

NGRHS School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2016

1. Call to Order

L. Burgoyne called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. *(L. Burgoyne served as Chair until E. Cook arrived).*

The following persons were present: Steve McGill, Sandra Joudrey, Sherrene Delaney, Larry Burgoyne, Jennifer McMullen, Howard Gibson, Krista Emino, Kaylee Hyson, Pam Demond, Andrea Whalen, Madison Whalen, Eva Cook.

The following person sent their regrets: Sally Demone

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by S. Joudrey, seconded by H. Gibson to approve the agenda.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

approved as circulated

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

no matters to discuss

5. Financial Report

The balance in our account is \$1786.00.

6. Correspondence

no correspondence to review

7. Chair Report

nothing to report

8. Principal's Report

8.1 Staffing and Programming

As stated in April's Principal's Report, S. McGill has accepted the Principal position at Bluenose Academy next year. The new NGRHS Principal (permanent) will be Elizabeth (Beth) Collins. Beth is a currently an 02 teacher from Liverpool; she was

mentored by S. McGill as a part of her Aspiring Leader training this year with the SSRSB. Jennifer McMullen is returning to Ontario and our new Vice Principal (term) will be Hester Gibson. Hester is currently our O2 lead teacher. Our Guidance Counselor, Kate Stringer, will also be leaving and the new Guidance Counselor (100% permanent) will be Ann Lambe. Ann is currently the Guidance Counselor at North Queens. We have been cut 0.99 of a teacher and we have two retirements. Deborah Fleming will be retiring at the end of this school year and Dale Bruhm will be retiring as of December 1st, 2016. Dale's position will be posted and filled for September and Dale will be a Math Mentor/Substitute for our family of schools until his retirement. We will be hiring for a 0.76 term position (Grade 9 Math/Grade 7 Physical Education) & a 0.75 term position (Visual Arts teacher). A. Whalen asked what is going to happen in terms of staffing for the O2 program. S. McGill explained that Marcus Noel will be the Co-Op teacher and Steven Risser will remain as the classroom O2 teacher. Mike O'Hearon will be teaching two sections of Grade 8 Physical Education. We have had a cut to our Behaviour Support time so Jeff Rhodenizer will be teaching Grade 8/9 Social Studies along with 0.31 Behaviour Support (Kathryn Creaser and Carmen Woodworth will also have built in support time). We will have a new course next year, Construction Technology 10. The curriculum is currently being updated and we are working on having all of our machines up and ready for September. Our Teaching Assistant allotment for next year has increased to 4.55 (we currently we have 4 full time positions).

8.2 Continuous School Improvement

Our current goals end this year. The data will be compiled and analyzed and made available to the committee for review in September. S. McGill asked the members if they would approve a goal continuance for the Goal #2 (*students will be interested, motivated and intellectually engaged in their learning*) because the Tell Them From Me survey will not be administered until next year (this survey is administered by the school board and they only administer it every other year). All members agreed that the goal should be extended for a year so that the survey could be used.

8.3 Tell Them From Me (TTFM): Staff

NGRHS staff completed their TTFM survey. The report was distributed to members and findings were reviewed.

8.4 ACA & Behaviour Data Summaries

Data was distributed and discussed. Next year we will not have a designated

teacher assigned to Assignment Completion. There will be a plan put in place in September to continue something similar to this program. What the data has shown over the past year is that a large majority of the students who used this program are of a small group. These students are regular users of this program and S. McGill said that the next step is to look at how to implement strategies to help these students. K. Hyson started a discussion about academic integrity and extracurricular activity involvement (particularly sports). S. Joudrey explained that currently, each team has it's own policy. It was suggested that there should be a policy for all extracurricular activities that required students to meet a certain academic standard (including attendance, completing work and behaviour). S. McGill said that it could be something to discuss next year.

8.5 Extra Curricular

8.5.1. Track and Field: The team this year consisted of 40 athletes and we have 26 athletes who have advanced to Regionals. For the first time in school history, our intermediate boys placed first at Districts. It was mentioned that the parent support with this team has been really great.

8.5.2. Softball: Our senior girls team placed first in their league and are hosting Regionals at the MARC (tomorrow and Saturday). Our senior boys team placed second in the league and will be attending Regionals (tomorrow and Saturday) in Middleton. Our junior girls team placed first in their league and will attend Districts (Monday) at Bluenose Academy. Our junior boys league is still working on placements but they do know that they will be attending Districts (Tuesday) at the MARC.

8.5.3. Awards Night: Extra Curricular Awards night will be on June 7th at 6:30pm.

8.6 Graduation

Graduation will take place on Tuesday June 28th at 7pm. We have 57 potential grads (including 6 international students). Graduates information letters will go out to grade 12 students in the next few days (the letter will also be posted on our website and on our Facebook site). The guest speaker for graduation will be Lisa Salley. She graduated from NGRHS in 1985 and is currently a Nurse in the valley. A discussion was had about the role of guest speakers at our graduations.

