



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

**Date: January 25, 2025 – 6:30 – 8:30**

**Location: Garden Creek School**

<p><b>PSSC Members Present:</b>          Marcia Franklin (H&amp;S Rep)          Jennifer DeJong          Michelle Armstrong          Aaron Percival (Vice Chair)</p> <p><b>PSSC Members Regrets:</b>          Michael Henheffer          Kim Sorlie (Chair)</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 - 6:40	<b><u>Call to Order / Introductions</u></b>
	<p><b>Call to Order:</b> Aaron Percival  <b>Approval of the Agenda:</b> Jennier DeJong  <b>Previous meeting minutes:</b> Marcia would like to amend the minutes – Phase 3 is not formally planned; the committee has focused on Phase 2 and shade would be discussed as a later date.          Michelle (motion), Marcia (second).</p> <p><b><u>Old Business:</u></b></p>
6:40 – 7:50	<b><u>Principal’s Report</u></b>
	<p><b>Past Month Events:</b>          Week of Wonder, Family Movie Night, Theme Days (including Pink Shirt), Creeker Clothing rollout, GC representation at Digital Learning Summit, Creeker Assembly (Cooperation), Snapology afterschool program, UNB Science afterschool program, Dyslexia Canada Symposium (Garden Creek Representatives), Lilypad Legacy Playground Project (Phase 2) rollout, PBIS Newsletter to families.</p> <p><b>What’s to Come:</b>          Creekers of the World Club (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion committee), CREEKERS assembly (Effort), Gr 4-5 Provincial Assessments, Academic Achievement Goals, French Café (tomorrow), Report Cards and Parent Teacher Conferences, Family Movie Night – April 25<sup>th</sup>, Rolling out video: Outdoor Expectations, Bathroom Expectations.</p>

**PSSC Budget:**

\$1,000 spent on micro bit batteries, stickers (branded) for students and staff, and items to promote school PBIS goals.

**Core Leadership updates:**

Both major school goals are in play (reducing disruptions by 12.5% and academic achievement improvement). It is still too early to measure the outcome of these goals, but with our first goal (minimizing disruptions) there has already been a noticeable improvement.

Minimizing classroom disruptions:

There are visible posters in each classroom and in the hallway that outline the co-constructed expectations for classroom, hallway, and eventually outdoors and bathroom. These were created with the values of respect, safety, and responsibility in mind. **Alex** shares data collected through teacher surveys about how an improvement has been noticeable from Fall until now. The student surveys reflected that students feel they have *not improved* or *were worse than in the Fall*. **Alex** reflects that so much attention has been put on behaviors (daily) and so many corrections have been happening, that students are more aware of the behaviors that maybe they didn't notice before. A second opinion was that PBIS is built on positive, preventive, and praise expectations, and maybe staff could do a better job of praising (for every negative piece of feedback, students should receive four positives). The school is committing to more praise and celebration to hopefully have some impact on this.

**Alex** opens the floor for discussion.

**Cathy** asks, "could students be so focused on these disruption modifications that they are imagining an unrealistic expectation of what the outcome should be (ie; perfect)?" **Jennifer** comments that students often think in black and white so this thinking would track. **Aaron** reflects that surveys are difficult to interpret, and he would be interested in seeing individual responses and how they have improved or declined. He suggests tracking student ID or class by class data. **Alex** ponders adding a question "Do you feel your own behavior has improved or declined" or something along those lines, in future. **Jennifer** asks if teachers are the leaders in overseeing the behavior modifications, but also are modifying their own behaviors, does the survey reflect student improvement, or teacher improvement? Are students more hyper focused on their behaviors now? **Aaron** reminds the committee that with student data, it is very random based on the events of the day, week, or even the moment when the data was collected. **Marcia** and **Jennifer** comment that they are both hearing about more disruptions at home than they ever have – students are hyperaware of these disruptions. **Jennifer** wonders if students are more anxious about behaviors because of the attention drawn to it as of late. **Michelle** comments that the definition of disruptions could have changed for students and therefore their awareness of disruptions has changed.

