introduction of Members - all attendees introduced by name
- Approval of last meetings minutes - approved by Owen Brinson

### 2. School

- General update from Sandra Savard (Principal)
  - Updates on Staffing and Homerooms – Staff 84, Homerooms 30
  - Numeracy - learning life skills, cooking, creating budgets
  - Technical Support uploaded to Teams School Documents

### 3. School Property Concerns

- Grant and Dominic updated committee on Birchmount School property issues – homelessness and drug use/paraphernalia concerns. District has heard PSSC concerns and investigating; out of PSSC responsibilities.
- Changing weather increase problems on property? Sandra thinks people causing issues on property have been pushed out due to changes with development in the area.
- Christa suggested information session re drug paraphernalia. Was suggested that Home and School Committee could host an information session. Christa and Lisa to discuss. Vivian suggested advertising to the Pinehurst Community.

**ACTION ITEM: Lisa and Christa to follow up and coordinate information session.**

### 4. School Traffic Concerns

- Grant followed up with city. Jonathon RCMP rep. No response yet.
- Jessica Richard is the Community Liaison (Sandra).
- City on board to look at solving traffic issue, very problematic situation.
- Grant – discuss crosswalk. Vehicles leaving Safe Drop Off stopped at crosswalk. Traffic held 3 ways holding traffic, people anxious. Liaison with city.
- Issue with snowplowing because only certain parts of road plowed.
- Sandra said increase in officer presence/patrol to monitor situation. As school population increases, congestion increases. Addition of 2 portables approved for Fall -

will change flow e.g., at entrance fence at front of school. Make alleyway? Move playground equipment? Playground equipment still meet regulations to be reinstalled?

**ACTION ITEM: Continue follow up with City re concerns, Grant to follow up with Jessica.**

#### **5. PSSC Funds**

- PSSC has funds approximately \$550.00. Use by March 31/24, make sure funds get used.
- Family Game Night not get off ground for this year.

**ACTION ITEM: Spend funds before March 31/24.**

#### **6. Creation of Subcommittee to Discuss 'Building A Better Education System: Long-Term Recommendations For New Brunswick's Anglophone Education System'**

- Government has developed recommendations to improve the Anglophone School System and is looking for suggestions from PSSCs at different schools for implementation. Involves all Anglophone schools in the province, 4 districts.
- Recommendations to be sent back on provided form by March 7/24.
- Short timeline: PSSC responses to be compiled and to the Department by Mar 14/24, Province to provide public document Mar 31/24. Feedback/Principal Review April/24.
- Grant attended Teams Meeting prior to this PSSC meeting to discuss what is expected. Grant asked for volunteers to form a subcommittee to work collectively to discuss implementation of recommendations (1 meeting). Sandra mentioned they want concrete action items.
  - Try to include members with different experiences – teachers, parents, admin staff; parents of children in various grades; people with experience from different provinces and school systems.
  - Sandra suggested a dinner meeting. Anyone can attend.
  - Meeting set for Feb 27/24 6pm; Grant to email meeting information to anyone interested.
- E.g., Classroom rebalance? Current formula treats each student as one student but new formula could be used based on needs of students (e.g., 1 student counted as 1.5 students if not at grade level). How to reduce absenteeism.

**ACTION ITEM: Form subcommittee to discuss implementation of recommendations and send response.**

#### **7. Other Notes**

- Dominic asked if he could extend an invitation to an Indigenous Rep to attend a PSSC Meeting. Randy would also be available to attend a PSSC Meeting. PSSC agreed to invites.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday April 22, 2024 at 6:30 pm**

**Meeting ended at 7:35pm by Grant Bourque**

I trust that the above reflects an accurate account of our meeting. In the event that further clarifications are required or that any items are missing, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Olaveson