

Myrtle Philip Community School Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2018

Chair: Shauna Hardy-Mishaw

Recorder: Louise MacDougall

Attendees: Shauna Hardy, Kerri Stewart, Laura Blimes, Elena Murphy, Kelly Hand, Marcia Meszaros, Tanya Rowe, Hugo Sampaio, Louise MacDougall

Regrets: Christina Reimer

Call meeting to order: 7:08pm

1. Approve October 11th, 2017 meeting minutes
 - Kerri approved, Kelly seconded
2. Principal's Report – Jeff Maynard
 - see attached report
3. Chair's Report – Shauna Hardy Mishaw
 - No more funds outstanding for the Outdoor Learning Centre. PAC is waiting on final installment from Community Foundation of Whistler donation to pay final bill to TM Builders
 - Hot Lunch Program is in need of more volunteers for Sushi day on Tuesdays.
 - Movie nights are organized by Elena and the next movie night is Feb. 16th.
 - Social Event – ran the Snowball Gala for 3 years and will be doing something different this year. New event to engage students and parents together - a May Day celebration in early May at the school
 - Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 31st
4. Internet Safety
 - Education for Gr. 4-7 last year
 - Jeff communicating with Spring Creek Elementary principal to book same presenter for both schools and are looking for a different provider this year
 - Would like the presenter to do a presentation for parents as well
 - Parent Workshop - would be open to all parents in the community
 - Laura Blimes will research options for primary grades. May just be for primary parents

- Gr. 6 & 7 may attend presentations at high school as a chance for them to have the opportunity to connect to the high school. Jeff wants to set up more opportunities as part of the Gr. 7 transition plan
 - Devices in the classrooms – this is up to the discretion of each teacher. No devices allowed outside at recess and lunch. Technology used in the classrooms only used for learning purposes.
5. Health and Wellness
 - OPT for K-7, two sessions for each class this spring as well as an evening workshop for parents
 6. Lice and Parental involvement
 - Need 2-3 people to work with classrooms and teacher to create subcommittee
 7. PAC supported field trips
 - Teachers have classroom funding that they receive from PAC to fund small cost field trips as well as \$6000 additional field trip funds (\$2000 primary, \$4000 intermediate)
 8. Financials – see attached for breakdowns
 - Hot Lunch program – just over \$20,000 has come in for the winter session. Thank you to WCSS for the donation of \$2250 to support hot lunches for children in need.
 - \$1670 from Art Card Project
 - \$6600 from BC Gaming Grant (\$20/child)
 - Hold a minimum \$5000 reserve fund
 - Approve financials - Kelly motioned and Kerri seconded

New Business

1. DPAC Representative
 - Kate Roddick has stepped down from PAC so we need someone to take her place as a representative on the DPAC.
2. Traffic Congestion / Drop off Zone (bus loop)
 - Bus Loop - needs to be a quick drop off zone only, no parking allowed.
 - Committee formed to develop strategy to educate and enforce

3. School Growth and Buses
 - Jeff anticipating need of another bus for next year due to population growth. Max is 84 kids on a bus
4. Mindfulness Training
 - Shauna- mindfulness training is happening in other school districts (How kids learn to calm down, coping mechanisms)
 - Jeff - have done Mind Up in the past. Is done by some classrooms now and some elements are touched on. Jeff will share in next Principal's Report
5. Next PAC Meeting – April 10th, 2018 at 7pm at school library
6. Meeting ended at 8:10pm
 - Kerri motioned
 - Elena seconded

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Brain Week @ MPE....

The Winter Conference on Brain Research (<http://www.winterbrain.org>), which is an annual meeting of ~500 neuroscientists, is being held in Whistler this week. In collaboration with the conference, we are hosting “Brain Week” here at MPE. Community outreach is an important part of the conference mission, and so we have been able to coordinate with the conference to bring leading neuroscientists from around the world into our school over the next three days to deliver presentations to students on a variety of science-related topics. We are very excited about the opportunities. Each class will have a visit from a neuroscientist who has prepared an age specific presentation for the class. Some of the presentations topics will be:

- Basic brain function and facts (anatomy, sensory systems, muscles, memory)
- Learning and memory (how we learn and remember; ways to learn better; IQ; perception/illusions)
- Emotions and motivation (how does the brain control feelings; how does the brain help us make choices).
- Brain injury (how we protect our brain and why we should; sports and brain injury, how to check that your brain is working (neurological exam)
- Effects of Drug use and abuse on your brain
- Robots and technology (Machine-brain interfaces; how do machines learn; electronic device use and our brains)

Snow-Chang Olympics...

4 years ago we hosted the “Snow-Chi” olympics as a way to celebrate the 2010 Winter Olympics as part of the Whistler culture and history. It was a huge success.

