



**SCHOOL NAME: Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School**

**Address: 67 Wyngate Drive, Fredericton**

**Parent School Support Committee Minutes**

**Date: Monday, November 17, 2025 Time: 6:30 pm**

**Location: Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School**

**PSSC Members Present:**

Andrea Trenholm, **Chair**

Nancy Wilkins-Keetch, **Vice Chair**

**Others:**

Amanda Good, Katie Edgar, Sarah Dobbin,  
Veronica Richard, Deidre Hutchings, Carolyn  
Gibbons

**PSSC Members Regrets:** Andrew Tardiff,  
Brittney Fraser

**School/DEC Representation Present:**

Tracy Stewart, Principal

Colin Dolan, Vice Principal

**School/DEC Representation Regrets:**

Gordon Linder, Teacher Rep

**Call to Order:** by Andrea Trenholm @ 6:33

**Approval of the Agenda:** NA

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

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- Nancy checked with Devon Middle School to see how we can support their work towards lobbying efforts to build a new middle school.
  - No new information to report at this time.
  - Nancy agreed to serve as the liaison between the two schools regarding any updates on this topic.
- Andrea reached out to Mike Mazerolle about the DEC and the attendance policy.
  - He was unable to attend tonight but may attend our January meeting.

**New Business:**

**Principal's Report**

**Awareness Campaign on Attendance:**

- Posters have been distributed to schools.

- Website: <https://www.gnb.ca/en/campaign/reasons-to-show-up/resources-teachers-school-staff.html>
- Includes resources for parents.
- Goal is build a culture of awareness.
- Attendance team at school identifies students of concern and tries to reach out.
- School putting awareness by mentioning attendance in by weekly parent newsletter.

#### School engagement opportunities:

- Tracy highlighted opportunities at Gibson Neill to engage students
- Clubs: Sports intramurals Grade 1-5, Chess Club 4-5, Drama Club 4-5, Perler Beads Grade 1-5, Student Council Grades 3-5, Library Club 3-5, Coyote Karaoke Grade, Breakfast with the Principal
- Social Emotional Learning Groups:
  - Students selected based on various needs, i.e. feeling “seen,” connected to the school.
  - PE teachers run some groups
  - Perler bead club

#### School Improvement Plan Update:

##### **Disruptions to learning:**

- Classroom teachers are self-reflecting with their class on how their learning is going and how many disruptions to their learning they are experiencing each day
  - Teacher’s data showed distractions decreased as the week went on
  - Over the six weeks tracked so far overall distractions decreased
  - Data tracking will continue until Christmas break

#### Students Wellness and Education Survey

- Students completed the survey last week for the 2025-2026 school year
- 2024-2025 data is available now; survey was administered to students in grade 4 and 5
- **Areas of Strength:**
  - Autonomy
  - Relatedness
  - Gibson Neill’s scores are above district and the province in most areas
- **Areas for Growth:**
  - Social Exclusion
  - Perhaps more education in this area for students
- A question was asked if this assessment is available to be translated, perhaps using technology, so that newcomers’ voices are included in this survey. To the school’s knowledge, this is not yet something that EECD has incorporated into their surveys.

#### PSSC Budget

- At last meeting PSSC agreed to allot \$700 of the budget to SeeSaw, however due to payment structure only \$350 was withdrawn for this schools budget and the other \$350 will be taken out of the 2026-2027 year’s PSSC budget.
- PSSC now has remaining \$350 for this fiscal budget. Committee will think about what it will be used on and will discuss at January’s meeting.

#### Conversation about Attendance/Tardiness and Stressful Mornings

- The committee revisited the attendance issue in conversation
  - Andrea mentioned she has been reflecting on the fact that for elementary students it is parents’ responsibility to get students to school on time. While this may be true for

transportation purposes, Andrea felt that it is parents trying to manage the entire morning routine that creates a lot of stress and friction in her house on school mornings, often leading to rushing, yelling, and anxiety for both kids and parents. She has tried a new system using a large countdown timer on an iPad and a written routine on the wall, and is working on helping her children (Gr 4 and 2) become more “time aware”.

- Katie shared that she is doing something similar with her son (Gr 3), using music cues to signal the end of different phases of getting ready.
- When kids take more responsibility in the mornings, parents can step back, and mornings can be more harmonious
- The group discussed how and when we might share our experiences with other parents who might face similar “morning battles.”
- We are *assuming* morning battles could be linked to at least the tardiness issue, if not absenteeism as well.

**Next Meeting: Monday January 19, 2026**

**Action items:**

- Review and share the parent wellness survey data (Tracy to include in Principal’s Report).
- Discuss how PSSC can support increasing parent awareness about the importance of regular attendance and arriving at school on time, including issue of “morning battles”
  - Do we want to organize an event, or perhaps have members present at a booth during another school event (e.g., Kindergarten Orientation, Spring Bike Rodeo)?
- Determine next steps for allocating the remaining budget.

**Correspondence: N/A**

**Closing Comments:**

**Adjournment:**

Adjournment at 7:53pm