

April 20, 2023 School Council Minutes - Sunnyside School

In attendance: Mitchell VanDyk, Michelle Perlich, Geraldine Gratton, Ali Schneider, Whitney Schimanski, Laura Ostoya, Sharon Rutledge, Amy Hass, Amy McDougall, Rana Koopmans

Call to Order:

- 1) Additions and Approval of Agenda: (No additions)
 - a) 1st: Michelle Perlich
 - b) 2nd: Rana Koopmans

- 2) Approval of Minutes of March 8, 2023 meeting:
 - a) 1st: Whitney
 - b) 2nd: Rana

- 3) Trustee's Report (Sharon Rutledge):

Board Highlights from March 14, 2023 Meeting

- The Human Resources Dept. (HR) provides support and services to employee on-boarding, teacher and support staff allocations, employee contracts, workplace investigations, staff evaluations and plays a key role in preparing proposals for the bargaining process with the ATA and CUPE Local 290. The HR Team serves 1,761 employees, (613 certificated staff, 488 support staff, and 660 casual employees including substitute teachers).
- The Family School Liaison Counselling (FSLC) team supports students in areas of anxiety, depression, grief and loss, trauma, education issues, peer issues and crisis support. The team has 15 full and part time staff and 4 practicum students. With a Govt Grant, the division hired a Youth Systems Navigator, 2 Family Systems Navigators and a Consulting Clinical Psychologist. Palliser, along with five school divisions from southern Alberta, have formed the Southern Alberta Pathways Partnership with Lethbridge College, Career Transitions, local business, and industry partners. This collaborative effort has allowed students to explore potential careers and experience hands-on-learning.
- The Board approved the 2023-2026 Capital Plan. Finding a solution for projected overcrowding at Coalhurst Elementary and underutilization at Coalhurst High School is the first priority for Palliser. Next projects are County Central High in Vulcan, and Sunnyside School.

Board Highlights from April 18, 2023

- The Terry Fox Foundation has sent a letter of thanks to the Palliser School Division for their continued support of raising over \$13,000 in eighteen Palliser schools for the 2022 Terry Fox Run. The Board was thanked for its leadership and looks forward to continuing Terry's

- Marathon Hope in the fall of 2023. Positive mental health is a critical component of academic success. The Alberta Govt. has provided Palliser with a grant of \$673,470 over two years to assist with mental health supports and resources for families in the division. With the assistance of a Wellness Navigator, a team of Family School Counsellors, Making Connections Workers and partnerships with Ab. Health Services and other agencies, needs are identified and resources and support are made available to families in need.
- Dr. Adam Browning, Director of Learning, presented the annual report on Literacy and Numeracy. Palliser has developed an assurance framework for literacy (2022-23) and is working to establish a numeracy model in 2023-24, that support schools with assessments and interventions. Palliser students from Grades 1 to 4 have demonstrated significant growth in early reading skills. Teachers and administrators will participate in a division-wide literacy and numeracy symposia in May, 2023.
- A reminder that the next Council of School Councils Meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday May 4 from 6:30-8:30 at the Palliser office building. Simon Sorensen, Technology Services Supervisor, will do a presentation with a question and answer period. The school assurance framework will be discussed as well as projects done with the ASCE funds.

Next Board meeting is May 9, 2023

- 4) Principal's Report (Mitchell Van Dyk)
 - 1) It's been a fantastic month plus since our last meeting. There are a lot of great things happening!
 - 2) Our greenhouse committee met and decided on a dome style off the grid greenhouse. It is going to be used to grow things as well as have a 'teaching' space in the middle. We have approval from Palliser and almost have our development permit from the County of Lethbridge. I also had a meeting with a representative from the company, Arctic Acres today. So our next step is to order the greenhouse, get the site ready, and get the foundation prepared.
 - a) Conversations:
 - i) Discussions about purchasing the larger greenhouse (42') instead of the 33' greenhouse. Rana is going to have a conversation with a potential sponsor about securing more \$ to purchase. We will wait until after the barndance to see how much money is raised.
 - 3) We have been approved for another teacher for next year. The posting should be going up next week. We are hoping to hire someone to do 60% grade five, 30%

music, and 10% miscellaneous. I am really excited about adding staff to help us meet the needs of all our students.

- 4) We were also given a small grant to help with Covid learning loss. This will allow us to bring in some additional help to work in the grade 1/2 classes. We are looking at having a teacher come in for the month of May to help out.
 - 5) Our new calendar has been approved. I have copies of it for you to take a look at. We will also have it on our website soon.
 - 6) We have a new caretaker, Courtney Stolte, who will take over from Deb Roth. Thanks to the Community Association for their generous donation to Deb's retirement. We really appreciate it.
 - 7) Thanks to the Community Association for their wonderful support of our school. We have continued to go to Pavan Park with the 1/2s, just ordered some new track and field equipment, and are loving our new picnic tables (just to name a few). Your hard work really does make this school a better place for your children!
 - 8) We have a couple events coming up that you may want to take note of:
 - a) An assembly next week Thursday, April 27th @ 2:30
 - b) Barn Dance May 13, 2023
 - c) End of May - Visioning evening at Sunnyside with staff, parents, and students
 - d) Track and Field day (tentative) June 8th
- 5) Old Business:
- a) Engagement grant from Alberta Education
 - i) \$500 grant to promote parent/community engagement
 - 1) Resilience
 - 2) Internet Safety
 - 3) Cyber Bullying
 - ii) Mitchell to bring specifics to next meeting
- 6) New Business:
- a) Sunnyside 70th Anniversary - visit from Don Chapman
 - i) Saturday, April 10th people who went to school here in the 50s will be gathering here at the school.
 - b) AGM
 - i) We will need to think about a new president for our Community Association.

7) Celebrations and/or Thank-you's:

a) Celebration to Mitchell for making the Sunnyside calendar awesome!

Adjournment: 4:47pm

Next Meeting: May 3rd, 2023