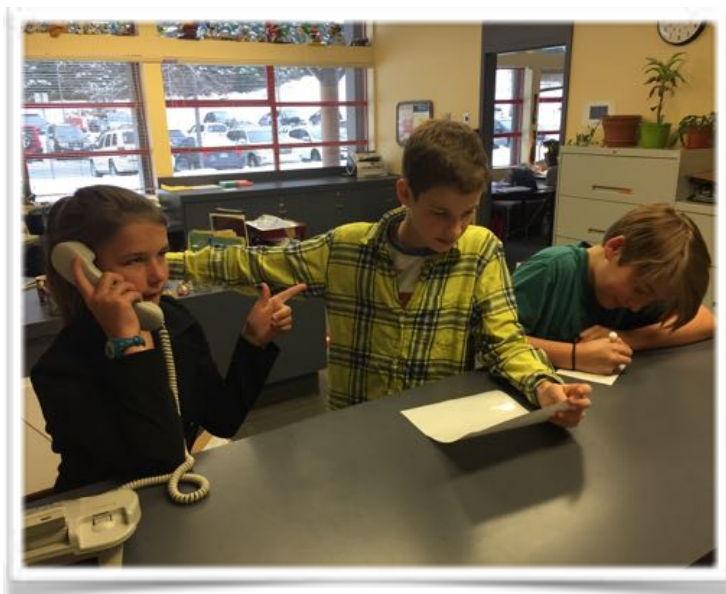
This year we will be putting together lunch time “snow” events for our intermediate students between **Feb 7th and Feb 23rd**. We will be hosting our own opening and closing ceremonies to kick off and complete the excitement for the two weeks and have invited local olympians to come and speak to our students.

During our own olympic celebrations we will be gathering for different school culture building activities and create opportunities to have leadership groups teaching our primary students some of the creative winter events being hosted during lunch time.

The Olympics is a time to celebrate diversity and it is a time when the world comes together to experience one event.



Student Leadership



There has been a real increase of late in student initiated leadership.

- Currently there are two students in Grade 5 that have started a Science Club that will start after school on Thursdays. They have planned out 4 different experiments that they follow out in the next month as part of their science and exploration.

- There are also two students in Grade 5 that are driving the planning for a Talent Show. They have been in meetings with Teachers and Administration to select a date and work out details for criteria for auditions.
- We continue to have students taking on leadership rolls to plan out lunch time activities (like our recent KickBall tournament)
- Also we have some committed students volunteering time in the Library, the office and helping with hot lunch and primary activities.
- These examples showcase a culture of student driven initiatives that support real opportunities to learn how to manage an event and/or people. I am very proud of the continued approach of our school to allow students to create opportunities for each other.

Authentic Projects

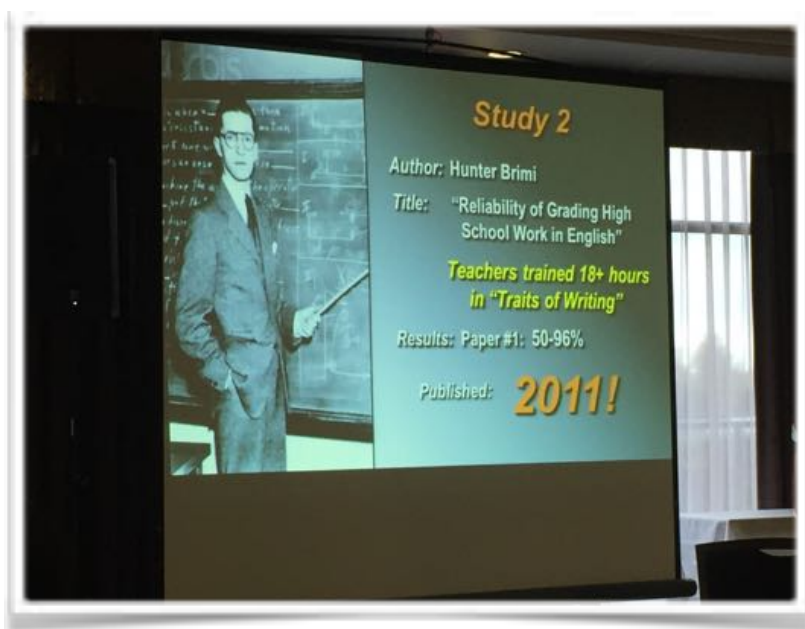
Two of the MPE classrooms will be involved in a larger district project around Transportation and Housing issues in the Sea to Sky Corridor. Students across the district will be looking at local issues and solutions to these two problems and will be working to find viable solutions. Local politicians have become interested in working collaboratively with the students and have become keenly interested in the work that is about to take place. This isn't just a learning opportunity but an avenue to really affect change in our communities around these two complicated issues.



