**Garden Creek Elementary School**

**Fredericton, NB**

**Parent School Support Committee**

 **Minutes**

**Date: Jan 31, 2017 Time: 6:30**

**Garden Creek Elementary Library**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PSSC Members Present:****Mary Ellen Vaughan, Chair****Allan Lynch, Vice Chair****Others****Jackie Saunders****Tim Yerxa****Mark Taylor****Michelle Peach****Jodi Parker, Home& School Rep****PSSC Members Regrets:****Jacqueline Fortner, Teacher Rep****Sophia Petrovich****Katina Roberts****Jane Matthews-Clark****Jason Addison** | **School/DEC Representation Present:****Katherine Campbell, Principal** **Stephanie Haslam, DEC****School/DEC Representation Regrets:** |

**Call to Order:**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Moved by Tim; Seconded by Jackie; Motion carried

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

Moved by Jackie; Seconded by Tim; Motion carried

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Fluoride Mouth Rinse update – materials have arrived, parent volunteers are lined up. ***Action:***Information letter and “opt-in” registration form will be sent out to parents on Feb 6th with initial start of program on the morning of Feb 20th.

.

**Guest speakers:** Rebecca Atkinson & Erin Smith from Kingsclear Consolidated School (KC) PSSC provided an update on the Sustainability Study (SS) that has been triggered for KC. They wanted to inform us of some information. KC has about 70 students currently for Grades K-5. The DEC has advised that closure of KC could be as early as September 2017. They advised that Garden Creek is apparently receiving a portable classroom for September 2017 as well. KC’s PPSC surveyed their parent regarding KC. The survey had a 90% response with 95% of parents wanting the status quo for the school. KC PSSC will keep the lines of communication open with Garden Creek PSSC

**New Business:**

1. **PPSC Protocol as per .district e-mail *Action:*** PSSC will adapt the suggested format template for PPSC minutes.
2. **PSSC Budget:** Katherine indicated $887 of PSSC budget must be spent/allocated by March 31/2017. After discussion, consensus was that Katherine will put forth a list of recommendations for the PSSC to accept. Expenditures are to be for communication and possible items include helping with the cost of our upcoming multi-cultural night, new thank-you cards, a world map mural for the school indicating the regions of origin of our school population families.
3. **Education Plan Engagement Survey – call for PPSC Committee Members to partake in the survey** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X7MGNHW/>. Time reported only 28 responses have been received to date. ***Action:*** Katherine will arrange for a stand-alone follow-up email to parents containing the survey link to solicit more responses. Tim will then review the results and prepare a report.

**Report from Principal:**

1. **Preliminary Enrolment for 2017-18:** Katherine reported projections as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | ENGLISH | FRENCH IMMERSION |
| Kindergarten | 23 | n/a |
| Grade 1 | 27 | 29 |
| Grade 2 | 41 |  |
| Grade 3 | 24 | 24 |
| Grade 4 | 12 | 41 |
| Grade 5 | 20 | 40 |

1. **School Improvement Plan & Positive Learning Environment Plan Update:** Katherine presented the reports which PSSC are encouraged to read and bring forward questions. Katherine reinforced that these documents are works in progress, Highlights include:
* a Core Leadership Team which is now meeting monthly to discuss plans and progress
* funding for a K-2 Literacy project
* Math and Literacy coaches will be at Garden Creek in February
* Teachers are working on Formative (ongoing assessments), giving feedback
* Teachers are implementing goal co-construction with students
1. **Professional Learning and Project work for Learning to Lead Teachers:** ongoing, teachers will be going out to other schools
2. **Our School Survey Results (formerly Tell Them from Me):** Katherine presented results of this survey taken by Grade 4 & 5 students, noting that Garden Creek’s results are better than national comparatives in some areas and worse in other areas. The question on experiencing bullying indicated boys with a significantly lower impression 13% of experiencing bullying than the national average 28%, whereas our girls had a slightly higher than average value 31%.

To put results in context, additional exploratory questions about what the students considered to be bullying were also reported. Examples such as “someone tells you once that your shirt is ugly” and “someone doesn’t want to play with you” were considered bullying by roughly half of the students who took the survey.

What students really like included how nice the teachers are; different cultures; good music teacher, you can talk to teachers about problems, space to work.

What students suggest for improvements: if we had sports team, that would be epic; computer time

1. **Ipad mini purchase for K-2 classrooms:** Home and school has purchased 20 Ipad minis.

**Correspondence:** None reported

**Closing Comments:** None

**Date of Next Meeting:** February 28, 2017

**Adjournment:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PSSC Chair Date**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PSSC Secretary Date**