

BIRCHMOUNT PSSC MEETING MINUTES

Monday May 6, 2024

Attendees:

Christa Kirk	Tim Carson	Owen Brinson
Dominic Vautour	Grant Bourque	Melanie Doucet
Suzanne Steeves	Craig Murphy	Lara Falana
Vivian Shannon	Lisa Bourgeois	Philip Olaturbosun
Kelly Olaveson	Sandra Savard	
Agbolade Dokunmu	Jolyne Knockwood	

Meeting started at 6:30pm by Grant Bourque

1. Opening

- Introduction of Members - all attendees introduced by name.
- Approval of last meetings minutes - approved by Owen Brinson, seconded by Grant Bourque
- Chima Okoroigwe has resigned from committee as family has moved and transferred schools.

2. School

- School Improvement Plan update from Sandra Savard (Principal) – April 2024

Literacy

- Not at reading literacy level yet. Building Blocks of literacy.
- K-2 EGLA, Gr 3-5 checks-ins. Review data and collaborative interventions. Assess, evaluate and report. Strengthen PLC Practices.
- Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary and Comprehension.
- Create processes and accountability measures.

Math

- Plan, do, check and act. Math—especially Gr 6-8. Pre- and post-test assessments.
- Life skills math, e.g, baking, cooking, budgeting. Ms. Baisley to share data; very successful.

PBIS

- Perception of Staff and Students, safety.
- New PBIS Team. Renew commitment as incubator school. Data collection tool for student behaviour. Co-construction of a Behaviour Matrix.
- Attendance, Staff Perception Surveys; assessed Nov 2022, Nov 2023 and Mar 2024. Safe positive learning environment.

Graduation Rates

- Collaboration K-8, Admin. Recognize, address and intervene. Chronic absenteeism. Alignment and collaboration - Birchmount and Harrison Trimble.

Next year: Look at assessments and reporting. Accountability and follow through. Change in 4 goals is an ongoing process, get better and continue to improve.

- Grant noted improved mood and environment at Birchmount School. Pride to attend and represent the school. Owen also noted positive change in school. Grant commented that in 9 years at Birchmount School, best support this year. Keep momentum going. Home and School Committee very involved, knowledgeable.
- Discussion about Composite Graduation Photos in Birchmount School hallway – running out of space. Sandra suggested digitizing photos and then playing on the TV in the corridor. Make multiple rows of photos, e.g., stack two photos per spot. Suggestion to think about over summer and discuss in the new school year. Check what Moncton High did when moving to new school - Dominic to follow up. Composite photo sizes, frames and photographers have changed over time.

ACTION ITEM: Discuss how to deal with Composite Graduation Photos – Fall next school year 2024-2025.

3. School Property

- After hours: rock in place on driveway so no cars on playground area, no issues, no vandalism. Christa mentioned shelters closing before summer so more people will be out, possible increase in overdoses, possible more people using school grounds after hours. If public using school grounds during the day and evening, over the summer, might keep people from settling on school grounds. Last summer high number of problems but less than previous years. Trees have been cut down behind NBCC and construction at the school keeping people away? New cameras at school to monitor what happens afterhours.
- Sandra was impressed by support from District.
- Christa and Lisa to discuss presentation regarding drug issue. Casual Q+A? Maybe just staff? Possibly offer different sessions? Sandra suggested end of June or maybe August in the week before school starts. Possibly during the school day. English school district to decide if students out of school on Friday instead of following Tuesday for end of school year,

ACTION ITEM: Lisa and Christa to follow up and coordinate information sessions; schedule with Sandra.

4. School Traffic Concerns

- Sandra and Grant attended meeting with various parties on Wednesday to discuss safety, crosswalk and traffic issues with the road at the front of Birchmount School, buses and the Kiss and Drop (school controlled). Admin Staff stepping outside of the school at 1:40 and 2:40 to slow down and stop drivers is a band aid solution. Meeting attendees included the Department of Engineering from the City of Moncton, Bi-Law

Enforcement from the City of Moncton, RCMP, Department of Justice and Public Safety and the Transportation Department from ASD-East.

- Discussions at meeting very promising. Transportation suggested getting buses off the road and instead use parking lot with barriers down the middle of the driveway – buses on 1 side, all other vehicles on the other side. Turn parking in drop off and pick up area on slant to make more driveway space. Measurements to be taken. Other suggestions: raised crosswalk, speed bumps, radar sign. Depends on budgets. Jonathon RCMP to increase patrols. Add more bike racks to encourage bike riding to school. No bus loop because Birchmount School is designated a ‘walk school’.
- Birchmount School population is increasing, so is traffic. Finding many students being driven to school even if they live close.
- Vivian brought up Kiss and Drop issues and etiquette – e.g., students should have belongings with them in the vehicle but parents are opening trunks, students get out on the wrong side of vehicle, guardians are walking students to the school door and holding up the line. Volunteers almost hit by vehicles. Sandra to put out another call for Kiss and Drop volunteers. Felt understaffed. Volunteers not to deal with guardians, staff will. Suggestion to create video explaining Kiss and Drop procedures, possibly use as trailer at Movie Nights.

ACTION ITEM: Set clear Kiss and Drop instructions and rules at the start of the next school year 2024-2025. Sandra to put out call for more volunteers. Move buses to parking area with driveway dividers.

5. Other Notes

- Owen brought up issues with gym and equipment after following Birchmount Sports Teams to other schools – e.g., new lines painted on gym floor. Birchmount School gym needs new lines painted on the floor and basketball nets need repair. Noted that Birchmount School has lots of supporters for sports; will be getting new mascot costume and hopefully new sound system. Sandra and/or Dominic to contact Aubrey Kirkpatrick (Director of Finance and Administration with ASD-E) regarding gym floors.
- Tiles in hallways to be replaced or repaired on 2nd floor as glue failing. Work possibly happen in summer. Asbestos in some floors, only pull up if needed.
- Last meeting of the year, start up again in the new school year around Meet the Teacher Night. Impressed with number of volunteers this year.

ACTION ITEM: Sandra and/or Dominic to follow up re school repairs. Discuss in next school year 2024-2025.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD in new school year

Meeting ended at 7:39pm 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