



Garden Creek Elementary
1360 Woodstock Rd, Fredericton NB
Parent School Support Committee Minutes

Date: October 26th, 2021 Time: 6:30 – 7:55
Location: Virtual TEAMS meeting

<p>PSSC Members Present: Alex Yaychuk Catherine Elvin Stephanie Babin (chair tonight) Mark Tayler Andrea Dr. Jennifer De Jong Kim Sorlie Lily Smallwood Pamela Kitchen Michelle Armstrong Holly Pacey</p> <p>PSSC Members Regrets:</p>	<p>School/DEC Representation Present:</p> <p>School/DEC Representation Regrets:</p>
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Call to Order:
 Mark Taylor – 6:30pm

Approval of the Agenda: Michelle and Dr. DeJong

Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting: Cathy and Michelle

6:30 – 6:35	<u>Call to Order</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order: • Approval of the Agenda • Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting
6:35 – 6:55	<u>Business arising from the Minutes</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Lilypad (field upgrades) Update Mark will touch base with H&S about this. He hasn't talked to them yet but will. Alex: The next step was to reach out to Linda D-N to "find the money". The Exec has changed on H&S and priorities had to be adjusted. Did check with the chair and it is on the busy to-do list. District: did reach out to them and informed them that conversations were starting up again. Be ready to meet about this, have follow up action items. Met with facilities as well (Monday, October 25th), quote is still in effect and not much has changed on their end. Because of the timing of the grant, we will have to submit April 1st for us to have a better chance to be approved. • PSSC Budget Ideas Update What are the purchases that we have used this money towards before? Mark will dig up these things (Seesaw) to share with new members. Signage for the parking lot, communication bags, technology (ipads, smartboards/tvs) etc. Cathy asked to speak about things that we liked from the PSSC budget.



