



Forest Hill Elementary School

548 Forest Hill Road, Fredericton, NB E3B 4K6

Parent School Support Committee Minutes

26th April 2021, 6.30pm – 6.55pm (virtual meeting via Teams)

<p>PSSC Members present: David Greenfield, Chair Wendy Monk, Secretary</p> <p>PSSC Members regrets: Rob Langmaid, Member Maiya Alismaïli, Member</p>	<p>School Representation present: Tracy Stewart, Principal Frances Beaudin, Teacher</p>
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1. Meeting introduction

(a) *Minutes from the March PSSC meeting*

The minutes were approved.

2. New business

(a) *Update on school air quality testing*

Quick recap: two groups of testing completed, one through ASDW (as prompted by PSSC letter) prompted ASDW to complete testing plus the provincial testing. The ASDW Superintendent (David McTimoney) sent survey to all schools that don't have a full ventilation system. The survey included questions relating to the school's existing known ventilation options, and also to identify school concerns. Tracy Stewart reported existing concerns including 2018-19 concerns around ongoing odour. Facilities and Assistant Facilities Managers met with Tracy Stewart on 8th April to follow up on survey results through a school visit. Discussion related to significant improvements in cleaning over the past three years that have helped with school air quality. Additional cleaning hours because of COVID operational procedures have also helped, and have focused on downstairs space (because of increased activity in that part of the school). Tracy Stewart has requested that this additional cleaning would continue in the next school year. Additional measures (e.g. ongoing opening of school windows and new bathroom ventilation system) have also helped. The odour in the downstairs space (not hazardous but related to historic fire in that space) does return under damp conditions and it's suggested that this may be explored further. The final report on the survey will be shared with the DEC once it's finalised.

(b) Kindergarten orientation

Following full COVID-19 operational protocols, FHES will be allowed to have in-person Kindergarten orientation this year (can be switched to virtual if needed). Staff have settled on 2 x 30-minute time slots (20 kids for each session) and will include a short tour of the school. An operational plan was created for the event and includes focus on physical distancing, especially if there is inclement weather. Planned date is for 19th May with the two sessions (1.30pm and 2.30pm). Families will get to meet the teachers and staff will also identify support needs for the next school year. EYE-DA tests can also now happen in school again and will be happening next week, and one for the end of May.

There are currently 46 students registered for Kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year.

(c) School Cash Online

School Cash Online has fees on payments for card payments. ASDW has been absorbing the fees since the adoption of School Cash Online for payments. However, these fees will not be covered from 1st May 2021 and will need to be covered by parents/caregivers. A letter to parents/caregivers will be shared in the Fall to introduce the fee (note that doesn't matter if it's going to be cash/cheque or card/debit). For example, for FHES to receive the full \$50 school fee then parents/caregivers will be charged \$53. The plan is to be completely transparent with the purchase and clear that all schools across the District are charging the fee. Tracy Stewart will share draft of letter by next PSSC meeting.

(d) Bikes for kids

David Greenfield shared details about a program to encourage kids to learn to ride a bike during their Kindergarten year. The program started in the US and supports schools to provide 24 bikes and helmets with community support. Schools in NB are already part of the program (see <https://allkidsbike.org/> for more information). Tracy Stewart will follow up and report back for the next PSSC meeting, and David Greenfield will share the list of NB schools currently participating in the program.

Date of next meeting: 24th May 2021

PSSC Chair

12th May 2021

PSSC Secretary