

	<p>system. Have been on the board for 4 years [one term], it is the start of second term. 6 trustees on the board total. Lorelei is the Menno Simons representative. You can reach her at any time. Passionate for advocating for kids, parents and schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening in prayer. 	
2. Roll call.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Secretary conducted roll call. – tracked virtual attendees. 	Janet B
3. Open Orders of Business: Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion to approve the minutes for September 28, 2021 meeting: Lori K ● Second: Grant F ● Passed Minutes for Sept 28, 2021 	Lori K
4. New Business: Update from Parent Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Gaga ball pit was built by some volunteers last Saturday. ● Questions have been asked for separate divisions for playing in the pit. This will be figured out with the teachers. ● We have a kit to build a lower entry point on one of the top boards to a lower 20 inch entry point. If Dayle is ok, we will consult with Eric to have that built. ● In the spring, we will hire a company to remove the soil, put crushed gravel, and put some compressed rubber tiles down. ● The ice rink. Will order a liner and will be waiting for cold weather to get that up. ● We will need volunteers to help build. And some teams to maintain the ice this year. ● Any questions for school council? ● Any news on the curriculum discussed at the end of last year? ● Lorelei will touch on it in her report. 	<p>Lori K</p> <p>Lisa K Lori K</p>
5. New Business: Principals Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thank you for coming tonight. We appreciate you have come to join. 	Dayle V

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● This week was busy. Fun in the penny carnival in afternoon yesterday Dayle touched base in each class and checked with they kids. They had a lot of fun. Had lots of new games that were covid friendly.● Split the divisions to limit numbers of kids, this actually made this a more peaceful event.● Were able to raise over \$400 for Friends of Ukraine.● The kids were very excited to hear we got over \$400.● Volleyball season is wrapping up. Has been positive and a more normal feeling for the year. Shout out to Mr. G, coaches, sponsor, parents. Without you the program would not have run. Thank you for your support.● Gaga ball pit put this in this week. It is a hit. Thank you to the parent Council. Caught teachers off guard that it was all of a sudden there. We are narrowing down a schedule next week for that. The kids love it.● Net week – pace festival on Thursday. Will be different from previous years to keep students together in their cohorts and parent teacher conferences are coming up as well.● Look ahead – last meeting talked of school goals. We are looking to narrow from 4 goals to 2.<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Safe and Caring<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Focus on relationships (student, teacher, community)○ Identity in Christ○ Cultural identity○ Mental health● Literacy<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ELL focus - learning new strategies to support these students○ Division 1 Literacy intervention assessments and strategies○ Updating our books in classrooms● Yesterday communication from Palliser regarding the new procedure. Thankful Audrey and Lorelei here to give help for questions.	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Admin team, society – this did not take us by surprise. We have been talking and planning to help keeping community involved no matter what comes down. Thankful there is not an, you must or else kind of feel. Appreciate that they looked for input from school admin, board of trustees, Christian school boards, Alberta Ed, Alberta Health. Appreciate that there were a lot of perspectives taken into account. While our school has not been impacted by covid cases and transmission. This is not the case in all schools. ● The ATA is in support of a vaccination protocol in place. Calling on govt to put one into place. ● The procedure affects staff and volunteers. But not students. ● It is ok to reach out. If you are choosing to write to board and government, please be respectful. It is not easy to be a leader right now. We ask that you represent Menno the way we want to and hope to. ● Curriculum, will leave that to Lorelei, and she can add. We are using some PD time with staff to look into the curriculum to be ready for the roll out. ● Spirit days – Expectation is considered a casual day, so can dress casual if not partaking in the spirit dress up. No need to wear uniform bottoms for shirt days. ● Q: Her daughters school has a similar policy as Palliser. Have applied for Prov. testing program so that the tests that people have to take is funded. Does anyone know if we are pursuing that. ● Palliser is investigating applying for that through the govt. Most boards have requested staff to provide proof or start testing prior to Christmas break. The division is actually paying prior to Christmas break. Typically they will be asking employees to pay for it. Are doing due diligence and hoping for an update soon (couple of weeks). 	<p>Lori K</p> <p>Audrey K</p>
<p>6. New Business: Update from Palliser</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gave details on updated Palliser report. [See below] ● Curriculum – History – Palliser decided not to pilot curriculum based on feedback from teacher parents and admin. Based on the feedback we decided it was not prudent to pilot that program. We still wanted to be 	<p>Lorelei B</p>

