

November 19, 2024 School Council Minutes - Sunnyside School

In attendance: Mitchell VanDyk, Sharon Rutledge, Rana Koopmans, Lynnell Hudey, Abby Nelson, Jennifer Knutt, Whitney Schimanski, Kaylee Low, Meagan Crooks, Travis Davies, Amanda Bohner, Becky Gudmunson, Megan Smith, Daicya Munton (online) Geraldine Gratton, Baylli Hain, Michelle Perlich, Val Siljack-Kissick, Britnee Pavan, Ali Schneider, Conrad Vanessen, Erin Wallace

Call to Order: 4:06pm

- 1) Additions and Approval of Agenda:
 - a) 1st Rana Koopmans
 - b) 2nd Whitney Schimanski
 - a) 1st: Rana Koopmans
 - b) 2nd: Whitney Schimanski

- 2) Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2024 meeting:
 - c) Kaylee Low - 1st
 - d) Rana Koopmans - 2nd
 - a) 1st: Kaylee Low

2nd: Rana Koopmans

- 3) Purpose and rules for a School Council: Important for voices to be heard, but not a place to bring up personal complaints. We all want what is best for our students and making sure to remember that is the focus.

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

Board Highlights from November Meeting

- 1) The Palliser School Division, serving a geographically expansive and culturally rich region, is committed to fostering strong relationships with all members in the division. To support this goal, the Board has established an Engagement Committee tasked with informing, consulting and collaborating with school communities. The Engagement Committee will host three public engagement evenings, inviting stakeholders to explore their vision for the schools and the Division. The Board wishes to foster meaningful dialogue by gathering feedback from the participants to help with the decision making process to create a shared vision for the future. The Palliser School Division website will offer further announcements on the Board's Plans here: [Palliser School Division Board Strategic Planning](#)
- 2) The Board reviewed the Annual Education Results Report as part of Alberta's Assurance Framework, which aims to build public trust to ensure the education system meets student needs and fosters success.

The Division continues to surpass provincial averages, with positive feedback from both parents and staff. However, one area of concern is student sentiment toward learning and engagement in school. School staff and Division leadership are working closely to identify strategies to address this concern.

The report is scheduled for approval at the next Board meeting (Dec 10) pending the integration of additional information from audited financial statements. Once approved, the document will be made available on the Palliser website by Nov 30, 2024.

5) Principal's Report (Mitchell Van Dyk)

It's a busy time in the school world - with report cards going out on Thursday and preparations for Christmas celebrations already in full swing! Here is a quick report on what is happening:

- 1) As mentioned, report cards are going out on Thursday. Just a reminder that Palliser has moved to an 'outcomes-based' report card, meaning you will have multiple grades for the same subject. Also, as I have shared previously, as a staff we are piloting a new way of doing report cards - swapping out written comments and moving to additional parent-teacher interviews to dig deep into your child's learning and growth. This additional interview night is on Thursday, November 28th. Please plan on attending!
- 2) A huge thank you to all the parents who were able to make it out to our Remembrance Day service. Our students did an awesome job hosting and sharing some of their singing/musical talents. There was also some excellent artwork put up around the gym.
- 3) Yesterday, I had our first "student council" meeting. Grade 4,5,6 students were welcome and we brainstormed a few fun spirit days to have at the school. The students voted on 3 that they would love to see: Pajama Day, Outside Day, and Dress Like Your Teacher Day. We probably had 35 students attend!
- 4) I am working on our Assurance results for our school and will have the document ready for us to review at the next council meeting. This document is a summary of the results of our school.
- 5) We will be doing the "12 Days of Christmas" again this year. This is a fun opportunity for students to dress up and have fun during the Christmas season.
- 6) Our Christmas concert date has been finalized - it is December 10th. We will have a performance at 1:00 and 6:00 that day. Each family will be allotted 2 tickets to the afternoon performance and 2 tickets to the evening performance. As we have done in previous years, unused tickets are to be returned to the school and reallocated on a first come, first serve basis. Families who are hoping to get an extra ticket or two can email Ms. Becky or I and get on a waitlist.
- 7) In regards to doing a Winter festival, this is something that I have put on the back burner for now. With new report cards, extra parent/teacher interviews etc. I don't want to put more on my teachers at this time. We will revisit it in the New Year, or possibly next year.
- 8) We have had a number of parent volunteers help out with our Wellness Fridays. This has been great to offer even more opportunities for students! A big thanks to Ger Gratton for her help!

- 9) Our Turkey Bingo was a big success. A big thanks to Mel Jones and her crew for organizing and Daicya Munton for generous donation of hot dogs!
- 10) As always, please reach out to me if you have any celebrations, questions, or concerns!

6) Old Business:

- a) Survey for date(s) and time for School Council: best day of the week is Tues, we are going to try an evening time.
- b) Descriptions for volunteer jobs: Announcement b
- c) Turkey Dinner for the whole school - December 19th and volunteers for it: coordinating event is Rana Koopmans
- d) Water bottle purchase: bought with funds from Kernels fundraiser, will have a water bottle for each sunnyside student and Staff.

7) New Business:

- e) Bake sale: Coordinated by Geraldine Gratton happening the day of Christmas Concert
- f) Grant money for parent engagement: motion granted to use for an presentation on affects of social media and defense against potential dangers by Kaylee Low.
 - a) 1st: Rana koopmans b) 2nd:
- g) Motion - look into Kaylee Low's presentation for parents (ASCE grant)
 - i) 1st - Erin Wallace
 - 2nd - Ger Gratton

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

- a) Thanks to Daicya for cooking hamburger
- b) Thanks to Rana and Samantha for organizing hot lunch!

Adjournment: 4:43pm4:43 PM

Next Meeting January 21st, 2025 6:30pm: January 21st @ 6:30 PM