

McMath PAC Minutes April 27, 2021 7:00 PM

Members in Attendance: Samantha H (Chair), Dionne M (Vice-Chair), Jon L (treasurer), Megan R, (co-secretary), Cinda W (co-secretary), Jane M (Principal), Adrienne G (Vice-Principal), Ken H (Trustee), Eric C (guest speaker), Andrew R, Andrew S, Diane D, Heidi M, Henry B, Ivy G, Karen F, Karen L, Ledi D, Lisa F, Larissa L, Meleny, Nadine S, Carol C, Peter M, Tammy, Teresa, Winson

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Karen, Jon

2. Adoption of February's Minutes: Dionne, Cinda

3. Speaker/School Trustee Ken Hamaguchi

Ken thanks everyone for participating and being part of the PAC.

First dose of Astra Zeneca for staff in place.

Public Budget meeting was April 28th, the day after the PAC meeting. Always looking to hear stakeholder input.

If you have any questions in the future, feel free to email Ken: khamaguchi@sd38.bc.ca

4. Principal's Report

McMath Staff starting Quarter 4 vaccinated. Staff had the opportunity to receive vaccinations and most of staff were able to get an appointment. Still following safety procedures with masks, sanitizing and distance.

District is very careful about air quality and circulation. All filters in the school are being replaced, it was already done earlier in the year.

Richmond Virtual Schools Transition Program for grades 8 & 9 - All but 12 of students are back at McMath, most full time.

1210 students in building, which is also the anticipated enrollment for next year. Grade 12s leaving nearly equals grade 8s entering.

Working on building time table for next year. All 10 schools will be working on a semester model with four classes from Sept-Jan and a different four from Feb-June. Timetable always driven by student requests (how many blocks of each are offered). Students will receive their firm timetable in September. But they will have the opportunity to review before the end of the year to see if there are any errors or adjustments needed.

Superintendent, Scott Robinson, takes cue from Dr Bonnie Henry as Covid evolves. At this point we are not sure what will happen with Valedictory, Grad, Awards and Dry After Grad.

Question Gr 9 student taking grade 10 course in summer. Would that student be required to take 8 courses next school year?

Answer: Encouraging students in grades 8, 9, 10 & 11 to take a full course load of eight blocks.

In grade 12 students typically take 7, but if they want an extra study block and have all their credits to graduate, there is a form to fill in.

Students are encouraged to gain experience in a breadth of courses. Although the course many not help immediately in their career choice, they may not continue in that direction so extra courses could offer positive paths.

Q: With proposed cuts next year, are there any staffing allocation changes?

A: Not anticipating a reduction. Making sure students are not impacted in any way by keeping the cuts away from the classrooms.

1240 students at the start of the year, 1210 now. Enrollment is lower than when McMath went into staffing last spring.

Q: What about non-teaching staff, eg. EAs?

A: How many McMath needs is based on cases stated, there will not cuts there. Maybe clerical staff, which is based on enrollment, but not sure at this point.

Q: Semester system, does that change how students get Learning Strategies (LS)?

A: A linear model might schedule a student into a single block of learning strategies which means they would get LS every day. In a semester model, it would be one semester or the other although sometimes both semesters.

Currently exploring possibilities by looking at structure based on quarter system to provide assistance throughout the whole year. Waiting for information of how the semester will be structured, eg. blocks ABCD every day or rotating, etc.

Q: Students who have not had a class until 4th Q, who are taking it now and really like it, so want to change elective... What are the opportunities for this?

A: Not huge, although some possibility. Calculating blocks right now. We will try to make that happen. Not possible if too many students request changes so the blocks numbers would change. The whole timetable cannot be reworked.

Vice-Principal's Report

What is happening around McMath:

- 10 day McMath Cares Wellness Challenge: Finished first challenge from April 12-23, second will run May 3-14.

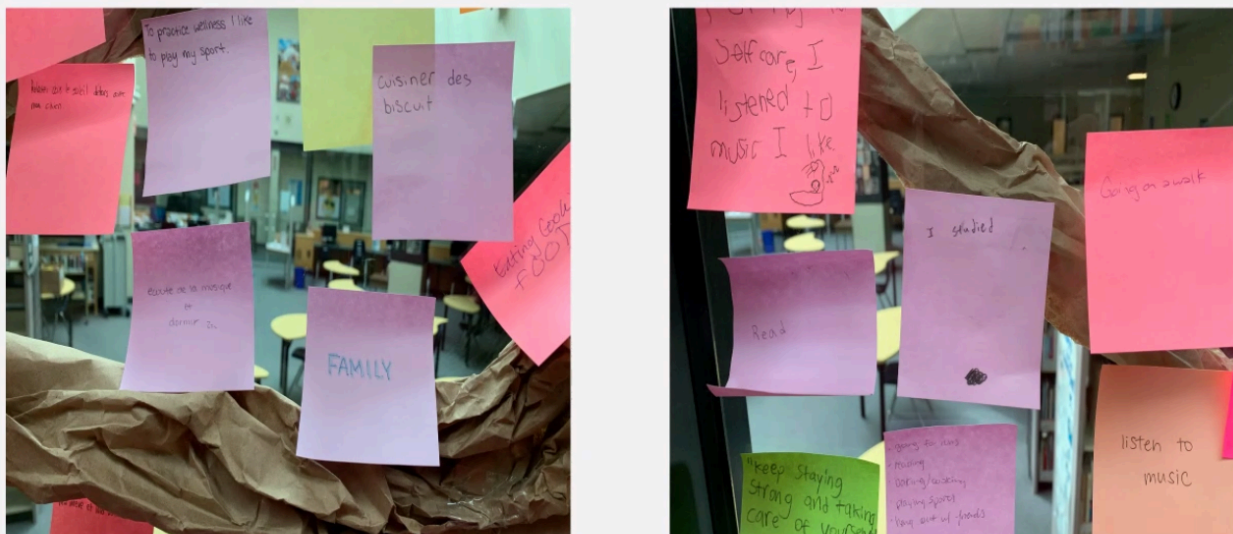
McMath looked at the big multifaceted question of social emotional needs of students through surveys and found teachers and students were struggling. Teachers are presently addressing the social and emotional needs of their students and can choose to participate in one or both challenges. Teachers have received a binder with resources which they can adapt to what is needed for their curriculum area.

