

# PBHS School Council Minutes

Thursday, February 10, 2022 4:00 pm

**Present:** Mark Lowe, Sandra Fremstad, Greg Thompson, Cammy Dunn, Carlene Groenenboom, Mike Oliver, Kelly McLeod, Michelle, Marti, Natalie Townshend, Roxanne Drake.

## **Review of the Agenda: adopt minutes**

### **Approval of Minutes - (last minutes, November, 2021)**

Cammy approves

## **Reports:**

### **1. Trustee/Central office - Michael Oliver:**

#### **Michael Willems, Certificate of Excellence Recipient**

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence have honoured exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines since 1994. Michael Willems, teacher with Palliser School Division has been recognized for his teaching practices. We congratulate Michael for his service to the students in Palliser.

#### **Facility Services in Palliser**

Work continues so that Palliser Schools are safe, efficient, organized, clean and comfortable. The maintenance staff are commended for all the work they have done, day in and day out throughout the pandemic. In the coming months schools will see more interactive board installs being completed, more VOIP systems being installed, some flooring installs and LED upgrades. Palliser school custodians are thanked for working so hard to keep our school clean daily and working hard in the summer to have our schools shine for the first day of school. The Board is looking forward to the new year watching the new Coaldale school as it is being built.

#### **Palliser Early Learning Services**

Palliser School Division currently has 227 Early Learning students in its schools. Early Learning educators provide play-based, developmentally appropriate activities to our youngest learners. Children need regular, healthy interactions to build skills and Palliser has an amazing team of Early Learning educators that are creative and passionate about their work to help them build those skills. Thank you to all the Early Learning Educators!

#### **Palliser School Division Transportation**

Palliser operates 58 daily routes to our division's schools, transporting 1850 students per day and traveling over 1.9 million kilometers per year. The department's bus drivers are a major reason for the continued excellent service we are able to provide our students within the division. All regular route drivers have completed "S" endorsement training and must keep their

first aid training up to date. All of the buses used for routes and as spares have GPS and tablets with software that tracks not only the bus but also handles the electronic log books, daily inspection and fuel tracking. We would like to thank all our bus drivers for making sure our students get to and from school safely on a daily basis.

**Questions directed to Mike** in regards to the northern families and fee payments in order to go to a school outside of the boundary (Carmengay school not an option for many families). Mike will check with Dave Shaw to see if this issue has been resolved.

### **Palliser Board of Trustees and the ATA Local 19**

Twice a year the Board and the executive of the ATA Local 19 meet to discuss matters of mutual interest. The committee met before the break and discussed the terms of reference for the committee, PD days, their positions on the new K-6 curriculum and funding for programs for our youngest learners. Working together will make our division stronger and a great place for our students and our staff.

### **Policy Update**

Policies govern the way that the Division operates. The Board is committed to reviewing all the policies on an annual basis. This month the Board is looking at Policy 9 - Board Operations and welcomes any feedback from its stakeholders.

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/board-of-trustees/policy-review>

### **Deputy Superintendent Appointment**

Tom Hamer will continue as the Deputy Superintendent for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. He is responsible and accountable to the Superintendent and will assume all responsibilities of the Superintendent in the Superintendent's absence.

### **2022-2023 Calendar Approved**

The Board sent the 2022-2023 draft calendar to stakeholders for their review and input. After much discussion the Board approved the calendar for the upcoming year. The calendar will be available for viewing on the Division website at

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/schools/school-calendar-information>. Schools will post their individual school calendars to their websites as soon as they are approved by administrators..

### **Technology Department Update**

The Palliser School Division Technology Services Department is focused on providing students and staff with the tools needed to ensure high-quality learning environments. There is an ongoing focus on utilizing technology that promotes efficiencies and improves the engagement of all stakeholders. Palliser students have access to approximately 6,800 Chromebooks which is better than one computer for every two students. Every teacher and instructor has a Chromebook. Palliser student records have been uploaded into the Provincial Access to Student Information (PASI) database. All staff records are being digitized and the business records are being stored digitally.

## School Council Engagement Grants

Through the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant, each school council will receive \$500 to better support individual school councils and strengthen engagement with parents. Examples of parent engagement activities and projects that funds can be used for include: workshops for parents to increase capacity for school council members, information sessions on how parents can support student learning at home and at school, parent resources and workshops on important topics such as, mental health and well-being, cyber bullying, healthy living, etc., programs to support families including those of English language and of indigenous learners, parent resources and tools in multiple languages, events to engage parents on important local issues, parent engagement in promoting the value of arts, trainer or facilitator costs for professional development, and workshops or sessions associated with the above.

## Coaldale School and Recreation Centre Update

Work continues on the new school and recreation centre in Coaldale.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Ward-Bros-Construction-Ltd-858222884324018>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/p/CY9\\_X\\_bP1bE/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CY9_X_bP1bE/)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WardBros1976/status/1484292930235817986/photo/>

## **2. Principal Report: Mark Lowe**

- 21/22 School Year
  - Second term has started well
  - Drama production has started up. Thank you to those that helped to consider the appropriateness of the play.
  - CoVid regulations ever changing. Mandates are tied to hospitalizations so may be a hiccup or two yet.
  - More new students coming into PBHS both this year and looking into 2022/2023. After next year enrollment will be dropping as large groups are graduating and low numbers are coming in.
  - 2022 Golf Tourney - no golf ball drop, thoughts on the tourney. We have about 50% of sponsors already filled (carried over from last year) and we will meet with the committee in March.
  - GSA has been requested at school. It will essentially be a support group for struggling students. This is still fairly new but we are going to move towards setting this up and getting more information as to what is involved.

- 22/23 School year
  - Projection is for school growth next year, but it will likely drop in coming years based on graduating class sizes and future incoming Grade 7 class sizes
  - Calendar is less flexible next year. Used to have flexibility on which days, but new system may have more days set in stone now.
  - Approved to be a Farm Ed pilot school next year. I will meet with town council on Feb 14 to present and collaborate. We are hoping to run a plant-based program with a functioning chicken coop as well.
  - Waiting on approval from Division to build our CTS Construction 'mega facility' in order to run a journeyman carpentry program as well as the farm ed. Program. The concern with the mega building is that Palliser will not fund the yearly costs of heating or maintenance. Right now, we have not been given assurance to keep the program once the new school is up and running in Coaldale. **Kelly McLeod** mentioned that perhaps be looking for grants to add solar power or other green initiatives that would bring down yearly costs. We are hoping to have this structure as a joint-use facility with the community.
  - 2022 Volleyball Provincials. We are going to be gearing up for this with no mandates in place for CoVid. We will need to look at costs for video and banquets. We will need to form committees and start looking at how to best proceed.
  - PBB is no longer going to be an outreach school but will be transitioning to an online school. Ramifications for us is that we lose some flexibility in programming for some of our students.
  - A working timetable has been created for next year but it is full of predictions
    - FTE allotment, LST allotment, ACHIEVE program status
    - **Mark has asked Mike Oliver to look to palliser for next year staffing allocations so that we can make best plans possible.**

### **3. Council - Sandra Fremstad**

- Sandra has drawn up a PBHS School Council 'Operating Procedures'. Copies have been signed and Mark has a copy in the office.
- Natalie is still looking for top soil for the planters in the back.
- Christmas Turkey dinner was awesome and the Albione Ridge Colony has been booked for next year (Dec 2022)

### **New Business:**

International Trip for next year. Is this a possibility? PBHS is looking to entertain this. Conversation with Deanna Williams to follow.

Is there also a possibility for a Marine Biology? We will check with Brian to see if this is also a possibility as well.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, March 10, @ 4 pm**