



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

**Date: December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Time: 6:30 – 7:30  
Location: Virtual Meeting (TEAMS)**

<p><b>PSSC Members Present:</b> Kim Sorlie (Chair) Marcia Franklin (H&amp;S Rep) Jennifer DeJong</p> <p><b>PSSC Members Regrets:</b> Michelle Armstrong Aaron Percival (Vice Chair) Michael Henheffer</p>	<p><b>School/DEC Representation Present:</b> Alex Yaychuk - Principal Cathy Elvin - Grade 3FI teacher Ruth Eden (DEC rep)</p> <p><b>School/DEC Representation Regrets:</b></p>
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6:30 – 6:35	<b><u>Call to Order / Introductions</u></b>
	<p><b>Call to Order:</b> Kim Sorlie  <b>Approval of the Agenda:</b> Kim Sorlie  <b>Previous meeting minutes:</b> Cathy Elvin</p> <p><b><u>Old Business:</u></b>  <b>PSSC budget:</b> \$1000.00          To discuss and approve in the new year. Possibly to communicate PBIS with families?</p>
7:10 – 7:20	<b><u>Principal’s Report</u></b>
	<p><b>Past Month Events:</b> Two PBIS assemblies (Respect and Empathy), Spooktacular, Holiday Bazaar (fundraising \$\$ to be announced soon), Parent Teacher Conferences, Report Cards for Term 1 went home, Remembrance Day assembly, Creekers Helping Creekers raised \$330 and all gifts from the Angel Tree were taken, Creekers Helping Creekers bottle drive raised \$800, Student Clubs in full swing, new staff starting presently (2 EAs), and 3 new teachers starting in January, Professional Learning (Positive Behavior Intervention Services, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Indigenous / Treaty Education)</p> <p><b>What’s to Come:</b>          Professional Learning (Non-Violent Crisis Intervention), Holiday Concert dress-rehearsal and performance, theme days all next week, Sing-Along last week.</p>

<p>6:35 – 7:10</p>	<p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p>
<p><b><u>DEC Update: Ruth Eden</u></b></p> <p><b>Public Consultations:</b> ASD-W has sent out an online survey and set up in person consultations about the bussing issues and the bell schedules. This is the platform for voicing concerns on these issues. <b>Ruth</b> adds that there was a question about making changes immediately versus in September 2025. She is hoping (along with others) that changes will happen at the beginning of next school year – September 2025 – instead of immediately, which may be as soon as March Break.</p> <p><b>Kim</b> is planning to attend and will bring forward issues from the group to share. <b>Jennifer</b> notes that she thought that the questionnaire that went out to parents was weak. The questionnaire was not clear with some questions – what were they asking? She notes that the minimum vs. maximum instructional minutes were not clear and that the survey could have been more robust. This is a money problem and a busing issue, which go together. <b>Ruth</b> agrees with the confusing nature of the survey; however, she isn't the consultant and therefore doesn't have the insight.</p> <p><b>Issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Older siblings looking after younger siblings (cannot with different bell schedules.</li> <li>- Grade 6 students get on the bus later than parents going to work.</li> <li>- Younger students being left at bus stops post cancelled bussing being at risk.</li> <li>- Decreased instructional minutes affecting elementary grades.</li> <li>- Lowest literacy scores in the country.</li> </ul> <p><b>Capital Improvement:</b> They are going forward with a rationalization – do they keep the schools in this zone and upgrade, do they close some of the schools and expand, or do they find an alternate site/location for these learners? There is growth happening in Garden Creek catchment and in Kingsclear, as well as downtown. That means that there will be significant growth in our school which garners discussion. <b>Jennifer</b> notes that there was a school in Shediac where the growth was so exponential that the school was bumped up the list – it went from 10<sup>th</sup> on the list to immediately. So, Garden Creek could potentially be considered for this. <b>Ruth</b> clarifies that they weren't building new housing, there was a high influx of new students in existing housing which called for immediate need. <b>Ruth</b> also notes that Montgomery is also on the list (small school) for refurbishment due to increasing numbers. Our school is not officially funded therefore still outside the five-year window. It becomes a 5-year plan once it's an officially funded project. <b>Kim</b> asks if they ever just renovate schools? <b>Ruth</b> can supply Connaught Street School that got a gymnasium, and Geary Elementary School was renovated to add an addition. <b>Jennifer</b> comments on the asbestos and <b>Ruth</b> replies that if there was a renovation, all the asbestos would come out.</p> <p><b>George Street Middle School:</b> <b>Kim</b> asks about the Exhibition grounds and an article that she read about the plot of land (acre) being ear-marked for the building? <b>Ruth</b> replies that she also read this article but couldn't confirm any details. Article: <a href="https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/city-school-nbex-undecided-1.7396071">https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/city-school-nbex-undecided-1.7396071</a> Regarding "green space" (<a href="https://engagefredericton.ca/south-core-secondary-municipal-plan">https://engagefredericton.ca/south-core-secondary-municipal-plan</a>), <b>Ruth</b> provides the</p>	

	<p>guidelines and information for this. There has been some discussion about where the school will be downtown, as there have been some issues regarding the “dangers” of those errors.</p> <p><b>Assessment Results:</b> These are available from the school on the Department website. <a href="https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/k12/content/anglophone_sector/reports_on_achievement/anglophone_west.html">https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/education/k12/content/anglophone_sector/reports_on_achievement/anglophone_west.html</a> Teachers are asked to not “teach to the test” but the wording on the test is different than what is used in the classroom. The district is undertaking focus groups to see what the underlying disconnects are between these and the report cards. Because report cards are saying 75% of students are having success in the province which is not supported by the provincial assessment.</p> <p><b>Lockdown: Jennifer</b> asks about the Lockdown at FHS and if there had been any debriefing of the issue at Garden Creek School? <b>Alex</b> responds that no, because there are lots of sensitivities with our younger clientele and no need to add fear into their day, if they happened to not have heard about it. Specific student needs would be addressed if they arose.</p> <p><b>Home and School Update:</b> Marcia Franklin  <b>Ruth</b> went for the first time, and it was amazing! She commends Garden Creek School on their wonderful event and the fundraising efforts.</p>
<p><b>7: 30</b></p>	<p><b><u>Closing Remarks</u></b></p>
	<p><b>District Website:</b> <a href="https://asdw.nbed.ca/">https://asdw.nbed.ca/</a>  <i>Motion to end the meeting: Cathy</i>  <i>Seconded:</i></p>

- Items for next meeting:**
- January 28<sup>th</sup>
  - February 25<sup>th</sup>
  - March 25<sup>th</sup>
  - April 29<sup>th</sup>
  - May 27<sup>th</sup>

**Adjournment**

Kim Sorlie  
**PSSC Chair**

November 9th, 2024  
**Date**

Cathy Elvin  
**PSSC Royal Scribe**

November 9th, 2024  
**Date**