



**Garden Creek Elementary
1360 Woodstock Rd, Fredericton NB
Parent School Support Committee Minutes**

**Date: January 24th, 2023, Time: 6:30 – 7:40
Location: Virtual TEAMS meeting**

<p>PSSC Members Present: Melissa Chetwynd – Chair Jennifer DeJong Kim Sorlie Holly Pacey Andrea Addison</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets: Michelle Armstrong Stephanie Card – Vice Chair Coral Shuai Diane McCullough</p>	<p>School/DEC Representation Present: Alex Yaychuk - Principal Catherine Elvin - Grade 3FI teacher Paul MacIntosh (DEC rep)</p> <p>School/DEC Representation Regrets:</p>
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Call to Order: Informal call to order by Melissa Chetwynd, passing the floor to Alex.

Approval of the Agenda:

6:30 – 6:35	<u>Call to Order</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order: Melissa • <u>Our November 23rd meeting was postponed due to lack of agenda items and it was decided we would reconvene in the New Year.</u> • <u>Attendance</u>, a couple of regrets and Paul joined the meeting midway through.
6:35 – 6:40	<u>New Business / Introductions</u>
	<p><u>Email response to PSSC questions about the new Innovative Immersion Program:</u> Alex confirms that Melissa has been invited in February to a consultation with just PSSC members to discuss the new program.</p> <p><u>Paul MacIntosh:</u> Paul was at a Kingsclear catchment meeting this evening with David McTimoney. He connects for a couple minutes just to say hello, introduce himself, and comments briefly on what we are discussing. He was triple booked this evening for meetings. Jen asks if Paul can talk a little bit about the catchment areas since he was just in that meeting. Paul says he</p>

	cannot comment as there is an embargo on the details of the meeting but there will be more information in the coming weeks.
6:40 – 7:40	Principal's Report
	<p>PSSC Budget: \$926.42: Alex proposes that we use our complete budget on paper. Reminder that the suggestion to purchase cameras for added security around the school was denied by district. Andrea suggests Garden Creek Thank You cards – frogs on the front, blank cards. Do we need to reorder some of these? Alex says that 2 bundles of paper costs around \$400 each, so there would be some funds available with which to purchase cards.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Voting:</i> Votes for: 5 Votes against: 0</p> <p>Monthly Highlights: Field Trips (Science East, Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Country Pumpkin), Presentations (Drumming, Remembrance Day Assembly, Diversity, Respect and Inclusion, City Police, and Nature NB), Events (Halloween Spooktacular, Holiday Bazaar, Holiday Concerts, family movie night, “time with teacher”), Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews, Student Led Clubs (soccer, art, coding, games, basketball, etc.), Fundraising (coffee, bazaar, u[front cosmetics), Hot Lunch expanded based on survey, new website, French Immersion Professional Learning (SPR Heather Cairns has been doing research and learning PL for staff), and 10 more iPads added to our school.</p> <p>Upcoming Dates: Mactaquac Field Trips (this week), Outdoor Learning Presentations (starts in February), Nashwaak Watershed Presentations (this week), School Spirit Challenge (Jan. 27th) where students will write stories with their classmate to create a school wide book about Creeker and his adventures, Pink Shirt Day (Feb. 22nd), Winterlude Week, 4/5 Pool Lessons at NMS (5 sessions), Staff Appreciation Week (Feb. 13-17), Hiring of new VP for March-June, Purchase of furniture/Equipment/Student Consumables, and Black History Month presentations.</p> <p>Facilities Update: Lighting (we’ve had a big flood light installed that shines on the school and the parking lot), Break and Enter last year follow up (restorative justice – middle school kids who were identified met with Alex and their families which resulted in expressions of feelings, regret, and then together they decided on ways they could restore what had been lost) and Playground equipment and tree removal (large structures, some benches, two gazebos, three trees out front and also boarded up some structures that still need to be removed/dealt with). Kim comments that there are still several vandalisms and thefts in the neighborhood, so to continue to be vigilant in monitoring the situation.</p> <p>Lilypad Legacy Project: We have had a major donation from Lee MacPherson of \$100,000 to our Legacy Project. Alex continues to meet with contractors to coordinate funding and timeline, installations, and structures. This will allow us to break ground this summer and to upgrade the equipment that will be</p>



purchased to replace what we have. **Holly** is wondering how district funds/manages replacement of equipment etc. **Alex** replies that schools are on their own to supply equipment, repair things, fix drainage issues etc. Unfortunately, it's part of the process. **Andrea** asks if this applies to brand new schools, such as Hanwell. **Alex** says that schools outside the city rely on funding from municipalities. **Alex** also wants to note that \$40,000 came from the district to help with our project as well. **Andrea** wonders if we were able to only do phase A or phase B drainage repair previously, could we now do both? **Alex** responds with YES! Plans to recognize Lee and his generosity going forward are in the works.

School Improvement Update: Core Leadership team focused on Staff becoming knowledgeable and being able to apply social-emotional competencies to support each other and students from September until December. Staff now feel that progress has been made and the final survey indicates that there is increased confidence amongst teachers in embedding SEL in their teaching as well as commitment to continuing to do so moving forward. PL was completed on November 2nd on the 4 pillars of SEL (self-awareness, social awareness, student-student relationship, self-management) and staff picked one focus for a 6-week block while reflecting each week on progress. **Alex** comments that the school is special, and teachers put the students first – therefore, these strategies, teaching these types of skills and modeling them daily really makes a difference in the environment.

CLT also reviewed data from a whole staff activity focusing on provincial school improvement indicators. Results of staff findings: identifying students with academic challenges (can we be more comprehensive and collaborative with our process?), staff buddy system (can we have something in place for new staff mentorship?), support options with response to student disruptions/behaviors (how can we support and foster a positive learning environment?), mission and vision of school (is there time to review this based on evolution of SIP?), and team meetings (can we focus more on student achievement and work collaboratively to create comment assessments?)

Next steps:

- Review of TPS (2022-2023) – Teacher perception survey
- Review of Student Achievement
- Review of Student Surveys
- Shift focus to Personalized learning

In person meeting in February: Alex tables the idea of having an in-person meeting in February, at the school. He would like to discuss the direction SIP would be taking next year. Staff is confident that they can make some positive headway with personalized learning, but where would the committee like to see staff go next, based on data? Healthy in person group discussion seems the logical next step. **Cathy** will bring donuts!

Closing Remarks

	<p>Melissa appreciates the way that Alex organizes his presentations and shares information with the PSSC. Melissa will send out a pole to decide when the in person meeting will be! 😊</p> <p>Next Meeting: February 28th at 6:30 In person potentially.</p>
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Items for next meeting:

- **DEC representative update**
- **Information on French Immersion program?**
- **PSSC Budget update/ideas**

Adjournment

PSSC Chair

Date

PSSC Secretary

Date