



## Monthly Menno Simons School Council Meeting

**Date:** Monday, November 29, 2021  
**Time:** 7:00pm to 7:29 pm  
**Meeting Room:** Virtual  
**Facilitator:** Lori Kruger (Chair)  
**Timekeeper:** Lori Kruger (Chair)  
**Minute Taker:** Janet Bates (Secretary)  
**Attendees:** Dayle Vienneau, Lori Kruger, Grant Fong, Janet Bates, Ann Pan, Randy-Lee M, Kelly T, Stephanie S, Chelsea T, Amanda T, Emma C, Amanda T, Natalila, Ammanuel E, Daniel H,

AGENDA ITEM	NOTES	SPEAKER
<b>1. Welcome, Call to order, absence for apologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:03pm – Greetings from Lori. Call to order.</li> <li>• Lorelei cannot make it, will read the report for her</li> <li>• Opening in prayer.</li> </ul>	Lori K
<b>2. Roll call.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary conducted roll call. – tracked virtual attendees.</li> </ul>	Janet B
<b>3. Open Orders of Business: Chair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion to approve the minutes for October 28, 2021 meeting: Lori K</li> <li>• Second: Ann P</li> <li>• Passed Minutes for October 28, 2021</li> </ul>	Lori K

<p><b>4. New Business: Principals Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you for joining us.</li> <li>• What is happening in school VB season wrapped up, basketball is starting with practices. VB was great, hoping basketball is the same</li> <li>• Notice went home on 1 positive covid case in our building. This family took all the right actions. Parents kept the child home once symptoms started. We are being diligent with the affected class with masking, physical distancing. That classroom was fogged and cleaned extra carefully. Good reminder, continue to do what we are doing it is keeping our school safe. Our school case remains low, due to parents keeping kids home when needed</li> <li>• It is almost December. Christmas season is here. Christmas carols in music room as classes practice for the evening that is planned for the school. Filming will start this week.</li> <li>• Devotions take on a new focus, service projects.</li> <li>• One service project is the operation backpack. JR taking the lead. Jr will put together those backpacks with donations from the community</li> <li>• School goals: School Goals will be posted online soon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Menno Simons Christian School will make intentional efforts to create a safe and caring space where each individual student (and family) is able to see themselves reflected in their learning and know that they belong here.</i></li> <li>○ <i>Menno Simons Christian School will make intentional efforts to prioritize and create opportunities for differentiation within our literacy program.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• We know there are divides out there and we want to bring people together, plus some other areas we recognize Relationships: Identity in Christ, cultural identity, physical health, nutrition, new health curriculum.</li> <li>• Looking at some presentations we are bringing in, and the Christian studied program..</li> <li>• Please reach out to Dayle if you have any questions. More info will post on website soon.</li> <li>• In Jan we may be sharing the proposed calendar for next year. We will submit it for approval from Palliser.</li> </ul>	<p>Dayle V</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New curriculum:.</li> <li>• As parents - reach out to your MLA. The legislature is set to resume very soon, and this is one way we can encourage them to have Education as a top priority. Ask them to step up as champions for our communities and schools.</li> <li>• Regardless of which party your MLA represents, they have a role to play. Opposition MLAs raise important issues for debate and hold the government's feet to the fire. UCP MLAs can speak out in caucus (or even publicly) to demand better public education policy—and if they hear from enough voters in their riding, they will.</li> <li>• Link on the Palliser webpage where parents can provide feedback on the new curriculum for the government</li> <li>• Covid vaccine policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palliser covering cost for staff for month of January</li> <li>• Discounted rate after that if purchased through the district</li> <li>• In terms of parent support, not needed for staff at the moment but still a need for us to make volunteer opportunities available to everyone - focus on this area</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We will make sure we have tests in the school for volunteers. That will be more our concern at this point.</li> <li>• Staff is covered until February, then we will see what happens from there.</li> <li>• Any questions?</li> <li>• No questions</li> </ul>	Lori K
<p><b>5. New Business: Update from Palliser</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gave highlight details on updated Palliser report. [See below for full report]</li> <li>• Any questions, concerns or comment, email Lorelei, or call.[insert info]</li> </ul>	Lori K
<p><b>6. New Business: Update from School Council</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gagaball pit: lowered the one wall so kids can get in easier.</li> <li>• In the spring, we will be working with a company to remove soil and compact some gravel into it so it is muddy. Once we have a snow base the mud should no longer be an issue</li> </ul>	Lori K

