



Monthly Menno Simons School Council Meeting

Date: Thursday, May 30, 2022
Time: 7:00pm to 8:07 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, Aferdita B, Lisa K, Emmanuel E, Kelly T, Stephanie S, Courtney D, Heather P, Erin F, (Chinese characters?), Shay R, Amanda T, Gabriella N

AGENDA ITEM	NOTES	SPEAKER
1. Welcome, Call to order, absence for apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:03 pm – Greetings from Lori. Call to order. • Thank you for coming • 7:04 pm – Lori K opened in prayer 	Lori K
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 March 10, 2022 meeting: Lori K • Second: Grant F, 10 in favour • Passed Minutes for March 10, 2022 	Lori K

<p>4. New Business: Principals Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track and field season. Kids are enjoying it. • Field trips starting to happen. Gr 9 green bay bible camp. Salts could not get together couldn't get it working to send the whole class, but 27 of 27 students got to go to green bay bible camp. • Very exciting since that kind of trip could happen. • Weasel-head from Gr 5,6. Enjoyed being out of school, in nature, together. Learning pieces. The hands on was great. • Butterfield acres for kinder. • More to come. • Service projects – Jr high brown bagging for Calgary. • Gr 9 did a service project too while away. • New events – movie night, kindergarten developmental check ups. Fun to be with the 4 & 5 year olds. • Meeting new families coming in. • Dwayne peace event was a success. Good information for the class. Good going forward for talking and devotions in the class helps gain respect and build relationships in class. • Ear end act – field trips, spring concert. First live one in a while. • Breakfast, exams, k grad. • Gr 9 grad. Everyone welcome this year. • Book launch – Joanne Wiens - Simply Sacred – coming in for an author visit in library classes. Book launch is June 5. • An anonymous donor is gifting a copy to every family if you want one. • Staffing update -Mrs. Barrio just started her mat leave. Mrs. Braun is a sub, she will take over gr 6 homeroom this last month. First day was today. She has subbed the class lots, so a natural transition Mrs. Carpenter and Mr. Colgan returning parental leave. Mrs. Stevenson is extending her maternity leave another year. Mrs. Liyanage is taking a personal leave next year. Temp position – Jr high, hope to fill with familiar face. Grade 2 & 4 are the other positions. • Questions from last time – before & after school care. This program is a 	<p>Dayle V</p>
--	---	----------------

	<p>go. Licenses are in place. The school is leasing out the space to another organization. Things are falling into place yet but contact the office and we can connect you to the organization. Before/after school & Friday afternoons. Specific details still to come.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar has been approved by Palliser. Draft one has been put up on the website. It will be up there for reference any time. • School council – appreciate seeing familiar faces who have come to all school council meetings. Appreciate the interest you have in knowing what’s going on, reaching out, asking questions. Want to figure out a way for school council more accessible to everyone. How do we draw more parents, how to we make more parents feel welcome? • Dayle is looking for ideas on how to help that. People wanted more meetings in the survey. This meeting is one way for parents to be able to do that. • Any feedback for Dayle? Meetings, topics? • Courtney- talking with parents as far as staffing – concerned about not having enough TA for Gr 5 & 6. Are we getting more next year? • Have not yet received info from Palliser on support staff. • We tell Palliser what our needs are. Palliser would have an increase for TA’s, and we hope that this will happen. Society has also been paying for additional EAs. They have been in div 1 a lot. EAs will be placed next year, hope to have one in each division next year. Do not have the numbers from Palliser yet. • Do we have funds approved for a full time grade 2 teacher. • We get a lump sum for full time equivalent. We have 3 temp contracts that are full time positions. Gr 4, Jr high, so yes full-time gr 2 for next year. Still up in the air. All the other grades have a full-time teacher. Hoping to have a full time teach and maintain some kind of consistency. • Because enrollment is going up. Palliser allocated our FTE on rolling average. Is this still the way that they do things? • Govt changed it to a 3 yr rolling average. This year and next year are similar and stable with good numbers. FTE from last year and this year is the same. Our society is looking at ways to help support for building 	<p>Courtney D Dayle V</p> <p>Lisa K Dayle V</p> <p>Lori K</p> <p>Dayle V</p>
--	---	--

