



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

Date: September 28th, 2021 Time: 6:30 – 8:15
Location: Virtual TEAMS meeting

<p>PSSC Members Present: Alex Yaychuk Catherine Elvin Andrea Stephanie Babin Coral Shuai Dr. Jennifer De Jong Kim Sorlie Mark Tayler Pamela Kitchen Michelle Armstrong Jill Moore Samantha Robichaud Mrs. Pacey (Sorry I missed your name!) Desmond's mom!</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets:</p>	<p>School/DEC Representation Present:</p> <p>School/DEC Representation Regrets:</p>
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Call to Order:

Mark Taylor – 6:30pm

Approval of the Agenda:

Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:

First meeting of the school year 2021-2022.

6:30 – 6:45	<u>Welcome message and introductions.</u>
6:50 – 6:55	<u>Voting in the committee</u>
<u>Attendees:</u>	Secretary: Cathy Elvin Vice chair: Stephanie Babin (Pamela Kitchen nominated and Andrea seconded) Chair: Mark Taylor (PM nominated, Andrea seconded)
6:55 – 7:10	<u>Old business</u>
	The field renovations: (Project Lily Pad) <i>1st phase: 143k</i> <i>2nd phase: 46K</i> Thank you to Andrea for leadership role with this! Andrea: paying the bills for getting drawings done and estimate (company came last year to survey the property to drain the fields so the kids can play). All this was done, cost estimates are out there, turned over to Home and School – looking for funding for this.



	<p>Mark: RDC could be coming up with half of the funds? Discussions with the city about coming on board to help with this project – where do we go from here?</p> <p>Andrea: We need to provide 50% of the cost.</p> <p>Stephanie: On the H&S committee and this issue was brought up but no solution or ideas yet.</p> <p>Alex: Update on the field project (summary) -- met with H&S and they are concerned about the fundraising that will not be completed in a one-year time frame. Discussed how the school could look at it over the course of several years. Want to be able to fund more than just this one project. Had a meeting with District (Linda – Community contact), spoke to her about “finding money”, RDC grant etc. and asked about next steps. Linda would like to setup a meeting with facilities to see what the quotes mean and what a timeline would look like, then meet with H&S to discuss. The RDC grant covers up to 600k... but we must cover half. City of Fredericton – setup a meeting with them to explain and tap into different events the city hosts to generate money. PSSC can continue to advocate for the school – perhaps writing a letter or attending a city council meeting (presence) to add weight when it comes to decision time. <u>Action item:</u> Talking about timeline.</p> <p>Pamela: Nominates Mark to go to the city meeting or write a letter if that comes to fruition.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speeding Signs</p> <p>Andrea: So excited to see the new speeding signs up on the Woodstock Rd! Have not followed up on getting the crossing guard for Woodstock/Golf Club crossing. There was a crossing guard shortage.</p> <p>Kim: Also, the one on the Golf Club Road is of note.</p>
7:10 – 7:15	New Items
	<p>Pamela: Spending/Budget and Air Quality for discussion in future meetings.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Budget</p> <p>Mark: Provided by the district and can be used for a variety of different things. Fluctuates every year, think of some things that</p> <p>Alex: Our number this year \$987.08 as our budget.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Air Quality</p> <p>Alex: I am happy to investigate any inquiries that the group would like to make. Did have a conversation with facilities about testing classrooms, but now every time they test, they spend quite a bit of money – lots of tests done in our district, so when it comes to testing, they’re trying to be calculated. Will check on the portables and if they were tested.</p>
7:15 – 8:00	Principal’s Report
	<p style="text-align: center;">PSSC – Principal’s items</p> <p>My goals as a new member of the GC team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Build connections with staff, students, and families ○ Allow students to get to know me a little more: I like to have fun, be silly, play sports, watch the blue jays, and learn with others. Learning is fun and school is fun. ○ Observe, assist, support, and LEARN ○ Get an idea of the culture at GC ○ All staff to get to know me a little more: Trust, Empathy, Communication are my top priorities ○ My values very much align with the expectations of the Positive Learning and Working Environment (Policy 703) which I conveyed during the first week with a short PL on ‘what does the 1st day of school feel like?’ <p>Role of PSSC (review for previous members and intro to new ones)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Preserving and promoting the language and culture of the community ➤ Developing or revising the School Mission Statement ➤ Establishing school policies related to education, language and culture ➤ Encouraging family involvement in the school ➤ Establishing partnerships with the community ➤ Establishing a positive student climate within the school



- Improving school property
- Providing input into the hiring of the Principal and Vice-Principal(s)
- Reviewing Student Achievement results
- Communicating with the DEC on PSSC matters

Limitations of PSSC

- Teacher and Staff issues: PSSCs are not involved in hiring or evaluating teaching staff.
- Individual student behaviour or academic issues: Individual student issues are not the responsibility of the PSSC. Parents/guardians should first speak with their child's teacher.
- Day-to-day operations: The PSSC does not manage day-to-day operations which are the responsibility of the Principal.
- Fundraisers: Individual members may participate and support the activities of the students or the Home and School Association, but the PSSC does not use their time or resources for fundraising.