	<p>able to provide feedback so we have our teachers and staff working together in consultation team. Work directly with Adam Browning and Jason Kupery to provide feedback to Alberta education. As far as we know the govt plans to implement next fall. They have engaged with staff to set up a framework for staff to move forward with the initiative. Should have an update by January. Please check out the link:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say.aspx ● There is a way to speak through Alberta School Council association to get engaged that way as well ● Lori will take the links and parent council and Dayle will decide where to go. ● If you need to reach out to either Lorelei or Audrey, their email address are available. ● audrey.kluin@pallisersd.ab.ca ● lorelei.bexte@pallisersd.ab.ca 	
<p>7. New Business: Q&A with School Council & Mrs. Vienneau</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Q: Are our teachers ok with this new policy? This is a very controversial topic. Is the mood among our teachers ok? We won't have teachers leave over this? ● It will impact a couple of our teachers. We do not know what they will choose to do. The majority of teachers it does not affect. ● We are seeking info from our staff and anyone that has concerns and are anxious we will support the best we can. We did our best to allow for as much choice as we could. We want to support all. Please feel free to email with any questions ● Q: We call it choices, chose vaccination, choose testing, choose to leave are the only choices. What can we as parents do to support staff in whatever route they take? How do we support those that goes on leave, this is not much of a choice? ● Does this policy have an end date? ● We have it set within HR that anything staff disclose it will be confidential. We do not want people to leave, but people may choose that. It is with 	<p>Lisa K</p> <p>Dayle V Audrey K</p> <p>Kelly T</p> <p>Audrey K</p>

	<p>full expectation they will return. We are hoping the other 2 pieces will help them decide direction. There is a section that staff can ask for exemptions, legitimate medical and religious piece is considered and part of the conversation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is based on the current health measures. We will amend this based on recommendations of public health. It is highly changeable. ● At School level – Have been chatting with some staff leading up this on the ‘what if’ level. For the staff members, they are grateful for the options and talking through what they are most comfortable with. On a society board level, how to support? No specific answer, but it will depend on their choice. At this point it is being open to conversation and what they are comfortable with. ● Is the data given to the school or Palliser. ● It is highly confidential and they disclose their status on a secure platform. Only HR team knows. ● We want everyone to feel protected. ● Will all be done online and secure on the platform. ● All discussions are based on people who want to share, not because they were specifically asked. ● We have a child in CBE saying we are implementing mandatory, etc. Conversations have been had because of the CBE mandating. We have been anticipating, not that we knew. ● Anticipation is a good word to describe the conversation. ● On the conversation, have we discussed financing of testing? Or has it not been decided? If we have a teacher who chooses testing what is the cost. Can we support our teacher on the cost of the testing through fund raising or something? ● We can talk about this and/or consider it. We are unique because it is impacting fewer teacher compared to the neighboring schools This thought sums up our community and how it supports one another. ● We would love to get feed back. 	<p>Dayle V</p> <p>Kelly T Audrey K Kelly T Audrey K Dayle V</p> <p>Ann P</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Lisa K</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Lisa K</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The cost prohibitive aspect is real. We would be willing to discuss that. ● When the time comes please keep HR in the loop so that they can assist and help with this direction may have resources to assist.. ● Thank you for all the hard work, I am sure this policy has taken a lot of time. We are grateful you chose to make it as flexible as you did. Thank you for doing that for our community it is very appreciated. ● We are a team and take a team approach. Want to do the best we can to support our staff and students. Please feel free to send an email ● Thank you for coming! It is great to have your help to keep us all informed. ● So excited to have Audrey as she has worked so tirelessly and hard on this. ● Hopefully we will see more of you, Audrey. ● Q: What is the timeline is for staff to choose what they are going to do? ● We have asked staff to declare vaccine status by Nov 10. Gather info, work with team. Jan 4 is the day where staff is fully vax or choose testing every 72 hours to be able to enter the facility, or a different option. ● Volunteers – Asked admin to start engaging with volunteers. Those conversations will follow the same timelines. Want to ensure parents have opportunity. Conversations will start as of Nov 10 and in place by Jan 4. ● Does not include spectators for sports. 1/3 capacity or physical distancing. All based on current AHS measures. ● Q: how many volunteers does Menno have. ● Try to engage 90% of parents. 10 hot dog lunch volunteers. Kindergarten class has parent volunteer every day. Recess supervision, outdoor as well. ● Volunteers that have direct contact are the ones who need to declare. Secondary does not. If no direct contact with staff or students – a meeting does not count. 	<p>Lori K Audrey K Lori K</p> <p>Audrey K Lori K</p> <p>Lorelei B Lori K RandyLee M Audrey K</p> <p>Ann P</p> <p>Lori K</p> <p>Kelly T</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If a teacher chose to take a leave, does their position get replaced by a sub, or mat leave. Or how does that work? ● As long as they are under continuous contract. We will hold their position. Say for remainder of year. We would look at posting or using a sub. If a teacher chooses to return after their leave, they would get their position back. They are secure. Writing down all questions and planning to put out an FAQ and using this material to form that. 	Audrey K
8. Outstanding tabled actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No current outstanding tabled actions. 	
9. New tabled actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Curriculum discussion update will be an item for the next meeting. 	
10. Adjournment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Closing remarks: We will be working on the funding plan for the teachers choosing testing. ● For parents wanting to build the rink, it will be in the newsletter for when to volunteer. ● Thank you for attending the meeting and caring for our teachers. ● Thank you for coming Audrey and Lorelei, look forward to seeing you both soon. Thank you for all you do for us and our kids. ● Next meeting is November 29, 2021 	Lori K

Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tues, October 26, 2021

New Board take Oath of office:

The new Palliser School Division Trustees were sworn into office at the October 26th Organizational Meeting. We have 3 new Trustees on the Board. Michael Oliver, Louise Schmidt, and Tony Montana, as well as returning trustees, Debbie Laturnus in her 3rd term, Myself and Sharon Rutledge in our 2nd term. We conducted our first order of business, and elected Trustee Lorelei Bexte to serve as Board Chair, Trustee Debbie Laturnus as Vice Chair and Trustee Tony Montana as Alternate Vice Chair Robert Strauss and Kristine Cassie didn't run this term and we thank them for their years of dedicated service. They will be missed.

International Report:

The COVID-19 pandemic certainly had an impact on the International Student Program. With the uncertainty around ever-changing restrictions, Palliser suspended the 1-month programs with Colombia for the first semester. We also canceled our 1-week Japanese student program for 2021-2022.

With the continued closure of Australia and Nova Scotia, we have seen an increase in the number of students wanting to come to Alberta. This has resulted in an overall increase in the number of full-year and 1-semester students for the 2021-2022 school year. Our approach has been to focus our work with the agencies we have long-standing relationships with and to cautiously enter into new agreements with agencies that already work with other Alberta School Divisions. All students that have entered Alberta are required to have a negative COVID test and be fully vaccinated prior to their departure from their home country.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation:

As Orange Shirt Day on September 30th coincided with the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, events were planned across the division with the support of Palliser's Indigenous Education Team. Concepts around truth and reconciliation were focused on throughout the week of September 27th. Students engaged in a variety of school-wide activities to commemorate Truth and Reconciliation. We have supported staff with Truth and Reconciliation with ongoing professional learning opportunities to support foundational knowledge about Indigenous peoples.

Any questions or concerns please contact Lorelei Bexte (403) 485-0823.

Curriculum Update:

Background: The Palliser School Division Board of Trustees took the opportunity and time to listen and sought feedback from teachers, parents and administration, as well as attending information sessions on the proposed pilot projects. Based on the information that was gained from all these sources the Board decided not to pilot the curriculum. While the board will not be involved in the pilot project, Palliser Teachers, Administrators are working together with Jason Kupery and Adam Browning to provide feedback to Alberta Education on the draft curriculum. The Board and School Division feel it is very important to still be part of the feedback process to ensure everyone's voices are heard.

The Government still plans to be on track and implement the curriculum next fall.

Many trustees, myself included, are on a curriculum focus group led by the Alberta School Boards Association to provide feedback and advocate directly to the Education Minister. I have your voices in my ear when I sit at that table.

The Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) is also advocating to the government on Parents behalf. The following is off their website:

ASCA Policy 21-05 Alberta Curriculum states "that the Minister of Education delay implementation of any draft curriculum until it has broad support from education professionals, teachers, parents, and citizens."

As well as "that all new curriculum should reflect the needs of the 21st century learners: emphasize innovation and critical thinking, diversity, and inclusion, including the recommendation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action 62, 63, and 64. It should be evidence-based, developed by experts in curriculum and education and better reflect the 2018 curriculum that has been in development since at least 2008, and in collaboration with teachers, parents, provincial education professional and other curriculum experts."



<https://www.cbc.ca/.../alberta-curriculum-report-parents-reac...>

ASCA Advocacy Policy Manual: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/.../40983>

Your Parent group can work through ASCA to advocate, or simply keep sending your letters to the Minister. I am always happy to be cc'd on those letters so when I am working with ASBA, I can share your voices as well.

I have attached a link below to provide feedback directly to Alberta Education as well.

<https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=public2021EN>

Please let me know if this answers your question and gives you a path to move forward. I am happy to do some more digging with ASCA to see if there are more active roles with-in their organization if parents are interested, or you could contact them yourself if you wish. Palliser School Division pays a membership fee to ASCA, so all of our schools have an active membership with ASCA and are able to use them as a resource.