**Fairvale Elementary School
Parent School Support Committee
October 18, 2018**

Present: Linda Sherbo (DEC Member), Bonnie Hierlihy (Principal), Sarah Richards (Vice Principal), Jennifer Michaud (Teacher Representative)
Parents – Emily McGill (Chair), Sharf Chowdhury, Doug McMillan, Nela Ramirez, Leah Trevor, Theresa Johnston, Angela Little
Parent Regrets – Yulia Roherty (Secretary)

**Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm in the Conference room at FES.

**Introduction of Members**
Committee members introduced themselves and stated what grades their children were in at FES.

**New Business**

1. **Overview of role of PSSC**

- new members received their copy of the PSSC member handbook to review

- this handbook can also be found at <http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/ASD-W/PSSC/Documents/PSSC%20Handbook.pdf>

- the group also completed the exercise “Whose Job is it Anyways”. They reviewed the role of the PSSC, the Principal and the Superintendent

**b. Declaration** - PSSC members completed their declaration of membership with the PSSC

**c. Ends policies to discuss**- Aligned with the 10 Year Provincial Education Plan and District Education Plan and targeted for FES.
- A new Ends policy is #6 related to critical thinking and developing global competencies.
- In light of this new policy, FES will be working to gain grants for the development of a garden in the back of the school.
- 21st century skills are important to the administration of FES.
- The ultimate goal is to increase student engagement through inquiry and experiential learning.

**d. Policy 711 – Healthier School Foods**<https://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/ed/pdf/K12/policies-politiques/e/711A.pdf>
- This item was added to the agenda, as this policy was updated on May 31st, 2018

- Principal, Bonnie Hierlihy, gave an overview about the new policy.
- FES actively started planning for the policy change in the spring of 2018 by working with the healthy lunch committee and the vendors. There was a review of the hot lunch foods and their level of sugars, saturated fats and sodium. Some vendors could adapt and serve the students and other could not so they are not working with FES this year.
 - A new requirement this year is that schools must offer complete meals (including a grain, a protein, dairy and a fruit and vegetable). Nela’s Kitchen is a new vendor with FES and is well received.
- Also, based on the end of year survey in June parents requested gluten free and vegetarian options which are available most days
- The FES administration is excited at where we are for offerings.
- Overall, there has been very little negative feedback from parents with the exception that some parents have stated that meals are more expensive than they have been in the past.
- DEC Member, Linda Sherbo, also contributed to the conversation by emphasizing the need to monitor the time it is taking administration to bring together the new meals.
- She also reminded the group that this is a transitional policy; meaning that feedback is being collected on what is working and what is not working. Feedback from PSSCs will be shared with district to share provincially.
- One parent member asked the question to see if there was any additional nutrition education because of this policy. Bonnie responded by saying that healthy eating was already integrated into curriculum so no additional education was added at this time.

**e. Meetings for 18-19 academic year**

All meetings will be held at 7:30 pm.

 November 15
 January 17
 February 21
 April 11
 May 9

 There will also be a meeting held in late May/early June but that date will be determined later in the school year.

**IV. Old Business**

**Sharing information with parents (parent night?)**

There was limited discussion but members will be discussing communication and community involvement in the next PSSC Ends Policy #4 discussion.

Bonnie also shared information about a session that is going to be held at FES on Nov. 1st and 8th in partnership with Canadian Mental Health Association called Kids Have Stress Too. Childcare will be provided if there is interest. This event is being shared with other elementary principals in the Kennebecasis Valley.

**V. Next Meeting**

November 15 at 7:30 pm

**VI. Once Around the Table**- members are excited about the learning garden that will come this year
- there is an open DEC position in the Sussex area and Linda asked the Committee to spread the word to their friends and family
- the addition of the garden will also open up opportunities to teach children about composting.

**VII. Adjournment** - the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.