**Fairvale Elementary School**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**April 25, 2019**

Present: Bonnie Hierlihy (Principal), Sarah Richards (Vice Principal)

Parents – Angela Little, Leah Trevor, Yulia Roherty (Secretary)

Not Present - Linda Sherbo (DEC Representative), Jennifer Michaud (Teacher Representative)

Parent Regrets – Nela Ramirez, Theresa Johnston, Sharf Chowdhury, Doug McMillan

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm in the Boardroom at FES.

1. **New Business**
2. **School Improvement Framework (SIP) - Pilot Project**

The administration is excited to share that FES will be joining this pilot next year. It allows schools to target/personalize areas of growth after doing a detailed self-assessment. The Self-Assessment Process involves the examination of four domains:

l.Systemic School Planning

II. Leadership & Teaming

III. Learning Environments

IV. Classroom Practice

The Self Assessment Process involves the following steps

* Step 1: Examine the Guiding Questions at the start of each of the four domains in the *Indicators Only* document
* Step 2: Examine the preferred domains and sub-domains, then examine indicators and sub-indicators to identify targeted priority areas
* Step 3: Use the *Explanatory Notes* document to examine indicator descriptors.
* Step 4: Use the *Inclusion Look-for* document to support inclusive practices
* Step 5: School personnel will identify their strengths as well as their areas of focus for growth.
* Step 6: Complete the *Annual School Progress Report*.

Once an area of focus is determined, school personnel will use all available PL days to build teacher capacity in the identified area.

1. **Discussion - Chair, Vice Chair Positions**

* Emily McGill – our PSSC Chair – will be resigning and her position, as well as the Vice Chair’s position, will become available in September.
* Staffing matters – unclear at this time, due to the recent changes in the provincial government, decision on French Immersion entry point is pending. We will have more information at the end of May.

1. **Old Business**
2. **Confirmation of Spring Symposium Attendance**
3. **Update on budget spending decisions/action**

* Due to the lack of information, we will cover these matters at our next meeting in May.

1. **Next Meeting**

May 23 at 7:30 pm – last formal meeting of the year

1. **Once Around the Table**

A parent (Angela) asked for an update on the building of FES Learning Garden:

* Classes have decided what they want to grow; we have a variety of herbs, flowers and veggies.
* 11 classes have greenhouses in their classrooms and are getting ready to plant.
* A retired KV Principal (Roger Brown) and a group of volunteers will help build raised beds for the plants.
* About $7,500 has been received in grants so far, all of which has been spent on materials needed for the construction of raised beds (and possibly some part of a fence that will go around the garden).
* The idea of the learning garden is to allow kids discover what works and what doesn’t in a natural way, through trial and error. It’s a project where they will have the opportunity to exercise their problem-solving skills.
* True Life Church offered to help water the growing garden.
* FES will plan to donate vegetables in the fall to the local Food Bank(s).
* Stephanie Curtis, an FES teacher, has received a grant for the “Talking Circle” for the outdoor classroom. She, in collaboration with Mark Perry and Mi’kmaw Elder Donna Augustine will assist in designing the circle

**Other updates** –

* FES Home and School have purchased 2 Sensory Paths for the school to assist those students who need an active break during classes. The sets will be installed inside the school shortly.
* We expect to have higher than usual Grade K numbers this fall and have 4instead of usual 3 classes.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.