	<p>options programs, etc. Nice to have this in working with a board. Still working on specifics from board which would help with a specialist maybe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at bringing the gr 6 on board with what is happening in jr high. Gr 6 & 7 will rotate through similar options and gr 8 & 9 will rotate through. • School council meetings – it has always been a challenge to get the parents to attend the meetings. The community builders are a resource we could tap into. If community builder could attend and pass along. The other thing too is having reminders come from community builders. Just some thoughts. • Lori and Dayle have been discussing – traditionally the community builders were under the school council. They did exactly that. Attended and passed along info. We agree completely and hope that will be improved on flow and structure. • Newer to the school. Struggle – went though the website and the meetings did not always coincide with what was on the calendar. • We did set the dates and some of them were changed. Menno minutes will have updates for school council meetings. We will try to communicate better next year. • Thank you for feed back good to know. For format – is online better? In person? Next year we can revisit and do it in any way. It is nice to have it on zoom. • As someone who does live close, the zoom access is nice as you do not feel like you are taking time away from the family. With the community builders not having the same role as before, zoom has been better. Community builders gave us an access point, there was one person we could go to before. It is nice to have the one checkpoint person. • Could the invite be sent as a google invite rather than a link? • We would have to figure out how to link the email addresses to the invite. This is the difficult. • Zoom platform has been great. Not have any major issues. Attendance has been great. 14-18 attendees each meeting. • If we had the community builders – send to the community builders, then 	<p>Lisa K</p> <p>Stephanie S</p> <p>Lori K</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Kelly T</p> <p>Ann P</p> <p>Lori K</p>
--	--	---

	<p>the community builders can send out the reminder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dayle has a vision for the community builders for next year. • I like Zoom. • In terms on what I am present on – no feedback on topics? Have the reports given you what you need to know? We are excited to go back to normal with parents in the school. Is there anything you could have heard more of or less of? • Will next year look the same as pre-covid or will there be new things. • There will be some new things. The independence the kids have built. It is squishy in that hallway. Ready to have atrium goodbyes and have the kids go into the hallway on their own. At beginning of the year there will be a transition time. Will move to kids being helped to being independent. We want to maintain the independence that has been gained. • Dayle I think you have done a good job on the topics that you covered. When we discussed half day Fridays. • Then when your email came out a couple months later, then other people were blindsided by this news. Content is good. Going forward hoping we can do a better job getting update to more people. • Echo that. Brought it to the board, talked about it at school meetings. Went an email to get people more informed. When it got to April and finding out that more people did not know about it. Unfortunately it did blindsided people. People said they wanted a meeting – and there was! But people did not attend. Hoping that no big changes like this will happen. This is a piece on how to get school council out to parents so that they are more informed. • Echo this – as a parent coming out of the public school with Fridays off, I would have liked to have been asked opinion before it went ahead. To get more parent feedback. This is a huge topic, major. This affects parents. Heard about it from the kids. Missed the school council meetings. With own experience of coming out of the public school with Friday afternoon off so we could give more feedback from personal experience. Good communication about big topics would be appreciated. • The half day Fridays does affect many people. Lots of comments around 	<p>Lisa K Ann P Amanda T Dayle V</p> <p>Lori K Dayle V</p> <p>Lisa K</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Shay R</p>
--	---	---

	<p>the idea that it felt like it was done behind our back. People felt like people did not really get a say. There was a misunderstanding that some families felt like it was done without people hearing and understanding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absolutely – we have had no new feedback since the emails. It was the point to weigh pros and cons. Half Fridays are some of the best ways to help academics and extra curricular. In looking at that with new curriculum, and small staff. Staff are very tired, doing their best, giving 100%. They are able to be honest with me and reaching out for help and it was to the point of we may have to cut things that we did not want to cut. This has impact for parents throughout and it weighs heavily. It is a huge change. • We need to know and hear the heart behind things. The teachers do need to be looked after and supported. Dayle more than teachers, also maintaining the programs that they offer. Appreciate how things are set up at Menno. • Hoping to assure you that I won't be an admin that will be changing over, plan to be here for the long haul. It hasn't fallen apart, but there are fractures that need be rebuilt. • You have all done a good job. Feel like we hear from you quicker than in past year. You are in an impossible position. Hearing the heart behind it is good. Appreciate all that you have done this year and you are doing a great job. • Looking forward to having people welcomed back into the school. Looking forward to the conversations. • Dale if you do have a vision for community builder, that is amazing. On that note, the only negative thing was that there was a bit of inconsistency between classes. Get a clear concise list on what expectations are. People felt that wasn't very fair. So when considering this, just something to remember. • Yes, want to clearly communicate what the expectations are. • I love the parking lot volunteers! • Is there going to be a welcome to jr high type of meeting? • Plan was to have it this week. It is something we are hoping to do in 	<p>Kelly T</p> <p>Dayle</p> <p>Kelly T</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Kelly T</p> <p>Dayle</p> <p>Courtney D</p> <p>Dayle V</p> <p>Courtney D</p> <p>Kelly T</p>
--	---	---

