



# PRINCESS ELIZABETH SCHOOL

20 SIXTH STREET, SAINT JOHN, NB E2K 3M1 Phone: 658-5356 Fax: 658-6317

## PES PSSC Meeting Minutes

**28 November 2023 – In-person**

Attendees:	→ Greg Norton, Gina Fifield, Steve Robar, Sarah Cleveland, Dana Stoesz, Kendra Driscoll, Allyson Cormier, Mohamed Elazab	
	PES PSSC MEETING	SPECIAL NOTES
Time:	→ 5:30PM-7:00PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSSC Chair Sarah Cleveland met with Deputy Mayor John Mackenzie on November 3<sup>rd</sup> regarding traffic calming and safe travel around the PES area</li> </ul>
Chairperson	→ Sarah Cleveland	
Secretary	→ Kendra Driscoll	
<b>Key Points Discussed</b>		
Topic No.	Topic	Highlights
1.	Principal Report	<p>The meeting began with a visit to the newly renovated gymnasium, expected to be complete and reopen to students in December. Upgrades completed include repairs of weather walls, new paint on all walls, entirely new flooring complete with hand-painted lines, platforms below the floor to support modern standards for volleyball nets etc., a new score clock, and custom built supports (by Larry’s Welding) to support the weight of new basketball net backboards. The PES panther will be represented by one consistent logo and new sports uniforms have been ordered in gold and navy. New physical education equipment is provided thanks to a grant.</p> <p>Mr. Elazab asked about the funding model for schools. Mr. Norton responded that there is a formula to calculate basic funding based in large part by student enrollment.</p>
2.	School Improvement Plan	<p>Efforts are underway to foster a sense of pride and community in the school. Improvements to the physical space and equipment are part of this equation, providing an opportunity for clear Pride of Place.</p> <p>Ms Fifield talked about the importance of deliberately fostering school pride and other aspects of a positive and respectful culture for the classroom and school, noting that if teachers and administration do not establish the culture the students will fill that void (not necessarily in a way that supports positive behavior and learning).</p> <p>A multicultural event previously discussed for the fall has not been planned, but may still happen over the course of the school year.</p> <p>Substantial food donations (dry goods) recently arrived in support of breakfast/recess snacks for kids who need them. Donors included Kings Church and the Knights of Columbus.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion of the large amount of data accumulated about the student population and the difficulties in interpreting that data into meaningful information. Mr. Elazab suggested that if the data are numerous but unhelpful then there is a need to reconsider what data are relevant to collect.</p>
3.	Traffic Calming and Safe Travel (update)	<p>Ms. Cleveland gave a brief update about the request to the City for a study toward improving road safety around the school at peak times. Following a preliminary communication about safety concerns at student pick up/drop off times due to heavy</p>

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		traffic, resulting poor visibility and a lack of walking students crossing from Parks Street Extension, Deputy Mayor John Mackenzie suggested the PSSC submit a formal request complete with photographs demonstrating areas of concern. Images have been gathered by members of PSSC for the request.
4.	Additional tech material (eg. Coding, robotics, AI basics)	Mr. Elazab expressed the importance for children to have opportunities for early exposure to very basic coding and other technological skills. A general discussion followed of the possibilities as well as the opportunities already presented to students thanks to Mr. Goguen's excellent efforts in this area.

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