



**BLISS CARMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**615 Kimble Drive**  
**Fredericton, NB**  
**E3B 0N4**  
**Parent School Support Committee**  
**MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 9, 2024**  
**Teams Virtual Meeting**

<b>PSSC Members Present:</b>  Ronnie Stewart (Chair), Amber Gilliss (Secretary), Effat Sabry, Mohamed Badawy, Ahmed Ouf, Iman Abdelmoaty, Sara Moharrum, Jamie Yeamans  <b>PSSC Members Regrets:</b>	<b>School/DEC Representation Present:</b>  Chantale Cloutier, Principal  <b>School/DEC Representation:</b> Amgad Salem (last day)
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- **Call to order @6:35pm**
  - Motion by Ronnie
  - Seconded by Amber
- **Approval of the agenda**
  - Motion by Amber
  - Seconded by Jamie
- **Approval of the minutes from previous meeting (November)**
  - Amber to make one adjustment.
  - Motion by Jamie
  - Seconded by Ahmed
- **Business arising from the past minutes:**
  - Community Night support and planning:
    - Chantale: Cultural & Diversity Evening: the planning to start in the next couple of weeks. An email will be sent to communicate the event, look for volunteers.
    - Amber: I don't want to speak for everyone, however, I believe this is a very important event and I think any of us would be glad to help, whether it's sharing information, presentations, signage, whatever you need. Ronnie seconded that and the group seemed in agreement.
- **New Business**
  - **Ahmed** – Is there a school social worker or psychologist?

- **Principal's report: (Shared in meeting)**
  - **PSSC Budget \$1760.99 – to spend by March 31<sup>st</sup>**
    - Our dinner is usually \$200+/-
    - Chantale had suggestion of a brochure for the school, they started a design pre covid – would like to offer in multiple languages. In the past we've spent these funds on signage, Professional Presentations etc.
    - Mohamed asked about an additional microwave for the cafeteria (not PSSC fund approved – however Chantale said yes to that.) Also VR Tech, 3D Printers (again great idea, but not a PSSC approvable item)
    - Amgad suggested a community event/evening
    - Amber said if they needed additional funds for the Cultural & Diversity night, we would definitely support that.
    - Ronnie – Crossing Guard, it's not a school problem till it becomes one! The suggestion is to write a letter to the city – including all our PSSC signatures and our DECH representative. Voice our concern.
    - Chantale is going to take all this to the staff meeting later this month, get some ideas and \$ together, then we can vote on where best to spend the funds.
      - Main ideas being brochure and Cultural night.
  - **Data**
    - MMRI Survey: originated post covid. Mental health and resilience of our staff (65 including teachers, ea's, janitorial staff etc) Fall Results

• Connectedness:	78% last year	80% this year
• Competency:	57%	60%
• Atonomey & Support	59%	54%
• Resiliancy Practices	64%	68%
• Professional Assets	51%	60%
• Attitude	53%	63%
• Emotional Intelligence	53%	54%
• Adaptation *	45%	49%
• Well Being Index	5/4	
    - The Core Leadership Team (made up of a group of Bliss staff) didn't think this truly represented them. Only half the staff participated and the school has a happier overall feel. There is another opportunity in the spring and they will encourage ALL staff to participate.
  - **Provincial Assessment Results:**
    - **Standarized Tests**
    - Grade 6 Reading & Science: English 68% above, 31% the average, students in FI fair better, Science, similar results
    - Grade 7 – Math: 55% good, 10% Appropriate and 44% below (doesn't add up?)
    - Grade 8 Science – Bliss is above average for the province and the district.
    - The results are used for planning and interventions.
  - This year we are reviewing the Mission & Vision statement for Bliss
    - Communication will go out to our school community for feedback, teachers and staff to compile some ideas and present to us for feedback as well.
  - Wellness Week – The week prior to March Break: promote physical and emotional wellbeing. Presentations, activities etc...

- Ahmed: Does a presenter require a certain qualification? – It all depends on subject matter. Typically they have a police officer, sometimes a counselor etc.
  - Ronnie suggested cyber security – be nice to have someone younger to present, be more peer representative to the students
    - Mohamed works in CS at UNB, sending a list of some potential presenters.
  - Ronnie – Thank you Chantale for all you do for our children and helping Bliss be “above” average.
  
- **DEC Report:**
  - Amgad – there is some DEC general reviews, but nothing pertaining to Bliss. This is also Amgad’s last meeting with us.
    - We’ve enjoyed and appreciated Amgad’s presence.
  - Crosswalk – we as a PSSC committee need to write a letter and pass along to ask for DEC support! The area traffic is too fast, too congested and dangerous for students to not have a crossing guard.
  
- **Other business:**
  - **Mental Health Services:** Questions were asked on do we have social workers/psychologists on site? How do we get one? And consent.
  - **In summary:** Canada has a lack of health care coverage, it’s worse in the Atlantic provinces. When it comes to health care and school, the larger provinces have more private school systems, where is better access – you’re paying for it. In the public school system in NB, there is a child & youth group with people from multiple agencies (Nurse, Psychology, Physio, Counsellor, Social Worker, etc) When there is a family that requires services, the school can make a request (process, intake, determine action) – however parental consent is a must. Without a parent’s consent, they cannot initiate any intervention. It is a struggle, there are services, although not enough, but the school can only offer support, make suggestions, advise of services – consent is required. Schools DO have guidance counselors who are a tremendous help in a lot of situations. Amgad – The DEC sees this issue with most schools, there is a resource shortage. But parental consent is required for intervention.
  
- **Date of Next Meetings:**
  - February 13<sup>th</sup> – 6pm - Virtually
  
- **Adjournment @ 7:45**
  - Motion by Ronnie
  - Seconded by Amber