

**Park Street Elementary School**

**Fredericton**

**Parent School Support Committee**

**Minutes**

**March 13, 2019**

**Park Street School Library**

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

**Call to Order:**

7:18pm

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Approved by consensus.

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

Minutes approved as amended.

**New Business:**

**Principal’s Update:**

Confucius Institute classes will end effective June 2019. Department of Education has not reached out to individual schools.

Provincial government is currently asking parents, teachers and the public for feedback on how to address concerns regarding the French Immersion program. Entry point is still Grade 1 until otherwise notified.

Positive Learning and Working Environment Plan (PLWEP) – Start up work for next September has begun. Teacher perception input collected with leadership lead from District Office. Teams are working on recommendations for the following three areas. All teachers will join a group based on their interests.

1. Common language used by teachers to facilitate consistent student behaviour;
2. Supporting each other as staff; and
3. Community involvement.

Make Explore Create (MEC) bins are ending and Passion Projects will begin April 17th and run for 6 weeks. Teachers have/will select a topic they are passionate about and students will choose which group they would like to join. A variety of Passion Projects have already been identified: music, touch a vehicle, theatre arts, etc. Projects will be presented at Leadership Day on June 18th.

A $5000 grant from the Economic Social Inclusion Corporation has been awarded to being construction of an outdoor classroom/garden. A notice to parents has been distributed through Fresh Grade looking for anyone interested in helping with construction. The school is also partnering with the City of Fredericton on this project.

The parking safety blitz was successful and some changes in behaviour has already been observed. Some parents have reached out to the City of Fredericton with concerns regarding vehicles parked along MacDonald Avenue during pick up times, as children are walking along the side of the street due to the snow banks. There has also been a suggestion to move the crosswalk to align with the front door of the school so students would walk out the front door, through the visitor parking lot, and cross the street. This will be re-evaluated once the snow melts.

The cafeteria survey distributed through Fresh Grade has received 80-90 responses so far. The top 3 cafeteria preferences identified are as follows:

1. Nutritious food (37%);
2. Taste (22%); and
3. Affordable (14%).

Mr. Meesters will forward the results to District Office for consideration in the tendering process. Staff would also like to use foods grown by the students and would like reusable cutlery.

One of the crossing guard vacancies has been filled.

**PSSC Budget:**

1. A letter was sent to Kathy Hayes and forwarded to District Office outlining that the remaining PSSC funds of approximately $920 are to be allocated towards our Fresh Grade subscription.
2. Plans for next year - Fresh Grade license will have to be purchased again next year. Students in older grades will eventually begin posting their own work on Fresh Grade.

**Items arising from the minutes:**

Crossing guards and cafeteria survey already discussed.

**Other:**

Mr. Meesters and Ms. Gauvin will begin contacting parents of kindergarten students in the next few weeks to confirm their intentions for enrollment in English/French Immersion for September 2019. The purpose is not to persuade parents one way or the other, only to gather staff requirements. To date 29 out of 63 students are registered for Grade 1 French Immersion.

Student interns started this week.

**Adjourned 8:00.**

**Future Meeting Dates**

May 1 and June 5

**Date of Next Meeting:**

May 1, 2019

**Adjournment:**

8:00 pm

**Jeff Beairsto March 13, 2019**

**PSSC Chair Date**

**Sonya Ward on behalf of Julie Peterson March 13, 2019**

**PSSC Secretary Date**