



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

Date: March 26th, 2024, Time: 6:30 – 8:30
Location: Guidance Room

<p>PSSC Members Present: Aaron Percival (Vice Chair) Jennifer DeJong Michael Henheffer Caitlin Christie Michelle Armstrong</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets: Coral Shuai Kim Sorlie (Chair)</p>	<p>School/DEC Representation Present: Alex Yaychuk - Principal Cathy Elvin - Grade 3FI teacher Ruth Eden (DEC rep)</p> <p>School/DEC Representation Regrets:</p>
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Call to Order: Aaron Percival

Approval of the Agenda: Michael, Michelle

Previous meeting minutes: Cathy, Jennifer

6:30 – 6:35	<u>Call to Order / Introductions</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order: Alex Yaychuk (Principal) • Greetings and introductions • We do have corum. <p>Aaron will be chairing the meeting tonight.</p> <p><u>Old Business:</u> PSSC budget: \$921.00</p>
6:50 – 7:50	<u>Principal’s Report</u>
	<p><i>Twitter: @Gardencreekers</i></p> <p>Past Month Events: Week of wonder, GCGC presentations (Nashwaak Watershed), Bee Presentations for Marr’s sweet syrup, School Spirit Activities (winterlude), Refining school goals, PLCs (by grade level teams) with focus on indigenous teachings in classroom and student achievement goals, Global Play Day (indoor and outdoors), Staff Appreciation Week, Field Trips (Mactaquac), and Gr. 5 trip to FHS for a musical performance.</p> <p>Signs:</p>



Alex gives an update and shows examples of new signage that was paid for by the PSSC budget. These signs denote different parts of the school, stairwells, exits/entrances, and different common spaces. Signs were also purchased for security camera awareness and inspirational French quotes for FI classes.

Core Leadership Team:

2 goals with several actions within each:

1. Our school will increase Student Connectedness and Belonging for all K-5 students.

Student Interviews (impact statements by students, results of 31 student interviews one-on-one Gr.2-5) highlighted many positives, including sports, teachers saying hello, doing things with friends, PE/Music, new playground, student clubs, STEM activities, feeling welcome right away on 1st day, comfortable talking to adults and/or friends, gaga ball, funny/find teachers, drama, 3d printer/tech, field trips, mixing classrooms/multiage, teachers doing fundraiser stuff etc.

These interviews also identified some negative issues, including teasing, COVID, no one to talk to when times are tough, school can be boring, hard to find supervisors for student clubs, disruptions and distractions in class, and safety. **Alex** reflects that safety was not regarding physical safety, but more scenarios, uncomfortable feelings, and getting hurt etc.

Suggestions that the students had were sensory room, more choice for indoor recess, more PE, Buddy Bench, more teacher supervisors for student clubs, more outdoor learning time (and recess), more music, classroom clutter, students be the 'teacher for the day', and more books.

Aaron elaborates on patterns in the negative mentions and wondering how to target specific "common theme" areas, such as teasing, and disruptions.

2. By the end of May 2024, all students K-5 at Garden Creek School will improve achievement results collectively by 10% in a specific strand of curriculum. The specific achievement targets will be selected, monitored, and evaluated by their educators.

Garden Creek staff were introduced the action-task during a staff meeting (a form). PLC groups then reviewed and discussed the form and created achievement goals using the template. Core Leadership then reviewed the completed forms, and a timeline was created. Every teacher must gather data from a pre- and post- assessment for this improvement goal.

- March 20th – PLC meeting
- April 9th – Next CLT meeting
- April 24th – PLC meeting
- May 22nd – Teaching staff to submit data/results.

