



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

Date: January 28, 2025 – 6:30 – 8:30

Location: Garden Creek School

<p>PSSC Members Present: Kim Sorlie (Chair) Marcia Franklin (H&S Rep) (Virtual) Jennifer DeJong Michelle Armstrong Aaron Percival (Vice Chair)</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets: Michael Henheffer</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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6:30 – 6:35	<u>Call to Order / Introductions</u>
	<p>Call to Order: Kim Sorlie Approval of the Agenda: Cathy Elvin Previous meeting minutes: Michelle Armstrong</p> <p><u>Old Business:</u> PSSC budget: \$1000.00 To discuss and approve in the new year. Possibly to communicate PBIS with families?</p>
7:00 -	<u>Principal’s Report</u>
	<p>Past Month Events: Holiday concerts, k-2 multi-aged learning day, Creeker Assembly (Responsibility), Gr. 3-5 English Literacy Training, Snap-ology afterschool program, new technology (27 student laptops – netbooks and 20 new iPads), Bottle Drive (Creekers Helping Creekers), PBIS team visited Lackland Elementary School, Principal and VP for the day time with Alex Yaychuk, Mr. Briden’s enrichment class (STEM) created a fully 3D printed guitar,</p> <p>What’s to Come: Black History Month, Student Disruptions for staff and student surveys #2, Staff Appreciation Week, Family Movie Night, 100th day of school, Global Play Day, Food Safety Training, Pink Shirt Day, Week of Wonder and Theme Days</p> <p>PSSC Budget: \$1000.00</p>



School Improvement Plan based needs.

Some ideas are: Creeker Recognition Cards (\$390), Printer + 68 photo sheets \$139.99, and replacement film cartridges cost \$35.99 for 60 sheets, plus a Polaroid camera to take pictures? **There is discussion about how this project would include the WHOLE school and could the money have more impact spent in a different way.**

Jennifer inquires about students who never get nominated for this. Do you try to make it work so every child gets one? **Alex** explains they will be tracking these on a class-by-class basis so that they know who has not received one. It may be more challenging for this population to receive steady praise for behaviours and so with our method of tracking behaviours school-wide, teachers can try to find opportunities to give these cards out. Certainly not a guarantee that everyone gets one. **Jennifer** reflects she is of the school of thought that everyone should be recognized for trying.

Kim shares that there is a subset of kids who are called out in different environments (disruptive, not able to follow routines etc.) and then would not be recognized by this type of system. **Alex** remarks on the authenticity of this type of recognition. **Kim** points out students who may feel embarrassed/shy about this type of recognition and might not have “profound” impact on a student like that. **Aaron** shares that teachers do a good job of recognizing students and meeting their needs (social and emotionally) to make sure their experience is positive. **Kim** suggests classroom of the month ideation rather than recognizing individual students. **Ruth** mentions that another school throws a whole school Pizza Party once the school collects 500 of these cards and Kim suggests that the budget could be used for this.

Other options:

- Sensory Path to aid in minimizing disruptions
- Pizza Party (whole school) as a reward for PBIS
- Alex can return to the Core Leadership Team for further suggestions
- A speaker to come and present for an Assembly
- Good quality poster Printer

Ruth suggests that we vote to spend the money on a PBIS related project (recognition cards, posters, sensory path etc.) and then go forward there – with the caveat there has been division in feelings towards the recognition cards (individual recognition vs. team-based recognition).

The committee decides to vote in February when there are more ideas presented (either via email or in person).

Core Leadership updates:

We continue to develop School Wide Expectations, positively praise students demonstrating expectations, coordinate school wide assemblies with various themes, provide professional learning focused on preventative classroom management approaches, and provide self-regulation opportunities for students to keep their “lids from flipping”. A mid-year student/staff survey will be conducted to determine progress with ‘volume related’



disruptions. This goal will target a need of 80% of the class, facilitating whole group instruction of this academic achievement.

Mid-February, our CLT will go over expectations for each teacher to create an Academic Achievement Goal and submit a plan for implementation beginning after the March break. This plan will continue for 7-8 weeks whereby a skill will be targeted taught at Tier 1 level. Pre and Post assessments will determine improvement.

Facilities Update:
 Kitchen electrical update is complete! There is a new microwave in the kitchen (downstairs). There is a discussion about possible lower floor bathroom upgrades. In particular, the downstairs boy's bathroom improvement from three urinals and one stall to all stalls (possibly four). Playground upgrade/expansion continues. There are plans for collaborative stairwell mural project (East Stairwell). The school will receive new ventilation school-wide during the summer 2025. The potential move from K-2 upstairs and 3-5 downstairs may be on hold because of this development.

6:35 – 7:00 New Business

DEC Update: Ruth Eden
 DEC meeting in December was cancelled due to snow.

Public Consultations:
 The in-person sessions were very poorly attended – 30 – 40 people – and only 4000 people submitted the online survey. The report should be completed by the end of January and then will be presented mid-February and recommendations/changes could be as early as the end of March. **Kim** said that she attended one of the public sessions (at FHS) and people were divided into three groups, answering the questions from the survey. Then the answers and main points were presented. Some themes were: Wednesday afternoons should be removed, school times should be adjusted especially for middle school, and bus and driver shortages. **Alex** asks about representation from different grade levels. **Kim** responds that there seemed to be people representing each level of education as well as different cultural backgrounds etc. and that it was diverse, but everyone seemed to be on the same page.

Capital Budget:
 The Department of Education released their capital budget in December. St. Mary's Academy was at the top of that list (k-12 school) because of their growth and how over capacity. The number 2 priority is a new school on Doak Road (industrial park), and there are questions about why this was the priority over Devon Middle or Garden Creek. There is a Garden Creek/Kingsclear Consolidated study that has been funded and then the DEC will review this study and make recommendations. This would be an April-May study potentially. The formula for capacity (district) is number of students for the max capacity of classrooms and flexible spaces that could be used. Anything over 85% is considered over capacity.

Two new reports:
What is the Effective Use of Schools (capacity)



	<p><i>First Nations Education presentation by Molly Brown and Sarah Francis</i></p> <p>First Nation Recognition: The flagpoles were officially voted in and will represent Canada, Province, and First Nations people. Aaron asks about flying more than one flag on the same pole. Alex responds that according to the New Brunswick Flag Protocol this is not an option. Ruth gives the committee an overview of flag and flagpole etiquette. Each school will be allotted flag poles up to three (3) to meet this recognition. This money comes from the Self-Sustaining Dollar Fund.</p> <p>Minister of Education’s Excellence in Education Award nominations are being accepted until the middle of February.</p> <p>Home and School Update: Marcia Franklin The bazaar made \$18,600 this year. The money will be spent on: Playhouse trip (Alphabet of Awesome), Green Hill Lake Grade 5 Trip (supplement), Teachers are hoping for \$100 (for classroom supplies), Teacher Appreciation Day Lunch.</p>
<u>Closing Remarks</u>	
	<p>District Website: https://asdw.nbed.ca/ <i>Motion to end the meeting:</i> <i>Seconded:</i></p>

Items for next meeting:

- February 19th @ 6:30.
- March 25th
- April 29th
- May 27th

Adjournment

Kim Sorlie
PSSC Chair

January 28th, 2025
Date

Cathy Elvin
PSSC Royal Scribe

January 28th, 2025
Date