



ANGLOPHONE WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT

Forest Hill Elementary School

548 Forest Hill Road, Fredericton, NB E3B 4K6

Parent School Support Committee Minutes

30th November 2020, 6.30pm - 7:25pm (virtual meeting via Zoom)

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

(a) Minutes from the October PSSC meeting

The minutes were approved.

(b) Revisiting previous month's action items

- Following an email from TS to the wider school community, parents and caregivers are now dropping off/picking up their children in the correct locations at the start and end of the school day.
- The Fresh Grade survey was completed with a 33% response rate from the school community. Most of the feedback was positive (e.g. stimulated discussion at home, working on things with their child at home) but there still concerns around commenting ability through Fresh Grade (e.g., not being able to share comments with the wider group) and wider accessibility. TS has looked into SeeSaw Canada (not a District preferred platform), which would work out ~\$7/child but this would not be supported by District so funds would need to come from fundraising, PSSC budget as it aligns with communication, etc.. All SeeSaw Canada data would be stored on a Canadian server. However, consensus from teachers is that the FHES will stay with Fresh Grade for this academic year with potential to switch to SeeSaw Canada next year (if there are still concerns with Fresh Grade). TS has submitted concerns to Fresh Grade so that the community and school feedback have been heard e.g. opening to community forum, but the teachers control access. A reminder will be sent to parents in early December to encourage regular access to Fresh Grade.

New business

- **Confusion around hours marked on school signs**

School hours have changed because of bussing timing changes related to COVID but signs in the kiss-and-drop loop do not match the current school hours. TS will share an email with the school community with a reminder of the current school hours (as opposed to what is listed on the current sign). DG asked if the sign can be updated but TS indicated that there is uncertainty for school hours in future academic years so sign will likely stay in place (if hours do not change back to the original school hours for 2021-22 then she will request a sign change from the District).

FHES School Improvement Plan update

SIP includes feedback for each strategy to refine and refocus for the next academic year: (i) fine motor skills; (ii) social-emotional learning; and (iii) teacher collaboration (e.g., encouraging peer support, skill sharing, team assessment, shared decision making, using resources consistently). Assessment of each block is based on data-driven goals to provide feedback on key strategies and assessing student development.

Teachers have just finished the fine motor skills block and the final assessments are being summarised. Social-emotional block is ongoing. For example, students have learned about the WITS program (Walkaway, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help) to help with conflict resolution. Upcoming PD day will focus on SIP feedback from recent learning blocks as well as professional learning on an oral language tool to support the upcoming the oral language skills.

Registration numbers for Kindergarten

K registration for the upcoming academic year is on par with previous years. This is planning for three full K classes (21 children in each class) and possibly one K – Grade 1 class. Currently have ~20 students with complete registration and 12 who have completed the online portion but FHES is awaiting their final documents (e.g. Medicare, birth certificate).

PSSC budget

PSSC agreed that up to \$150 of the 2020-21 PSSC budget will be used to purchase blank greetings cards for thank you notes for school volunteers (based on estimates for 100 cards from local supplier).

Remainder of the budget will be discussed in the new year (e.g. with potential external speaker). The external speaker for a virtual parent/caregiver information meeting could focus on ways to support children with learning at home with a focus on K-1 level (relevant to potential virtual learning that will happen with any future COVID-based shutdown). FHES staff may be able to provide this session.

School sustainability study

Background: A school sustainability study was completed in 2018-2019 because of the school's ageing infrastructure. Both FHES and Liverpool Street Elementary School were completed. DEC voted that FHES and LSES would be added to the provincial Capital Improvements list as a new southside K-8 school.

David Coon (MLA for Fredericton South) called TS in Fall 2020 to discuss school ventilation systems as FHES does not currently have one and provided potential options. PSSC discussion around new school vs. potential ventilation options. TS suggests that PSSC should contact Kimberley Douglas (Chair of DEC) to initiate discussion with the District for ventilation options (COVID priority) for the school (given that a new school is unlikely in the near future). DG will reach out to David Coon for a letter of support prior to contacting the DEC.

FHES did receive a new shed as part of the capital improvement scheme for this academic year. Future minor capital improvement could include repaving staff parking lot and fence maintenance.

Community clean up

Given previous successes, TS suggested that a school community cleanup for the school grounds could be held in the Spring. PSSC will revisit this during late winter and will communicate with the wider school community (COVID restrictions allowing).

Discussion ideas for future meetings

- Discuss holding a newcomer coffee house for the school community (will need to be held virtually for this academic year) to help answer community questions, support newcomers, connect with other families. Tentatively scheduled for January.
- Discuss parent handbook including content. Tentatively scheduled for April.

Date of next meeting: 25th January 2021

PSSC Chair

3rd December 2020

PSSC Secretary