8.7 International Students

There have been 19 students placed with families from our school for the fall (the goal is to have 25 students). Many of these students will be high school aged students. During October/November, there will be a short-term (2 month) exchange group of 25-28 Columbian students coming to the South Shore. Some of these students will be placed at our school. More information will come about this

in September. There is also a possibility of doing a school-to-school (junior high) exchange with a school from Mexico next year. A small group of students from their school would come to a school for two weeks and then a small group of Nova Scotian students (and one staff member) would go there for two weeks. E. Cook is currently looking at this as a possibility for our school. Next year's International School Ambassadors will be Jedrick Sheppard and Lori Mosher.

9. Student Updates

9.1 Seniors

9.1.1 Saint Strut: Our annual Saint Strut took place last Thursday. It was a day long event with a hypnotist show, a large inflatable obstacle course, a dog agility show, slip-n-slide and many more activities. K. Hyson talked about the difficulties the Student Council Executive had with fundraising this year. Student engagement was quite low when it came to bringing in money. Although the information and deadlines were advertised through many different mediums and the Executive visited every class during first period for two weeks, students still seemed unaware of the procedure for fundraising. There was also a dance that night that was well attended. P. Demond asked if it would be possible to have Saint Strut fees included in the school fees at the beginning of the year because she would rather pay for it upfront. This possibility was discussed.

9.1.2. New Executive: Next year's Student Council President and Vice President have been elected. Drew Whalen is the next President and Connor Hall is the new Vice President. Next step is to select the remainder of the Executive. In order to apply for the remaining positions, students were asked to submit a letter outlining why they would be the best person for the job. The current Executive and the new President and Vice President will meet on Monday to review the letters and select the remaining new Executive. A discussion was had about how to increase student engagement with these committees and how to increase fundraising efforts. S. Delaney talked about the success K. Hyson and her Executive have had this year and she thanked K. Hyson for her hard work and dedication; it was a very successful year.

9.2 Juniors

9.2.1. Spirit Week: M. Whalen reported that the May Spirit week seemed to be the best one this year. She said that participation seemed to be quite high.

9.2.2. Saint Strut: M. Whalen reported that this year's Saint Strut was a lot of fun. She said that many of the juniors really enjoyed the day.

9.2.3. Chocolate Milk: M. Whalen said that many juniors have been asking why our school can't have chocolate milk. J. McMullen explained that our school is following the current nutrition guidelines and the new

guidelines that are set to come out in the near future. Because we have made changes to the food that we offer, she believes that we should not have to make any other changes when the new policy comes into effect.

10. New Business

10.1 Penny Auction

S. Joudrey gave a report about this year's penny Auction. This year's organizers were S. Joudrey, K. Emino and Christine DeLong. Student athletes donated items or \$2 to the auction throughout the school year and money raised that day goes into a fund used to support teams who are in need of new uniforms. The auction made close to \$3000 that day. \$1900 was made from the actual auction and Royal Bank donated another \$1000 thanks to their employee volunteer incentive program. According to this program, if three employees volunteer at a fundraising event, the Royal Bank will donate \$1000 to that cause. Three volunteers from our local Royal Bank volunteered (P. Demond being one of them) so this event received \$1000. So far this year, this fund has donated money to the Senior Boys Volleyball team, the Senior Girls Softball team and the Track and Field team towards the purchase of new uniforms.

10.2. School Grounds.

Our school applied and received a Work-It Grant to be used toward the beautification of our school grounds. With the money received from this grant, the greenhouse on the side lawn will be fixed up, the old planting box will be removed and the flowerbeds at the front of the school will also be revived. There will also be some work done to the front parking lot this summer. The parking lot will be extended (removing the grass area between the two parking lots) and a crosswalk will be put in. As a result, the gazebo out front will have to be moved.

10.3. Group Discussion

It was asked whether or not there would be a conflict of interest if a member of the committee were a spouse of an acting Administrator (which will be the case next year). S. McGill clarified there would be no conflict of interest because the Vice Principal does not have voting rights in the SAC. Furthermore, to ensure integrity, when it comes to matters of discipline, the spouse would not serve as a member of the Suspension Review and Recommendation Committee.

10.4. Thank You

E. Cook thanked S. McGill and J. McMullen for their dedication to the SAC, and their service to the school and community. E. Cook also thanked K. Hyson for her time with the SAC and for her service to our school and students. L.

Burgoyne brought cake for the group to enjoy for the final meeting.

11. Adjournment

E. Cook moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Next Meeting Thursday September 22nd @ 6:30pm in the library.

Minutes submitted by: S. Delaney