

Vulcan Prairieview Elementary Parent Council

** these minutes are a condensed account of a 3.5 hour long meeting. Any points that were missed or concerns voiced that you feel are not fairly captured here, please email me to address those issues

Oct 5th 2021

Present : Toby Clarke, MaryAnn Fath, Shari Markert, Morgan Fulton, Irene de la Cue, Shila Provost, Jessica Mix, Erika Scobie, Tiara Krystalowich, Amanda Gauthier, Christina Jackson, Dani Godkin, Tiffany Wyatt, Marla Loyva, Brent Friesen, Tina Reimer, Nancy Nolan

Online – list coming...

Principal - Tracy Inaba, Deputy Superintendent Tom Hamer, Grade ½ Teacher Heather Bianchini

Trustees - Robert Strauss, Lorelei Bexte

Contact Information – phone numbers are available, please email me if needed

tom.hamer@pallisersd.ab.ca Deputy Superintendent

shane.cranston@pallisersd.ab.ca Director of Learning

tracy.inaba@pallisersd.ab.ca Principal Vulcan Prairieview Elementary

loirelei.bexte@pallisersd.ab.ca School Board Trustee

Robert.strauss@pallisersd.ab.ca School Board Trustee

Regrets :

Meeting Called to Order – 6.47

Agenda presented

Minutes from Sept meeting were presented - Toby moved the minutes as read. Motion Passed

Tracy Inaba – Principal report – please see attached

Comprehensive school threat assessment guidelines-

Schools were using a zero tolerance approach and have moved to CSTAG model -School Threat Assessment Decision Tree. Allows school to take into consideration context. Team effort that will go through a process to decide on intent and consequences

Tom Hamer – Deputy Superintendent- explained the CSTAG model. The Palliser Division has shifted to this new approach this year.

Various parents have asked questions relating to how the system works. When and how fast these processes will happen. Who is informed and when. The resolution process. Level of threat / situations

Parents expressed issue with the process being followed unfairly

—

Tom Hamer has acknowledged a lack of communication at all levels –

There is recognition that this all takes time and effort on the parent side

Recognition of the time and effort for the parents to come tonight. It shows a level of concern in the community for the kids at the school

If you believe there is a serious threat situation call the police

Please sit down with your kids and explain to them how to deal with a threatening situation. Kids are encouraged to talk to a trusted teacher, find a parent, and they can also call home.

Tracy explained the new restorative practices system

System is being evaluated and the results are not always evident to the parents

How to escalate concerns – First point of contact should be the teacher and principal. If you feel the issue is not addressed, please escalate it to Tom Hamer (email contact at the top of these minutes)

If Tom does not address your concerns, please escalate it to the Superintendent. From there it could go to a review board and possibly the ministry of education.

Immediate action has been promised to some of the concerns raised.

It has been asked that teachers are made immediately aware of situations so they can better address parent concerns

It has been asked what level of threats would warrant a notice to go home to parents

It has been asked that timely and appropriate communication improve on all levels

It has been promised that information on all concerns will be forthcoming and Tom Hamer will be back to the November meeting to address the concerns and will be available for all meetings this year if need be to restore faith in the school community and provide some accountability

Policy guidelines for threat assessment and CSTAG documents can be found here

[Procedures | Palliser Regional Schools \(pallisersd.ab.ca\)](#) administration procedure 317

Our school survey will be coming out soon for parents and children at the school–
School goals for 2021/2022-

foster a climate that supports and enhances mental and physical wellness

Develop confidence in numeracy

Truth Reconciliation Week – various events happened at the school

Parent teacher interviews – online or via phone. Also opening up to in person! Details to follow

Interviews are done early before report cards to address issues and be pro-active

Report cards come out at end of November

Book Fair – parent access online. Kids can go in person. School will look at opening up to parents, possibly scheduling a time to go

Can Parents volunteer in the school? Current focus is on keeping kids safe. New guidelines are coming in today regarding new government announcements. Covid not going away, how can we adapt and be flexible. 18 months have passed since we started down this path and what is the path forward. Parent / children feeling the disconnect especially with the younger kids whose parents have never been in the school.