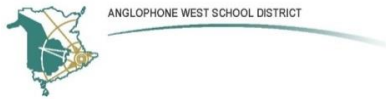


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of May: CLT will assess levels of success with each student achievement goal and discuss what this means for School Improvement Plan in 2024-2025 (possibly an exit survey with teaching staff for their opinion on the experience). <p>Michelle asks about timing, if teachers are better equipped mid-year to select a goal for their class. Alex responds that yes, teachers will have more insight into academics at this point in the year and therefore can reflect on what students would benefit from most. Jennifer asks about trends in subject areas etc. Alex responds that while the report card comments on a specific strand, the teacher would be able to identify trends that are not apparent from just “reading and viewing” versus the more in-depth topic of “complex sound encoding”.</p> <p>Aaron asks if the report card data get rolled up for data collection. Alex responds that Provincial Assessment data is collected but report card data is not collected over an area or province wide. Aaron asks about the report card and data collection statistics wise. Alex responds that educators have been asking for this data through PowerTeacher Pro for years. He just found out that this is in development and will become available to educators soon.</p> <p>Suggestions for future School Improvement Plan goals: Alex is looking for these during discussion tonight or privately through email/at a later date after some thought. Please email at alex.yaychuk@nbed.nb.ca to provide your ideas.</p> <p>Facilities Update Painting large wall in front of the office, new signage to be installed throughout hallways, new countertops in downstairs bathrooms, new floor to ceiling stalls in universal washrooms upstairs, new sound system and screen/projector in the gym. Alex comments on the very positive reception of the new universal washrooms facilities upgrades.</p>
<p>6:35 – 6:50 7:50 – 8:30</p>	<p><u>New Business</u></p>
	<p>PSSC Budget Update: Aaron highlights changes to the guidelines regarding what the committee can fund. This includes technology, instructional equipment, and furniture, if it is supported by the School Improvement Plan (as clarified by Ruth). No alcohol, gift cards, flowers, donations to outside organizations.</p> <p>DEC Update: Ruth updates on many infrastructure planning decisions. The k-8 schools in Oromocto/Burton upgrades. These schools will be replaced, it is just a matter of how many schools and what grade levels will be assigned. The George Street Middle design committee is being formed so that plans can be made, based on student populations etc. Decisions regarding the layout will be made. Forest Hill School and Liverpool design committees will also kick off this spring. The site location and the layout are parallel</p>



	<p>decisions. Alex asks about school and housing developments in our catchment, but Ruth responds that there is not anything on the radar yet.</p> <p>K-5 Dismissal Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bussing is still a hugely concerning issue with regards to driver shortage. - What will the changes to instructional time be with regards to curriculum/subjects? - How will this additional hour meet students’ needs in a more targeted way? <p>Aaron asks about how “guidelines” are determined with regards to instructional minutes and curriculum focuses? Ruth reflects that it all goes back to budgeting issues and what specialists can be funded. She also highlights that the long-term recommendations for schools in NB included more physical movement and this new elongated day will align somewhat with more outdoor learning. Aaron proposes that once the new instructional minutes table is available, that we review and compare the two documents. Jennifer suggests that the committee write a letter (spearheaded by Aaron) to the Deputy Minister. This will be written by Aaron, reviewed by the PSSC, and then send from the committee to the appropriate people.</p> <p><i>Suggested questions for K-1 Parent survey:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can you tell me about a time you felt happy at school? - Name or draw your favorite part about going to school? - Name or draw something you don't like about school? - Imagine I had a magic Creeker wand and could grant 2 wishes what would you wish for? - Draw me a picture of Garden Creek school and describe it? - Draw me a picture of your classroom and describe it? - If you could be Principal for the day what would you do? - Imagine today is my first day as a student at Garden Creek, I am feeling scared and sad because I don't know anyone or know how do find my classroom. What should I do? - Who could I talk to if I am feeling sad or lonely? - What's the best way to make new friends at Garden Creek? - Uh oh!! You forgot your lunch! What do you do? When I am feeling (sad, mad, happy, excited, lonely etc) I can talk to _____ <p>Fill out this form for further add to this list: Click here!</p>
8:00	Closing Remarks
	<p>District Website: https://asdw.nbed.ca/ <i>Motion to end the meeting: Aaron Percival</i> <i>Seconded: Michael Henheffer</i></p>

Items for next meeting:
- April 23rd, 2023



- **May 21st, 2023**
Adjournment

Aaron Percival
PSSC Chair

March 26th, 2024
Date

Cathy Elvin
PSSC Royal Scribe

March 26th, 2024
Date