

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

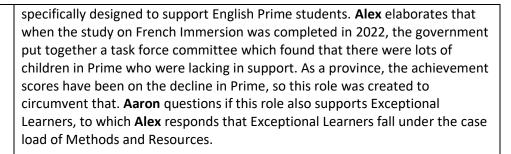
Date: September 26th, 2023, Time: 6:30 – 8:00 Location: School Liberary

PSSC Members Present:	School/DEC Representation Present:
Kim Sorlie	Alex Yaychuk - Principal
Jennifer DeJong	Catherine Elvin - Grade 3FI teacher
Michelle Armstrong	Paul MacIntosh (DEC rep)
Caitlin Christie	
Aaron Percival	School/DEC Representation Regrets:
PSSC Members Regrets:	
Coral Shuai	

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

6:33 – 7:00	Call to Order
	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.
	Roles of the PSSC:
	- Developing a school climate and conditions to improve the quality of
	learning and teaching in the school.
	- 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
	How do you want to make a difference at the Creek?

4	
	Hierarchy of the PSSC:
	https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/corporate/promo/education-
	governance-renewal/governance-structure-changes.html#1
	CURRENT MODEL
	Minister &
	Deputy • EECD
	Superintendents DECs
	Districts
	Districts
	Schools @ PSSCs
7:00 - 7:10	New Business / Introductions
	What the PSSC is not:
	- 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.
	Election for new PSSC Council:
	- Chair: Kim Sorlie
	Michelle moves, Jennifer seconds.
	- Vice-Chair: Aaron Percival
	Michelle moves, Jennifer seconds.
	- 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.
7.10 7.45	Drincipal's Depart
7:10 – 7:45	Principal's Report
	Welcome back to the Creek:
	- 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.
	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



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:

	 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. 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.
7:40 - 8:10	Closing Remarks
	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 8 th with Kelly Lamrock (the Child and Youth Advocate) to review his advisements.
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- Items for next meeting: November 28th, 2023

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



PSSC Chair

Date

PSSC Secretary

Date