

**Gesner Street Elementary School**

**10 Gesner Street, Oromocto, E1V 2S8**

**Parent School Support Committee Minutes**

**Date: February 13, 2025**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Location: In Person, Room 131**

**Attendees:** Kelly Till, Sheila Baker, Joy Burgess, Angela Penton, Sherry Jonah & Jolene Hoadley Norquay, Sheila Morgan & Melanie   
**Virtual Attendees:** Wendy Wood  
**Regrets:** Sophie Quigley, Joy Burgess, Lyndon Morehouse, Thomas Geburt, Lisa Bernard & Sarah Purcell

**Call to Order:** Kelly called the meeting to order at 6 pm

**Approval of the Agenda:** Angela approved & Jolene seconded

**Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting:** Jolene approved & Angela seconded

**Introduction to Summerhill:** Melanie, principal and Sheila, VP at Summerhill attended the meeting to introduce the committee to Summerhill priorities, school improvement plan – re-working behaviour matrix, math fluency & building up a positive working and learning environment.

Priorities of Summerhill PSSC: they have focused a lot of advocacy with the sustainability study, PEC boards on the playground & advocating to the DEC & Superintendent around the teacher & EA vacancies.

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

* **Student Passion Projects:** students did a wonderful job with their passion projects. Both students and staff enjoy doing the passion projects and getting to see the projects. It’s created many connections between students and sparked new conversations.
* **School Plan updates**
  + The school is working on decreasing negative classroom interactions (verbal, non-verbal & physical).Overall, the data is indicating that there is a decrease.
  + The second school-wide goal is about the reading scores. Results from the 2nd report card will provide data to support this goal.
* **WIG (Wildly Important Goal) Updates-**School wide and classroom
  + The school did a bingo board to work towards their WIG – it included: 12/14 classrooms would have a tidy hallway after recess, … They were successful with their WIG and earned a school-wide stuffie day.
  + The next goal is about earning GECKO awards. They will be working towards a Freaky Friday where first all students can choose which playground they play on, next it will be a glow stick party and they are working on the last price.
* National Literacy Day January 27th
* In school literacy activities: flashlight reading, favourite picks in the library, bingo game & winner won a book for the classroom. The students really enjoyed it.
* Students could dress up as story book characters. School staff all dressed up as well.

**New Business:**

* **Staff Updates** – Michaela MacAulay (K/1 Teacher) and Seongwoo Park (Phys Ed Teacher) have both been awarded their permanent B Teaching Contracts. The school is welcoming a new EA on staff March 10th.
* **Nutritional Literacy Grant** and **French Literacy Grant**-Gesner has been awarded these two grants
  + On Friday, February 21st, the school is going to provide each class with a fruit tray paired with a related book, such as the hungry caterpillar. They will do another day with a veggie tray, a popcorn treat day and they may plant some vegetables.
  + March 17-21, March 20th – They are going to learn about the Acadian culture, flag & dancing & some snacks along with a performance from Art Richard.
* **Staff Appreciation Week**: February 10-14
  + Staff felt very loved. Thank you to everyone who made them feel so appreciated!
* **Excellence in Education Award**-Thomas Geburt
* **National Geographic Map**
  + This included a giant map of the world – it took over half the gym. Students were guided to explore the map and notice all the pieces on the map (What does the blue mean? Can you find where we are?)
* **February is Black History Month**
  + They have been focusing on prominent black people from New Brunswick during the morning announcements. They have been doing art projects to help the students learn about Black History month. They have also been learning about African drumming in music class.
* **Skating at King’s Arrow Arena**
  + Grade K & 1 students have completed their skating. Kindergarten starts next week. Students really enjoy this and progress with their skating over the 3 sessions.
* **Take Me Outside Day-Thursday, Feb. 20th**
  + This happened today – some classes went sliding. They had a scavenger hunt finding animal footprints (printed and put out around the playground) – students worked together in small groups to find the footprints. All classes had a hot chocolate at the end of the day.
* **Pink Shirt Day-Wednesday, Feb. 26th**
  + Students are encouraged to wear pink, white or an antibullying shirt. They will watch a video about Pink Shirt Day and receive a little pink shirt to represent “be kind”. Throughout the week, students will be encouraged to fill each other’s buckets (paper bags). They will also do a “find a friend” scavenger hunt.
* **School Spirit Week-Week of February 24-28**
  + The school has a schedule for the full week.
* **April 26th** – The school will be hosting a Spring into Spring fair& scholastic book fair9am-1pm
* In June, the school is planning on having another career day
* The volunteer committee is hosting a online auction. The deadline to get items into the school is March 17th and the auction goes live April 7th-17th.

**Correspondence:**

**Closing Comments:**

**Date of Next Meeting: April 17, 2025**

**Adjournment:**