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ice rink – have ordered some liners and will set it up once the cold weather hits</li> <li>• We will need some volunteers for assembling and filling. Plus the maintenance. We are going to ask the community to help out with that since Grant and Lori did it all last year</li> <li>• Thanks to Dayle for reminding us to contact our MLA'sf or the curriculum.</li> <li>• In Jan there will be more meetings and we will get more info.</li> <li>• For now we encourage you to write your MLAs.</li> <li>• The testing needs that we had discussed last month. For teachers, it will be roughly 16\$ per week starting February.</li> <li>• The school would like to have tests needed for volunteers. Parents can come in and take a rapid test. Since the money cannot come out of any type of school budget or society budget. If anyone is interested in contributing. Contact Janet Bates, she will be spearheading the project to gather the funds for the rapid test. Please email Lori if you have questions.</li> <li>• Reminder – tomorrow night is society AGM. John Lucas is the most visible member that you would see day to day. He's the societies rep to the parents. Contact him if you would like to understand how our school works, budget, how our school is managed. It will be a good session. If you would like to vote, there is the application that you can apply to be a society member. Deadline is close. You can always attend and just not vote, if you do not apply for a membership.</li> <li>• Community builders may or may not be doing any sort of group gifts for teachers. So if you are wanting to pre-plan, contact your community builder to see what they are thinking for teacher gift.</li> <li>• AGM is by Nov 30 – assuming right up until the meeting starts.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. New Business: Q&amp;A with School Council &amp; Mrs. Vienneau</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions?</li> <li>• Is there a way to check if membership is valid.?</li> <li>• We renew each year for the AGM. So no matter when you signed up, we renew around the AGM.</li> <li>• Email Ann Pan, or Keith H. if you would like help.</li> </ul>	<p>Lori K Daniel H Lori K</p>

<b>8. Outstanding tabled actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No current outstanding tabled actions.</li> </ul>	
<b>9. New tabled actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curriculum discussion update will be an item for the next meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>10. Adjournment:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closing remarks: Hope that you have a fantastic December.</li> <li>School council wishes a very merry Christmas.</li> <li>Thank you Dayle &amp; Ann for all that you do for us.</li> <li>Next meeting is January 24, 2022</li> </ul>	

Menno Simons School Council Meeting November 29, 2021

**Highlights from the Board of Trustees Meeting, November 9, 2021**

**Capital Plan:**

Now that plans for the new Coaldale High School are underway, Dexter Durfey, Secretary-Treasurer indicated that Palliser School Division will be moving forward on the next project on their Capital Plan which is Coalhurst Central High School. This plan is fairly high level and the Palliser Administration will be working with the architects to make a business case to move forward. Some considerations are that given Coalhurst’s proximity to west Lethbridge several Coalhurst high school students leave to attend Chinook High School because of a newer facility that provides more learning options to students. Palliser Regional Schools would like to modernize or replace the Coalhurst High School to keep students within their community. Further, to help mitigate the overcrowding concerns of the Coalhurst Elementary School, Palliser Regional Schools proposes to reconfigure grades from 7-12 to 6-12. This will increase the immediate utilization by increasing it from 58% to 71%.

**COVID 19 Update:**

The Palliser School Division continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation across our schools. As of November 5, we have 124 reported cases of COVID-19 amongst students and staff. Alberta Health is currently providing rapid tests for students in K-6 who are in outbreak status. Palliser has also applied for rapid testing at one school that was in Outbreak status which has since been removed. The rapid tests can be administered by students and staff at home and participation in the program is optional. Alberta Education has confirmed that Palliser will receive funding, as part of the learning disruption grant, to support students in Grade 2 and 3 for this school year in need of numeracy and literacy support. Palliser is planning with the school administrators that participated in the program, how to utilize funds to support students and provide between 12 and 16 weeks of targeted programming.

**Coaldale School virtual walk-through:**

Ferrari Westwood Architects provided trustees with a presentation of the new Coaldale School. The goal of the exercise was to showcase the features of the school and ensure Trustees felt it would meet the needs of Palliser students and the community for years to come. Dan Westwood walked Trustees through the design of the school as well as the recreation centre that students will have direct access to. The joint use of the facilities will allow Coaldale students to access many dual credit opportunities. The new school has now moved to the construction phase, final completion date has not been declared. . The new school will serve as the replacement for Kate Andrews High School and will be able to accommodate up to 855 students in grades 7-12.

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