

Ecole Mission Secondary PAC Meeting Minutes

General Meeting

Oct. 19, 2022

Meeting Commences: 7:12 PM

In Attendance: Katrina Lane, Yvonne Hale, Melissa Crapo, Leah Lovell, Karen Thompson, Kristine Matthysen, Angela Taggart, Beth Kennard. **MSS Admin:** Jim Pearce

Adopt Agenda: First - Leah Lovell
Second- Melissa Crapo

Approval of Minutes: First - Melissa Crapo
Second - Leah Lovell

Principal's Report: Jim Pearce

- a. **1701** submitted Sept 30/2022 (*used in the calculation of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students for public schools. The FTE values are then used to determine funding levels based on School Type*). Student enrollment at MSS 2022-2023 = 1324 students (374 - Grade 12; 458 - Grade 11; 492 - Grade 10). Based on growth rates for MSS -in addition to the newly created classroom within the café, the school will need at minimum 2 extra portables on site for 2023-2024. Mr. Pearce highlighted that this brings challenges, as well as more opportunities for students. Academically, students have "settled down" and engaging and going to classes more regularly as we settle into the new normal after Covid. Grade 11s are the most challenging as a group currently.
- b. **Interim reports** have gone out - parents are to reach out to Jim Pearce if they have not been contacted by teachers regarding current academic performance in their classes. Marks cut off Nov. 10/2022 (half day session for students). First reporting month - Nov 24th - parent / teacher conference night
- c. **Attendance** is a major focus this year. Up to 3 letters have already been sent home to those impacted. Challenge is to keep students attending school. Many students only showing up sporadically, making course completion and evaluation difficult. Students/families are identifying mental health as the issue however not seeking out the supports that are being offered (in house at MSS as well as

within the community). School finds it a challenge to keep students in school if they are not willing to engage in supports offered

- d. **Sports Teams** -doing fine. Mr. Pearce would like to see more students at try outs given the size of MSS. Hockey Academy running, Lacrosse Academy up and running.
- e. **Outdoor Educ.** is vibrant / thriving, **Fine Arts program** doing well.
- f. Significant amount of funds has come to the school to fund Breakfast Club as well as a large affordability grant (allows MSS to assist students with financial needs - school fees, clothing, shoes, etc.).
- g. **Commencement:** Continued discussion around Racetrack as location. Pros and Cons. Many parents looking for the opportunity for entire grad class to come together and "throw their hats". No other venue available that would hold 390 grads and unlimited guests that does not require a ticket fee and commute (i.e., Langley). Abby arena doesn't seem to have the right setting for a positive experience (guests would be seated far away from stage). Several areas have been explored. Possible to take the Raceway set up and import it over to Clarke Theatre (families still sign up for slots of 75 students). Hat toss could take place in smaller groups of 75 students - Parking could be an issue as well as monitoring guest movement (guests would have to leave and could not stay to watch another time slot). Another point to consider is MSS staff giving up the entire Saturday. Staff open to multiple days / evenings to carry grad across a few days. Can add a screen to commencement so students' picture can be up as well as accomplishments. More tents can be added to the Racetrack as well as chairs. Grads could be "held in place" as a group of 75 to do group hat toss. Grads currently get professional photos done at the end of the stage as they walk off. Can add insert to current brochure/program that highlights students' accomplishments/ awards - could have students add their own personal comment that shows up on the screen rather than be read aloud. Could add to the décor if needed to enhance the experience. Racetrack could host a Saturday whereas Clarke Theatre may end up a weekday event. After much discussion - it was decided to continue commencement at Mission Raceway. Parking issues from the past will be solved for this year.

New Business:

Gaming Grant: Funding requests have gone out to teachers and will be back by the end of the month. Next month will be one item agenda - decisions on how grant money will be allotted

Old Business:

- a) **Change in Bank Signers:** Yvonne and Leah have completed paperwork for change over signatures. Just waiting for bank to finalize.

Committee reports and correspondence

- a. **Correspondence** (PAC mail) - Bank Statement received
- b. **Treasure's report** - new grant signers are in the process of being official; Gaming grant has been deposited (\$25, 820). Account total is \$39,891.52; Outstanding cheque cashed - \$500 (scholarship)
- c. **DPAC** - all new executive voted in. School Board Trustees: Randy Cairns, Shelley Carter, Linda Hamel, Tracy Loffler. Current DPAC chequing account balance - \$2,342.20
- d. **Dry grad report** - next meeting Nov. 7 at 6 PM in library. All volunteers welcomed - chair for committee needed. Fundraising has started. School Cash Online option for people to make direct donations.

Questions/ Discussion - none

Next Meeting Date: Nov. 16, 2022, at 7 PM in the library

Adjournment: 7:59 P.M.