	<p>June. Want to invite the new students that are coming to the school too. Yes, parents would be there as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does everybody know that you are not coming back next year. [Lori & Janet] • No, not everybody does. 	<p>Dayle V Grant F Lori K</p>
<p>5. New Business: Update from Palliser</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palliser minutes to be posted with these minutes. (see below) 	
<p>6. New Business: Update from School Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaga ball pit, the compressed gravel install was delayed. Looking at the first couple of days after school is out. • We will put it back up so the kids can enjoy it. • For parents the gaga ball pit has been a blessing and a curse. Could we not find a set of rules that we put on the website, post in the class rooms. Arguing over rules, refereeing. Love it, but it is creating al lot of arguments. Can we post something? • Conversation at every staff meeting, by making connections worker. The grade 6 or 4 who said can we write the rules out. And approval has been given, but not sure if it has been done. Dayle will double check on that. • Seem to recall the manufacturer have a steel sign that you can attach to the gaga ball pit itself and see if we can find some rules to post. • Year end breakfast – school council will help Ann at the year end breakfast. Hope to see you all there. • Joanne Wiens book launch – Joanne was here for a long time and really established the whole feel of Menno that we have come to love. Encourage you if you want to understand our school and its grass roots of where Menno comes from. Looking forward to this book. • Dayle brought up a lot of the things on the school council agenda. Any other questions or comments. • Thank you everyone for sharing more openly. This is very helpful to understand where people are coming from. It is motivating to hear here people are coming from. • Next years meeting should be in September. There will be lots to 	<p>Lori K Lisa K Dayle V Lori K</p>

	<p>welcome you back to the fall. June is a challenging month but holds the promise of summer-time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for coming. • 	
7. New Business: Q&A with School Council & Mrs. Vienneau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new business. • 	
8. Outstanding tabled actions: Curriculum update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No outstanding tabled actions • 	
9. New tabled actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new tabled actions. 	
10. Adjournment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting closed at 8:07 pm • 	

Menno Simons School Council Meeting May 30, 2022

Highlights from the Board of Trustee meeting May 10, 2022

Coaldale High School and Recreation Centre: Things are looking up, literally, at The Coaldale High School and Recreation Centre! Ward Bros. Construction is on schedule and the steel is currently being erected. Ward Bros. provides regular updates that are shared on the Palliser School Division website and social media platforms. It is anticipated that the school will open in September 2024. Open Houses for the public are planned for May 24, 2022, at R.I. Baker School from 6:00-7:30 p.m. and at Kate Andrews High School on May 25, 2022, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. At the Open Houses, members of the public will learn from the architects about the design of the school.

The Education Plan: The annual Education Plan was accepted by the Palliser Board of Trustees and will be shared with stakeholders and Alberta Education. This year’s plan is aligned in response to the new Alberta Education Assurance Framework. The completion of the plan has shifted to the spring, allowing the division to take the time necessary to engage stakeholders in the cycle of continuous improvement and to adjust the plan based on results and feedback. By broadening stakeholder engagement, fourteen elements to be used to provide assurance to our stakeholders were established. These desired states have been identified and shared with school communities and will form the basis for

identifying future strategies and frameworks as work continues with stakeholders within the planning cycle. This year's plan has embedded Palliser School Division's broad areas of focus of Wellness, Literacy and Numeracy within the five domains of Student Growth and Achievement, Teaching and Leading, Learning supports, Governance and Attending to Local and Societal Context and will be achieved through a focus on student engagement, inclusion, assessment practices and mental health supports.

English as a Second Language in Palliser: The Palliser School Division continues to see a rise in the number of English Language Learners (ELLs) across the division with 3,370 students identified as ELLs this year, an increase of 70 students over last year. An ELL coordinator was added to provide additional support to students. New early literacy assessments and interventions are being implemented and a Palliser Literacy Assessment Framework has been created outlining the recommended use of these assessments. ELL Locally Developed Courses are offered to help ensure students receive credits while obtaining the level of English proficiency necessary for high school courses. Palliser works with multiple agencies to support new families coming to Canada.

PLEASE NOTE PALLISER IS LOOKING FOR HOMESTAY FAMILIES FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR. PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY!!

The next meeting of the Palliser Board of Trustees is Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

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