Are rural schools rated the same as city schools? – city cohorts are much larger than our whole school. This year lock down is not as strict and the cohort definitions may allow for some requests. Palliser definition is that each school is unique and can provide some flexibility

Lorelei Bexte – School Trustee Report - Please see attached

Highlights from the Sept 28th meeting of the board –

Palliser School Division schools engaged in awareness activities related to nature, empathy, relationships, and Blackfoot language with Orange Shirt Day, landing on different days throughout the week for our schools.

Covid 19 – Palliser Division is continuing to monitor across all schools. Division was notifying and monitoring school attendance and reporting absentee due to illness 10% greater. AHS may declare outbreak and advise voluntary measures.

AHS will start reporting close contacts in November. More information to follow

At the end of Tuesday's meeting - the last one of the term before the October 18 election, the school division paid tribute to Robert Strauss and Kristine Cassie, both of whom did not seek re-election. The Board and administration thanked both trustees for their guidance, hardwork and insight that they have provided to our division over the years.

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

Robert Strauss - Sends positive thoughts. We have a great group of parents and great group of people. We will aspire to be better tomorrow than today.

School Trustees would like to be contacted directly from parents with concerns

Treasurer Report – Please see attached

One invoice for market street for fruit program

Hot Lunch – Amanda Gauthier - We are not doing food cards. If there is a balance remaining for a food card, you will be notified. **You can put the money for all your kids in one envelope.** Please write on the envelope who those kids are

Old Business –

Missed Kindergarten Graduation Photo from 2019/2020 class – email coming soon from the school to current grade 2 parents that had kids in Kindergarten. Problems with privacy issue related to photos the school or teachers may have. Can possibly use this years school photo, school photo from two years ago or last day of school from kindergarten that parent may have. More information coming

Bus arrival – 8.25 am general bus arrival, morning bell does not ring until 8.35

Kids are currently standing on a dot for ten minutes. Kids will be allowed in early during cold weather. Looking at other possibilities

School milk program – daycare program can put away the early morning milk delivery on Tuesdays. Alicia Earl will start the process and milk program should be starting soon

New Business –

Basketball program – Mrs. Bianchini addressed the issue

Fluid covid protocols as the forms were handed out

Had 40+ kids sign up.

Will try for a 330 and 415 class in the future. Will check back with head office.

Vollunteers – Issue with cross country – were parents allowed to cheer their kids on?

Vollunteer list – what is the protocol for volunteering?

Issues with some people being asked to volunteer and a change from the open call for vollunteers on facebook

School will be coming out with clear communication about who and how to volunteer

** Thank you to Mrs Dawson for putting together amazing and fun opportunities for our kids

One book one school – Program purchased out of the United States – bringing a package we can manipulate for our school purposes

Decision needs to be made if it can or will happen. Or should be postponed until next year

Feedback from teachers is - not in June or December

Broken Communication – What is the role of Parent Council – please see attached

Discussion around if parent fundraisers are needed or can get by with casino money

Need some direction around the outdoor classroom and the goal of having casino money spent on an agreed upon project instead of extensions being used when the money is not spent

Meeting adjourned at 9.00

Casino meeting called to order at 9.01

Minutes read by Nancy Nolan and motion made by Toby Clarke to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried

Shila has updated the casino account

Meeting adjourned at 9.02

After Adjournment Discussion -

Tom Hamer – Deputy Superintendent was asked to review what he heard from the meeting

Generally communication not good

Genuine concerns of safety for individual children

Parent council doesn't feel that they have the ear of the school

Request from Parent Council -

Asking for an email sent to parents from Palliser – explaining and outlining the chain of communication and appropriate contacts. Appropriate time requirements for issues and accountability

Genuine hope that frustrations have been heard and will be addressed and the breakdown in relations can be restored through hard work on all sides

Notice is sent to parents if a hold and secure happens at the school

Palliser will be looking into what school threat instances can be communicated broadly

Items have been actioned today by Palliser staff. What results can be seen or communicated to parents will be reviewed and expressed when appropriate

Tom Hamer will be back at the November Parent Council Meeting

Counselling staff will be brought into the school for any children needing to access those services. Please reach out to a teacher or principal or Tom Hamer to access that for your child

Meeting adjourned again at 10 pm. Thank you to Tom for attending tonight's meeting