	<p>Discussion about Seesaw, who is using this and is it supported by District. Andrea suggests Communication Bags maybe be purchased in the Spring but wait for that and weigh the options in the Spring. Mention of a guest speaker to the school. Mention of a banner or a big picture of the Creeker Frog. Andrea can investigate pricing on this for our next meeting.</p> <p>Alex and Cathy will generate a list of possible purchases together.</p> <p>We have until March to make the decisions on the budget items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality at School Update <p>Alex had a conversation about this with facilities. 2019 entire school had air quality done – we “passed” the test. There was also CO2 testing done. Despite the news article that came out stating that there were schools who didn’t pass this, Garden Creek School did pass this. Not to say that there isn’t a concern about air circulation, because it is minimal, but that type of project is VERY large scale. It would be difficult to have this done through district or government.</p> <p>If the PSSC feels quite strongly that they would like to reach out to district, Alex is happy to coordinate this, but he thinks we will likely get the same answer that he received. Stephanie asked how often these tests are done? Alex: they don’t go based on “turns”, it is based on complaints. They are not regularly tested – not even whole school, but specific rooms in the school (RPC).</p> <p>Pam asks what the criteria is with regards to air quality in schools in our province. Is there a gauge/level for this, what are they trying to reach for? What is the standard? Have there been updates to this because of COVID?</p> <p>Alex will ask what the spectrum is and where Garden Creek School falls on this scale. Michelle and Pam would like to see this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Leadership Update <p>Alex will cover this in his Principal’s Update. 😊</p>
6:55 – 7:00	<u>New Business</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming Mandatory Vaccination Requirements for Provincial Employees Update <p>Alex will address this in his Principal’s Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEC Representative <p>Mark: We will be reaching out to the district to invite someone from the DEC to speak to us during our PSSC meetings. Has not heard what the status of this position is, but in the interim that is the proposed plan.</p>
7:00 – 7:50	<u>Principal’s Report</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Schools Month <p>District has asked that we postpone our schoolwide evacuation until the COVID numbers are less. Alex will be talking to staff about a presentation, including images of the hotel (inside and outside) and what the expectations would be while we were there.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities <p>We had our pavement painted. We had lumber delivered for the GAGA pits. Students are very excited about the Four Square courts, basketball courts and future GAGA pits. We are looking into a projection (can the ceiling support the weight, the cage etc) and we got approval! Now we are trying to line up a timeline along with more conversations with H&S about this next week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical Instruments <p>H&S purchased ukuleles and racks will be installed in the music room to display/store these items. Students and Miss Dias are VERY excited about this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth and Reconciliation Day <p>Alex led an amazing schoolwide assembly on teams and students participated in many meaningful discussions in their classrooms. Lots of great ideas for lesson planning and guiding these discussions came up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Spirt Day #1 <p>Great success – students wore school colors!</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hot lunch SUCCESS Reviewing what our next Hot Lunch items will be – some different items, expectations from Pizza Delight if we continue with them...• Cross Country Event A great success thanks to Mme Plourde.• Bottle Drive (Creekers Helping Creekers) Thank you to Mme Cairns for this. Totals coming soon, thank you to staff participation and to parents who donated their collected bottles 😊• Paper Bags for the Homeless Students decorated bags for the Community Kitchen to distribute their lunches in. Greatly appreciated.• Outdoor Intramurals Football and soccer have been going well!• Core Leadership: This committee is tackling some big ideas, “individualized learning strategies” and “Social emotional competencies”. Individualized learning strategies: Differentiation, voice and choice, inclusionary practices, stretch learning, and interest-based learning were some topics of discussion. Social emotional competencies: Resilience, empathy, kindness, citizenship, etc. <p>In attempting to narrow down the goals, Core Leadership came up with some Action Items/Goals:</p> <p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kim Mertens will deliver a PL session broadly targeting and defining these elements. Follow up survey will determine the direction the school will take with this.• Resource and Admin would like to follow up on that initial PL with one on Policy 322 – inclusive education, achievement is more than a number on a report card/assessment. More than a checklist, more of a philosophy.• Pam asks for more clarification on this goal. Alex: The intention of this goal is to “meet kids at their level”. Even though they are in a particular grade, they could require subject matter from either above or below their designated level. How are teachers making sure that their students are progressing regardless of where they are grade level wise? Staff will be expanding their knowledge on how to meet these differentiated needs.• Pam: could you clarify what teachers will specifically be working on/what direction you are heading in? Alex: we will be focusing specifically on the Policy 322 and what this means for all staff in the building. From there, determining practical applications for all will help steer our CLT towards further actions/strategies. <p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Promoting Schools Team will review Pillars of SEL and present these in a more thorough block of schoolwide themes. Building on these themes that were quickly discussed last year. Quality of learning vs. quantity.• Involve students in “data-review” process to determine where their primary concerns/needs are within the SEL framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff Wellness: We love Wellness at Garden Creek! Thank you to the Wellness committee for all the amazing things that they do.• Workplace Health and Safety• Teacher Working Conditions Fund• Photography / Virtual Announcements• Student Wellness <p>UNB Nurses will be visiting the school on a weekly basis to provide guided lessons with students K-5. These focus on safety, health and wellbeing, and social emotional wellness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Spirit Committee Lots of exciting things planned for Halloween, Spirt days and future theme days.• Outdoor Learning Committee
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	<p>Emily Greenwell is leading the charge on this with OJ Burnett. Thank you to this committee for their exciting new ideas on how to get teaching done outside!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Committee Green Screen, iPads, other • Update on Safety at Garden Creek Rapid Testing available for children who are close contacts of a positive case. 2 negative tests in 24 hours means the student can return to school. Air quality criteria have been met. Health and Safety committee submitted a few work orders to make improvements/repairs to the playground and inside the school. • Vaccination Requirements for Staff Further to the amended COVID-19 vaccination policy communication on October 7th, we wish to send a reminder than unvaccinated employees looking to provide proof of two doses by the November 19th deadline timeframe will need to have received their first dose by October 22nd. <u>There is an expectation among government employees</u> that they must be vaccinated by this date, or they would be placed on leave without pay indefinitely. Alex is protecting the privacy of teachers and staff by not saying if/who has or has not been vaccinated. The government has not communicated anything to the school regarding what would happen if services at our school would be affected by interruption of services. <p>Michelle and Pam: asking about disruptions to operations at our school regarding custodial staff, teachers, EAs etc. Alex indicates that if someone would be expected to step back from their position, there is a process that district will carry out.</p>
7:50 – 7:55	Closing Remarks
	<p>Closing remarks: none! Next meeting date is: November 23rd, 6:30pm Thank you to Stephanie for chairing the meeting tonight. Mark: Feel better soon! <3 Cathy: Finalize minutes and email out to Committee Members.</p>

Items for next meeting:

- **DEC representative update**
- **Possible air quality scale update**
- **Project LilyPad update**

Adjournment

PSSC Chair

Date

PSSC Secretary

Date