

Grant Park High School PACC Minutes

September 21, 2021 – 7:15 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Regular reports – Administration

a) Principal

- **Introductions** – Mr. Nathan Falk was introduced as our new Senior High Vice-Principal joining our Middle School-Vice Principal Ms Bonnie McEachern and Principal Mr. Jamie Hutchison.
- **Committee Representation** – Names have been forwarded for consideration for the positions of PACC Chair and South District Advisory Council Rep. Any parties still interested can forward their names to jhutchison@wsd1.org. Further discussion regarding these positions will take place at the October PACC meeting.
- **Pandemic Planning** – The school's return to class planning guide can be found on the website at:
<https://sbwsdstor.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/frf/326/GPHS%20Welcome%20Back%20Planning.pdf>
- **Vaccinations** - To make it easier to get the COVID-19 vaccine, Public Health teams are offering a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine to youth aged 12 to 17 in schools across the province. Students born on or before December 31, 2009, who are missing at least one dose of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine are eligible. Grant Park's clinic has been scheduled by Public Health for Wednesday, October 6th from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Gym.
- **Lockers** - Unfortunately, public health and safety is overriding the use of lockers. For the start of this school year both Provincial Health and our school division have discouraged the use of lockers. In looking at exposure to the virus and creating optimal environments for public health we must ensure social distancing and limit the potential for close contacts over the course of the school day.

At present social distancing guidelines call for a metre of distance between individuals to the greatest extent possible. A close contact is defined as an individual who was within six feet from the identified person, for a cumulative 10 minutes over 24 hours, during the communicable period. As our lockers are mere inches apart and the combined locker time over the course of a school day far exceeds the close contact definition the use of lockers has been put on hold.

Locker usage will be reinstated when public health orders are relaxed to the extent where usage can be reimplemented when the risk of viral transmission is mitigated.

- **Technology Allocation and Remote Learning Preparations** – All classes have arranged to familiarize students with online learning platforms such as Google Classroom. The infrastructure is in place to move to a remote learning stance at a moment's notice should Public Health orders mandate such a transition. The school has also secured portable devices for those students that do not have access to reliable technology or networks at home.
- **Exams** - Grade 12 provincial exams are cancelled. School based exams are scheduled for Semester 1, January 28 – Feb 4th. Exam discussions will occur during the term with department heads.
- **Teacher Idea Fund** – Grant Park applications for funding through the Teachers' Idea Fund have been approved in the areas of film industry studies and for the formation of an on-site health teen clinic for 2021-2022 as part of the first round of approved funding. Formalized agreements are under development and will be circulated in the coming weeks for signature. Congratulations to Ms Tomanek and Ms Cuddy for bringing the proposals forward.
- **Enrolment** – School enrolment is down slightly as a result of pandemic-related factors.
- **Professional Development** - Monday, September 20th was a non-instructional day. The day was broken up into two parts, a Healthy Boundaries presentation and Unified Referral and Intake System Training.

b) Middle School

- **Provincial Assessments** – Grade 7 numeracy and grade 8 expository writing and comprehension will be reported to the province in February
- **Teacher Candidates** – 9 from U of W in the Middle School and 6 from U of M in the High School
- **Middle School Resource Program** – new teacher Carrie Standil Cox; half time EAL and half time Resource
- **Cafeteria** – more tables purchased; sanitizer at every entrance/exit; x's put on tables to remind students to be socially distant; teacher supervisor; hot food served once again
- **Emergency Preparedness** – All staff reviews safety protocols from our Crisis Response Plan including Fire, Evacuation, Hold and Secure, and Lockdown; practices have begun and will continue throughout the year
- **Concern** cafeteria space during cold weather – plans are being made to address this area; Middle School students will have an option to eat in their homerooms when the weather turns colder.

c) Senior High

- **Return to Train / Return to Play** – WSD released their Return to Sport guidelines September 21st. Schools are reviewing the protocols with their athletic departments.

- **Grade 12's – Careers, Scholarships, Graduation Planning** – Grads were encouraged to follow Grant Park Careers on Instagram for all scholarship information. Student and Parent grad committees will be formed. Emails will be sent out asking for volunteers in the future. The school website will also update you.
- **Virtual School** - The WSD Virtual School is available for students in Grade 9-12. Note, this school is separate from the student's home school. Students interested in Grade 9-12 Virtual School have two options.
 1. They can register at the virtual school 100% - the virtual school would then become the home school for these students. Students who are unable to attend in person for any reason are welcome. No medical note will be required. To register you can go onto the WSD Virtual school website and click on Registration. The student's guidance counsellor at GP would also be able to help with the process.
 2. The second option - Enroll in courses through the Virtual School while continuing to be registered at their home school. This option is intended to be utilized in the same way that you may have used InformNet. Students will be able to access a maximum of 2 courses per semester through this option. The student's guidance counsellor would be the first contact if this is an option the student wants to explore. What courses the WSD Virtual School has to offer can be found on the Virtual School Website.
- **School Photos** –

Picture day was September 15.

Photo Retakes will be November 12

Grad Photos will be December 13 – December 17, Retakes January 13, 14
- **WSD 150** – As the WSD celebrates its 150th year, information can be found on the WSD website.
 - There is a Celebration Book that can be ordered from the website for \$10
 - Short walkthrough videos of each school will be created
 - A tree will be planted at each school to honour 150 years
 - A division wide Virtual Assembly will take place on Oct 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Questions/New Business:

TBD or arising

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. (Zoom Meeting)