



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

Date: September 26th, 2023, Time: 6:30 – 8:00
Location: School Library

<p>PSSC Members Present: Kim Sorlie Jennifer DeJong Michelle Armstrong Caitlin Christie Aaron Percival</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets: Coral Shuai</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>
---	---

Call to Order: Alex makes the call to order because we have no chairperson currently.

Approval of the Agenda:

6:33 – 7:00	<u>Call to Order</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order: Alex Yaychuk (Principal) • Introductions of new members, old members, and staff members. • What is the PSSC? This committee primarily talks about what is going on behind the scenes at this school, what drives us as a school, and what can the committee do to help improve the school. <p><u>Roles of the PSSC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Developing a school climate and conditions to improve the quality of learning and teaching in the school.</i> - Preserving and promoting the language and culture of the community - Developing or revising the School Mission Statement - Establishing school policies related to education, language, and culture. - Encouraging family involvement - Establishing partnerships in the community - Improvement school property - Providing input into the hiring of the Principal and VPs - Reviewing student achievement data and consulting on school plans - Communicating with the DEC on PSSC matters <p><i>How do you want to make a difference at the Creek?</i></p>



	<p>Hierarchy of the PSSC: https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/education-governance-renewal/governance-structure-changes.html#1</p> <p>CURRENT MODEL</p> <pre> graph TD Minister[Minister] Deputy[Deputy • ECED] Superintendents[Superintendents] Districts[Districts] Schools[Schools] DEC's[DEC's] PSSCs[PSSCs] Minister <--> Deputy Deputy <--> Superintendents Superintendents <--> Districts Districts <--> Schools Superintendents <--> DEC's Schools -.-> PSSCs PSSCs -.-> DEC's PSSCs -.-> Minister </pre>
<p>7:00 – 7:10</p>	<p><u>New Business / Introductions</u></p>
	<p><u>What the PSSC is not:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teacher and staff issues; PSSC is not involved. - Individual student behavior is not discussed during PSSC meetings. - Day to day operations: the PSSC does not manage these operations which are the responsibility of the principal. - The PSSC does not organize fundraisers but can support and participate. <p><u>Election for new PSSC Council:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair: Kim Sorlie <i>Michelle moves, Jennifer seconds.</i> - Vice-Chair: Aaron Percival <i>Michelle moves, Jennifer seconds.</i> - Royal Scribe: Cathy Elvin - DEC Rep: Paul MacIntosh - School Rep: Cathy Elvin - Home and School Rep: Alex will ask the H&S if they would like to nominate a member to attend.
<p>7:10 – 7:45</p>	<p><u>Principal's Report</u></p>
	<p><u>Welcome back to the Creek:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 321 students enrolled this year! - Academic Support Teacher: Kim Mertens – Her role is work directly with teachers to support English Prime students K-5 in numeracy and literacy. <p>Kim asks if there is a similar role in French, to which the answer is unfortunately there is a shortage of French Immersion Teachers. This role is</p>

specifically designed to support English Prime students. **Alex** elaborates that when the study on French Immersion was completed in 2022, the government put together a task force committee which found that there were lots of children in Prime who were lacking in support. As a province, the achievement scores have been on the decline in Prime, so this role was created to circumvent that. **Aaron** questions if this role also supports Exceptional Learners, to which **Alex** responds that Exceptional Learners fall under the case load of Methods and Resources.

Caitlin asks what is the difference between Methods and Resource and School Counselor? **Alex** responds that School Counselor deals more with the mental health and Social Emotional categories. Methods and Resources focus on learning gaps, exceptional learners, special needs requests, and specialized plans/interventions. These staff members work closely with the Principal and VP as part of the ESS Team at our school.

What has the start-up looked like so far?

- We can't pour from an empty cup.
- Continuous collaboration
- Learning from Mistakes

Priorities for Teachers:

- 1st impressions as opportunities to Engage/Hook learners.
- Building routines and setting expectations
- Positive relationships with students/families
- Comprehensive approach to supporting learning gaps.

Upcoming Dates:

Fundraising, Playground Opening, Professional Learning, Movie Nights, Spooktacular, Holiday Bazaar, CTD. Safety Drills, Student-led clubs, Guest Speakers/Assemblies, Truth and Reconciliation Day, Provincial Assessments, School Spirit Challenge

School Improvement Update:

- Our teaching staff will strengthen formative assessment practices in student goal setting, student reflection/ownership, and actionable feedback.
- Student Connectedness and Belonging will increase for all K-5 students by encouraging an inclusive philosophy, celebrating diversity, providing leadership opportunities, and teaching Prosocial Behaviors on an on-going basis.
- Increasing Staff Collaboration/Collegiality: {LCs focusing on student achievement and instructional practices.

Core Leadership will be instrumental in re-visiting these goals, determining next steps based on evidence (data sources), and establishing strategies for success along with remaining staff.

Other goings on at the Creek:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committees: Several staff run committees aiming to enhance the Creeker Experience. - Creeker Leaders: students taking on leadership roles in the school (Gr. 4 &5) by going above and beyond (helping others, supervision, making friendships, setting up facilities, greeters etc.) - Playground Enhancements – Phase 2 – - Outdoor Learning (\$20k grant) - Gymnasium Upgrades - School Spirit – Generating a buzz in the school, theme days, infusing fun into the day, etc. - Safety at Garden Creek – k-5 recess time in 3 Zones, Outdoor intercom speaker, phasing in the new playground, student walkers entering the exit driveway, alternate school evacuation/Fire drills, camera footage with playback. <p>Kim inquires about the Evacuation plan – what are the requirements? Alex responds that you need a place with shelter from the elements – heated and secure, large enough for all students and staff.</p>
7:40 - 8:10	Closing Remarks
	<p>Policy 713 – Paul elaborates on the differences between the original Policy 713 vs. the updated Policy 713. He went to a DEC meeting on September 8th with Kelly Lamrock (the Child and Youth Advocate) to review his advisements.</p> <p>Aaron asks about the measurable outcomes of Policy 713 as it stands. What are the benefits of the policy, what are the negative impacts of this policy (who does it harm?), etc. that would result in evidence-based decision making.</p> <p>Paul mentions that at the last DEC meeting Garden Creek School was ranked 4th in recommendations for reconstruction. Most likely a study will be done on growth/population density etc. and may be up for renewal in the future (not soon).</p> <p>The committee ends the meeting by touring the playground.</p> <p>District Website: https://asdw.nbed.ca/</p> <p><i>Motion to end the meeting: Caitlin</i> <i>Seconded: Michelle</i></p>

Items for next meeting:

- **November 28th, 2023**
- **January 23rd, 2023**
- **February 27th, 2023**
- **March 26th, 2023**
- **April 23rd, 2023**



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

- **May 21st, 2023**
Adjournment

PSSC Chair

Date

PSSC Secretary

Date