

Meeting Minutes – PSSC – Northrop Frye School

Thursday February 22nd, 2024, 6PM

Invited Guests: Randy MacLean, Superintendent AESD, Bryan Butler (Councillor – Ward 3), Dave Steeves (Councillor – Ward 3)

Member Attendees: Janica Bernard, Mohammad Dawoud, Ryan Francis, Tara Glencross, Michelle Johnson, Melissa Lavigne, Jade Medeiros, Pam Nacpil, Mark Owen, Jennifer Silk, Melissa Thompson, Natalie Ward

Regrets: Tina Landry, Amanda Pearson, Lauren Wilson

Call to order at 18:05 by Natalie Ward

Discussion With City Counsellors Regarding Ongoing Safety Concerns

Brief Summary of Issues: Traffic issues have been consistent in the history of the school. The specific protocols that apply to a P3 school pose particular challenges. We are also seeing an increase in close calls at the crosswalk. Growth in this area of Moncton means that traffic issues that we have will only compound.

Strategies to Date: Engineer consultants, RCMP support. Traffic study – proposed changes to the orientation of the turn lanes came from the traffic study, but we have not been able to see that report as of yet. RCMP comes when they can (more frequently, lately)

Discussion & Potential Solutions: Rumble strips? RCMP presence? Cameras? Comment from Randy MacLean – we want to encourage more bus usage and walking, not adopt systems that encourage more driving (e.g. extended kiss and drops). The city has been responsive, but the speed of growth makes it so that we need time to course correct. How can we focus our efforts on improving safety for walkers so that parents feel safe allowing their children to walk?

Ryan requested clarification on jurisdiction – who is responsible for which elements of the decisions?

Bryan Butler: Evergreen was improved – four way stops, red lights on stop signs, flashing lights. Their circumstances are different though – Ryan is not a residential street. The councillors offered to address the engineering team with the city to see if an appeal from the councillors bear more fruit than what we've tried so far. Three-pronged approach for possible solutions – 3Es – Education (e.g. producing an informative pamphlet for parents to sign – rules and best practices for driving safely in a school area), Engineering (city can send people out to identify engineering controls that we can adopt), Enforcement (Encourage parents to report the instances – snap a picture of license plates of offenders, take the time to report by calling 506-857-2400). Decisions are made based on data, so the reporting is key.

Randy MacLean: He would like to take this off the backs of the schools and see what the district can do in terms of leadership here – engage in conversation with staff, with the

city, and then report back to us on what we can do. Encourage reporting – the city & RCMP can only act based on reported incidents. The district can support with communication – rather than leaving it as a school-by-school issue, when we know that the growth means that schools across the district are experiencing the same issues – the district can centralize some of these actions.

Enrollment numbers at NFS will be reduced based on boundary decisions regarding the North End family of schools (Northrop Frye, Evergreen, Maplehurst, new middle school) – This will impact immediately in September - Northrop Frye students will attend Maplehurst starting with fifth grade (grades 5-8) school as of September 2024, regardless of the specific timeline of the Bernice McNaughton middle school completion.

Action Items:

- Parents and staff to always report near misses.
- Randy will speak with district staff for solutions.
- Councillor Butler proposed that the RCMP & district & city councillors meet to strategize.
- Our guests agreed to return to follow up on this with us in later meetings (not next month – need time to develop plans).
- The district will develop a communication (common language, for example reporting to non-emergency and NOT 911, etc.), the district can push it out, and the
- Home & School to disseminate via social media by re-posting the official communication, not drafting a message of their own.

Adjourned at 19:10

Next Meeting – TBD following availability polls.