Next meeting – Tuesday Nov 9th – 6.30

Prairieview School Council Meeting October 5, 2021

Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tues, September 28 , 2021

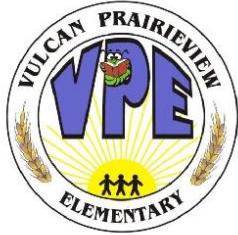
Truth and Reconciliation Day: Palliser School Division schools engaged in awareness activities related to nature, empathy, relationships, and Blackfoot language with Orange Shirt Day, landing on different days throughout the week for our schools. During the week of September 27, students in Huntsville School for example, engaged in a variety of school-wide activities, including a Medicine Wheel Feather Art Project where students collected twigs and sticks to make a multi-media medicine wheel. As well, students participated in a nature walk, where they recorded observations from an Indigenous perspective. Divisional school, RI Baker, in consultation with Elder Bruisedhead, honoured National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on October 1, by giving the school a secondary Blackfoot name. Following the ceremony, students have now been given the opportunity to take the information and what the name stands for, and create a Blackfoot school logo. This Blackfoot name and logo will be displayed throughout the school for students to reflect on throughout the year.

In addition to observing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, schools across the Division continued to participate in Orange Shirt Day, as a way to honour residential school survivors who did not survive and their descendants. This day was used as an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation as a way to come together and recognize past transgressions towards Indigenous people.

COVID-19 Update: The Palliser School Division continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation across our schools. As AHS is no longer identifying nor following up with individual close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and quarantine for close contacts is no longer mandatory, the Division has started notifying families and school communities of reported cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are monitoring school attendance and reporting instances to AHS where absenteeism due to illness on any given school day exceeds 10% or greater. Where absenteeism of 10% or greater has been identified by AHS due to illness, AHS is investigating and may declare an outbreak and recommend additional voluntary measures. The Palliser Guidance document was updated on September 22nd outlining specific requirements for cohorts, physical distancing, drop-off and pick-up procedures, masking, field trips, and performance activities.

Farewell to Two Trustees: At the end of Tuesday's meeting - the last one of the term before the October 18 election, the school division paid tribute to Robert Strauss and Kristine Cassie, both of whom did not seek re-election. The Board and administration thanked both trustees for their guidance, hardwork and insight that they have provided to our division over the years.

The next meeting of the Palliser Board of Trustees is October 26, 2021.
Any questions or concerns please contact Lorelei Bexte (403) 485-0823.



VULCAN PRAIRIEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

305 – 6 Ave. S., Box 300, Vulcan, Alberta T0L 2B0

Phone: (403) 485-2074 Fax: 485-6352

Principal: Tracy Inaba, B.Ed., M.Ed.

School Council Principal's Report - October 5, 2021

Discussion Items:

- **Discussion about Palliser's Threat Assessment Protocols - Admin Procedure 317** - Tracy will provide a run-through of the protocols we follow if/when a threat is made.
- **OurSchool Survey** -- coming soon to both parents and students. We would appreciate getting as many responses back as possible. Is there any information that the school council would like to hear from parents?
 - **Parent involvement in their child's education** - On our Assurance Measures survey (the former Accountability Pillar), it was noted that parents felt they didn't have much opportunity to be involved in the decisions around their child's learning. What ways would parents like to be involved?
- **School Goals for 2021-2022**
 - To foster a climate that supports and enhances mental and physical wellness.
 - Linked to this is our Restorative Practices model of school culture/discipline.
 - To develop student **confidence, fluency and enjoyment** in **numeracy** through intentional assessment, intervention and application of research-based best numeracy practices.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Week**
 - All of our classes participated in a number of lessons, activities and discussions around Truth and Reconciliation and the impact that residential schools have had on the Indigenous community. While it is a primary focus during this week, we do work on building foundational knowledge around the First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities throughout the year.
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews**
 - These will once again be online and/or via the phone. Our online booking system will open up one week prior to interviews.
 - October 20 and 21 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm.
- **Book Fair**
 - October 19-21

Information Items:

- Friday is a "Sports Day" spirit day.
- We raised over \$3300 dollars for Terry Fox! Thanks to everyone who supported this worthy cause.
- School photos will be on Oct. 21.

School Council Foundation

Principal's Report - October 5, 2021

Nothing to report at this time.