You can follow on Instagram or Twitter @mcmathcares

McMath Cares Tree of Wellness

Students have written on a sticky note what act of wellness they have practiced or would like to practice, what they are doing to take care of themselves. Whatever resonates with that student.

The tree started to bloom and there are probably more than 300 notes which meant adding branches to the tree!



MCMATH CARES WELLNESS TREE



- Process of McMath mural

It started with four senior Leadership students brainstorming a small collaborated art piece for their Volunteer Service Project.

This group began working with the school, the City of Richmond and McMath PAC to fund professional artists (Dean & Christina Lauze) to design and paint a beautiful mural outside the gym, above the school gardens. The mural will be visible from the road and become an established landmark for the McMath community.

Input was requested from students, staff and parents as to what they would like to see the mural represent. A large percentage of replies went to 'students thriving' and a combination of environmental/landscape/Steveston cultural.

We are looking forward to the process beginning in the next 2-3 weeks.

- Look out for McMath in the context of mental health featured in the next edition of the Richmond Community Newsletter.

5. Internet Safety RCMP Liaison Officer, Constable Eric Chan

Our guest speaker is here to talk about internet safety.

Constable Eric has had 10 years of service in Richmond RCMP, youth section.

He presented a couple of eye opening videos.

The first one showed the ease of extracting your personal information online. They randomly picked a person from social media and in 1 hour were able to find out financial information, car license plate and similar information for their friends and family. All open source. Just to show, what you put online is available to anyone to use and abuse.

Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7pYHN9iC9I>

The second video featured youth and the dangers of social media. Shown to Richmond kids in grades 6 and 7 it remains a shocking refresher. Regardless of how much we trust our children, they still do a lot behind parent's backs. They are still young and they can make some poor choices

Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jMhMVEjEQg&t=2s>

Question: Risk for guys as well? Girls mostly depicted being preyed upon?

A: Mostly girls, but some guys. USA No. 1 for pedophiles, Canada No. 2

Take aways from the rest of the presentation:

- Things happening HERE, locally.
- Parents are not Internet experts, on how their kids are using the internet and apps (eg. apps where youth share dark secrets)
- 24 hour bullying (at 3 am if phones in bedrooms), doesn't just end when school day is finished

- Addiction: Products are designed to be as highly addictive as possible. Silicon Valley Product Designers don't let their kids use them.
- Don't *friend* people you don't know

Constable Eric suggested to search up Millennials in the Workforce (look for the one with the whiteboard animation art look) for video to watch with kids and discuss at dinner table. This link might work →



Parents need to bring boundaries home. Examples:

- 1) No internet use in bedroom
- 2) No internet use after 9pm
- 3) No cell phone at the dinner table

Kids need to know there is a difference between telling and tattling

"I will never get mad, safely first"

"If it is not OK in real life it is not ok online"

Go over it again. In secondary school, take a couple of steps in, not steps back. **Your kids need you more than ever!**

If you wish to reach Constable Eric, please contact Jane or Adrienne for contact details.

6. Treasurer's Report

General account no change, no activity 1139.15

Gaming account: 28,672.88

14,762 to be spent for clubs. One request for \$230 just came in for grade 8 students who completed CPR course. Voted and adopted.

PAC put out a request to families if anybody has the ability to donate towards an action of staff appreciation. Normally we host a lunch but we would like to thank staff, admin and custodians in another way. Why we ask for direct donations? The Gaming Grant cannot be used for this so it needs to come out of the PAC general account. e-transfers possible mcmathpac@gmail.com

7. Meeting Adjournment 8:40 pm

ADDENDUM to Minutes

Next virtual meeting is May 25 @ 7pm

This will be the AGM and election of new or possibly re-election of current PAC Executives. Does taking on a position interest you? Look at the website to see roles and responsibilities of each executive member. <https://mcmath.sd38.bc.ca/parents/parent-advisory-council/pac-constitution-bylaws>