**Park Street Elementary School**

**Fredericton**

**Parent School Support Committee**

 **Minutes**

**January 16, 2019**

**Park Street School Library**

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| **PSSC Members Present:****Jeff Beairsto, Chair****Julie Peterson****Ana Costa****Karri Lynn Dwyer****Sonya Ward****Nicole McCarthy** | **School/DEC Representation Present:****Rien Meesters, Principal****Tarah Gauvin, Vice-Principal** |

**Call to Order:**

**7:00pm**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Approved by consensus (previously by email).**

**Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

**Approved by consensus.**

**New Business:**

**Principal’s Update:**

**School Improvement Plan continues to focus on personalized learning and are currently in year 3/3 of this plan. At the end of this term, the focus will remain the same, but some aspects will be re-evaluated if necessary. More information as the year progresses. Currently there is a re-design of the model used to divide kids into flexible groupings that focuses less on the small groups and more on individualized learning within their class setting. It was also mentioned that we are now encouraging mid-term movement if the teacher feels it necessary.**

**Flexible seating arrangements are still being tested and being used where this concept is working.**

**Kevin and Jacob, along with a group of teachers/staff repainted and reorganized the library over the Christmas break and developed a maker space in the front corner where teachers can sign out various items to be used in their classrooms. This is working well so far and the plan is to expand upon this concept moving forward.**

**The ESIC great has been applied for once again which, if successful, would see $5,000 going towards the development of the outdoor classroom.**

**Park Street continues to be an Apple Lighthouse School with a focus on coding at all grade levels. Devon Middle School will also be introducing the challenge mats again and students will be encouraged to participate.**

**Fresh Grade has been a giant success in terms of teacher and parent involvement. Currently there are 81% of parents who have an active Fresh Grade account. 100% of teachers are actively using Fresh Grade on a day-to-day basis. Rien recently met with Fresh Grade and they were extremely impressed with the level of engagement being observed at Park Street. There is a plan to gather feedback from parents to ensure this level of commitment stays strong, perhaps through the use of Survey Monkey and maybe together with a survey on the changes to the cafeteria.**

**Passion Projects will commence after the March Break. Essentially the maker bins will become passion projects and the teachers will attempt to quantify the effectiveness of these projects through observations. One such example was the observation made last week where teachers noticed kids learning to share resources between groups in order to make their own projects stronger. These details will be noted and quantifiable characteristics will begin to be developed.**

**Other Business**

**The crossing guard situation whereby Park Street is down one guard due to an illness is actually a mandate by the Fredericton City Police and not Park Street, so we will work with the Police to spread the word on the vacancy, but the actual mandate and hiring process is a City Police matter.**

**Chartwell’s are in their final year of contract for the cafeteria. We will develop a survey of sorts to get parent feedback on where this initiative will land for next year. Currently getting proposals from other companies to judge what options are available before polling parents.**

**Rien has been in contact with The Ville Cooperative to initiate a mock-up of the lost and found idea brought forward last meeting. The purpose of this, at this point, is to get an idea of the amount of effort that would be involved to develop this app. More details to follow.**

**We received a letter from Kimberly (DEC Chair) inviting us to bring forward any issues that may be relevant and need attention at the district level. We were also reminded that our representative is Sean Winslow.**

**Future Meeting Dates**

**February 6, March 13, May 1 and June 5**

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**February 6, 2019**

**Adjournment:**

**8:10 pm**

 **Jeff Beairsto February 5, 2019**

**PSSC Chair Date**

 **Julie Peterson February 5, 2019**

 **PSSC Secretary Date**