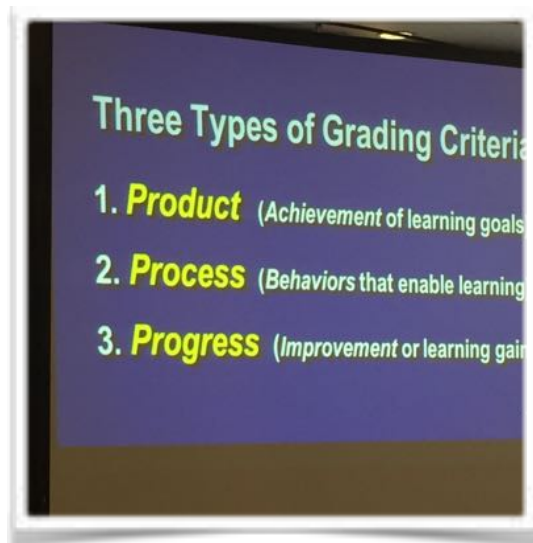
With access to the right technology, students are able to do real work. This picture is an example of a student working on a different project designing her “dream house/room”. Students are given criteria around space and area, and then have to design a habitable space that fits that criteria. First on paper, and then in authentic software that designers use to show clients.

Communicating Student learning Reporting Pilot

SD48 has radically redesigned the CSL Reporting Pilot for this 17/18 school year. All of our intermediate teachers are involved this year. and are attending a training session this week to learn about the changes and timelines for continuous reporting.



the teacher to talk about student progress.



The big changes address consistency in reporting process and address the continuous work load for reporting.

The feedback provided from the last surveys and last years pilot generated a lot of data and information that has informed the new process.

So far parents have been reporting clearing communication and timelines. It is important for any parent to know that they can at anytime request to meet with

School Learning Plan

In the fall SD48 Principals attended a two day session with Thomas Guskey on effective professional learning communities which also focused on effective communicating of student learning. One of the areas of focus for Guskey is the need to build effective feedback loops that are easy and accurate to communicate to the student and parents in a way that they can be interpreted easily and accurately by the student and their parents.

His stance on assessment and grading supported the focus and direction of our school learning plan, and the need to separate the focus conversation of success to look at the Product, Process and Progress in different light.

Traditionally we have been an “outcome focused system” (on Product alone), but the outcome will not tell us the whole story. Part of our school learning plan is to focus on process of making student learning visible and then measure and celebrate student progress in relation to their achievement.

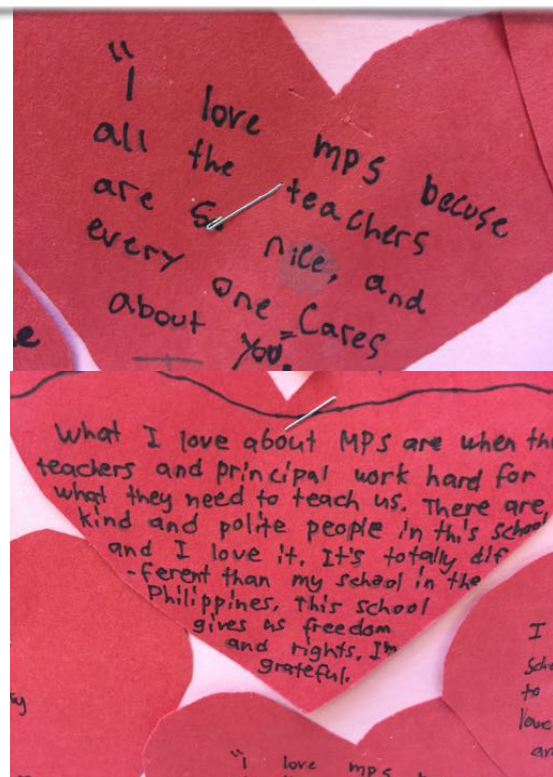
By doing this we then focus on the behaviours for student learning, essentially work ethic and growth mindset. With goal setting and building a culture of reflection students will act with perseverance, and “work to learn”.

This picture represents students working in support triads. Three students working on one triangle to show and highlight their strengths. Knowing what you can contribute to a group and team shows how you can each support each other in achieving your goals.

Our full School plan will be published on the web for parents to look at before the end of January and linked to our website.



What we love about our School



Our Grade 6/7 students have started an activity for the rest of the school.

Classes will be pinning up their thoughts on what they love about our school. Please stop by and look at their personalized messages.

Primary Assemblies.

Our Primary teachers and classes have been hosting monthly assemblies this year. The intent here is for each class to lead an assembly (plan and present a song or showcase something they have been working on). It has been met with great success. These assemblies have been opportunities for our Primary students to show leadership. Each month different students are recognized for displaying kind caring acts of behaviour. We are keeping these assemblies small so students feel comfortable getting up in front of the groups.



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