Many suggestions were made on how to improve surveys:

- Binomial
- Odd number of choices in Likert
- Bin data (all agree together, all disagree together)



	<p><u>15% academic achievement improvement (schoolwide):</u> All teaching staff have submitted their plans which have been reviewed by members of our Core Leadership Team. We hope to achieve a collective rate of improvement of 15% across the entire teaching staff. All staff have identified a gap at the Tier 1 level (80% of students need improvement in this skill) and will administer a pre- and post-assessment to measure success. <b>Aaron</b> asks if there is a leader on the Board or at District that is an expert in data collection and measurement, and could they assist with these things? <b>Jennifer</b> asks if there has been a pre- and post- study and body of data that has been collected prior to implementing this program in our school.</p> <p><b>Facilities Update:</b> Possible lower floor bathroom upgrades, plans to switch k-2 classes with 3-5 classes to go ahead, Lilypad Playground Phase 2 picture was provided, Mural project in stairwell underway (Spruce up the School Committee), removal of climbing bars in gymnasium.</p>
7:50 – 8:30	<u><b>New Business</b></u>
	<p><u><b>DEC Update: Ruth Eden</b></u> EECD came in to talk about and review their last 10-year plan at the last DEC meeting. Three goals were met out of the 53 goals in the strategic plan. The government is overseeing the beginnings of a new 10-year plan and how that could be a continuous plan that would survive changes in government. A key point to this is that there will be public consultations (surveys) sometime between June and December. The district is also in the process of renewing their three-year plan.</p> <p><b>Public Consultations for bussing and bell scheduling:</b> <b>Ruth</b> and <b>Alex</b> went to a review of the changes that will be happening or were proposed and addressed questions and concerns. 25 schools (Fredericton and Oromocto) were invited to come to this preview and the proposed plan will be released to the public on Friday and the DEC on Thursday evening. The problem would be solved with 20 new buses and 20 new drivers. The supply chain is affected because the district and the department of Transportation are still waiting on buses ordered last year. On top of that, mechanical failures impact on the numbers of buses currently available.</p> <p><b>Jennifer</b> comments that the consultations were poorly attended because it was poorly designed in the first place – time of year, impact of weather, scheduling (evenings or weekend), childcare, and various other factors impacted attendance. Moving forward, these factors should be considered, and a more accessible option should be presented. <b>Aaron</b> says that focus groups are inherently biased and not a great source of data collection.</p> <p><b>George Street replacement school</b> specifications are going through approval this week and then they are passed along to an architect. There is still no proposed site for the building. <b>Garden Creek School</b> is still scheduled for a sustainability study scheduled for May (start date). This is not a 360-sustainability study (<b>Jennifer inquires</b>) and it is more of a fact finding imperial data projection that then gets pushed forward to community involvement after.</p>



	<p><b>The DEC meeting is on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup></b>, starting at 6:45 at Fredericton Education Centre (FHS).</p> <p><b>Home and School Update:</b> Marcia Franklin  Communication went out on March 12<sup>th</sup> of the initial drawing of the Playground. What followed that was the thermometer of fundraising for Phase 2 (including grant applications). The committee did discuss fundraising fatigue and have decided to dial down fundraising for the rest of the year. Two fundraisers (small) that will happen are Tailor Tots lunchboxes and water bottles and Scott’s Nursery Spring package. There will be two more Movie Nights with stickers and jibbets for sale. One of the Movie Nights will be run by Grade 5 students to raise money for their end of year trip. <b>Alex</b> adds that there has been a discussion about sunshades for the playground and although the current grant won’t include this item, can we resubmit immediately for this? The answer is possibly yes!</p>
8:30	<b><u>Closing Remarks</u></b>
	<p><b>District Website:</b> <a href="https://asdw.nbed.ca/">https://asdw.nbed.ca/</a>  <i>Motion to end the meeting: Aaron</i>  <i>Seconded: Michelle</i></p>

**Items for next meeting:**

- April 29<sup>th</sup>
- May 27<sup>th</sup>

**Adjournment**

**Aaron Percival**  
**PSSC Chair**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>**, 2025  
**Date**

**Cathy Elvin**  
**PSSC Royal Scribe**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>**, 2025  
**Date**