PSSC budget: \$987.08

- Videographer services could really help maintain a connection between students in a year that is looking more and more like last year
- School Tour videos, protocol with COVID safety routines, Winter concerts, Spring concerts, Playground Safety, Memos to families, morning announcements shared publicly.

Profile of school

115 English Prime
188 FI
16 classrooms (8 and 8)
9 Educational Assistants
Music, P.E, Librarian, 2 resource, 1 guidance

SIP goals

- All staff at Garden Creek will continue to increase, apply and embed knowledge and individualized learning strategies to increase collective competence in instructional practices by June 2022.
- Staff will become knowledgeable and apply social-emotional competencies to support each other and students

Core Leadership Team has met to discuss meeting norms, role of the committee, and determining if these goals are reflective of where the school's top priorities are. Our next meeting is next Wednesday afternoon.

Steady updates with School Plan progress will be provided to PSSC

Committees aiming to enhance our school

- Staff Wellness
- CLT
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Teacher Working Conditions Fund
- Professional Learning
- Indigenous Teachings Committees
- Photography/Morning Announcements
- Student Wellness (HPS)
- School Spirit
- Outdoor Learning
- Technology

School initiatives

- BYOD (Bring your own device for staff) – Increase usable technology for learning



- Health Promoting Schools
- Facilities (Gymnasium, Playground lines, lilypad project)
- Virtual morning announcements – Green Screen technology
- More iPads have been ordered (10)
- GaGa Pits (Home and School is hoping to help)
- Music upgrades (Home and School is hoping to help)
- Strengthening the learning environment for children
 - Once a Creeker, Always a Creeker – Make this an important statement and sense of identity for kids
 - Theme Days (Creeker Colors, Halloween, etc.)
 - Infusing fun into the day: Staff Trivia, Friday Funny, Student Recognition

Safety

- Changes have been needed with basic routines/procedures already
- At-home learning
- Masks – discussions around expectations
- Conversations with Health and Safety Coordinator
- Flexibility with memos/announcements from EECD
- Indoor clubs have had to take a pause

Mr. Yaychuk wants to bring back THE GIGGLES!

Got a Green Screen for staff to use WOOHOO!

Discussions

Pamela: How do we get in contact with the DEC?

Alex: Principal will reach out and someone can be reallocated to our committee.

Mark: Should the committee reach out to the superintendent?

Alex: Communication can be through Principal/Superintendent, but if big meetings are on the horizon, we can reach out in advance to make sure someone from DEC is present.

Alex: Living in COVID – the connection that students have with their peers has been challenging. The sense of belonging to a school is something we want to go forward with. Student connection and community connection will be important if we are going back to “bubbles”

Videographer / Student Connection

Alex: Suggestion to use the money – videographer. He could be filming Christmas Concerts, little projects that students are working on, it could give us the ability to share back with parents through virtual announcements. A way where kids can see other kids on the screen, families can see their own children on screen – it would be shot in a very professional and respectful way. Possibility of this person to work with us for the year to help us achieve this and to build a portfolio (falls under the category of Communication).

Pamela: As a parent and educator, I love this. As a parent, unclear. Suggestion of virtual party and games etc. to allow students to get together and “virtually meet”.

Cathy: Mentioning that the privacy barriers (Zoom/Seesaw) might complicate this idea.

Alex: Could also use this in terms of COVID safety to outline/show procedures and things to families.

Kim: REMO is a suggestion of a platform we should investigate for this. <https://remo.co/>

Michelle: Suggestion of virtual pen-pals (maybe “pairing” classes)

Questions:

Jennifer: Clubs meeting outside?

Alex: Contact tracing is doable for this, but the “other kids” factor is difficult. Kids could be running through the “club zones” which would present as a problem. Have patience and understanding with this, district communications can sometimes be grey areas that we are working through. Hopeful to get choir off the ground at least.

Andrea: Estey Art is allowed but clubs are not? This is contradictory.

Alex: Yes, and why is this possible? Originally was a pause put on this. District safety coordinator, technically because the policy only applies during school hours, so the same kids

	can come each time if there are records of who attends and it is not during school time (also fully masked).
8:00 – 8:10	<u>Closing Remarks</u>
	<p><u>Next meeting date is:</u> October 26th, 2021 at 6:30pm</p> <p>Mark: Follow up chat with Alex Yaychuk if possible to plan future meetings etc. Mark closes the meeting.</p>

Items for next meeting:

- Project LilyPad (field) update
- Air Quality discussion
- Use of PSSC budget discussion
- Core Leadership update

Adjournment

PSSC Chair

Date

PSSC Secretary

Date