

**PLC School Council Meeting  
February 7, 2024  
Collaboration Centre**

**In attendance:** Jeremy Clements (Co-Chair), Brigette McKee (Co-Chair), Sue Chaffey (Vice Chair), Evan Luke, Lacey Clark, Lorna Townell, Lorraine Stewart, Chris Shaw

**1. Treaty Statement**

The meeting began with Jeremy sharing the land acknowledgement *“We honour all the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We acknowledge that the ancestral and traditional lands on which we gather are Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground for many indigenous peoples, and in particular our neighbours, Paul First Nation, Enoch Cree Nation, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, and Alexander Cree Nation; on whose territory we work, live, and play, and on whose territory we stand.”*

**2. Introductions**

Roundtable discussions were completed to welcome everyone to the meeting.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Sue Chaffey. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2024, meeting by Evan Luke. Motion carried.

**4. Trustee Report – Board Chair, Lorraine Stewart**

Lorraine shared an overview of activity of the Parkland School Division Board of Trustees including:

The Board directed administration to establish a submission deadline for schools to nominate a first-year teacher for the Alberta School Boards Association Edwin Parr Award. Also, the Board identified Anne Montgomery, Aimee Hennig and Board Chair, Lorraine Stewart to sit on a selection committee to choose PSD's nominee. Each board must select one teacher as their official nominee, who will represent their zone. (Zone 2/3)

The Board received as information the [Quarterly Financial Report](#) for the period ending November 30, 2023. As of November 30th, revenues year-to-date were \$39.1 million and expenditures year-to-date were \$36.9 million resulting in a surplus of \$2.3 million. A surplus of \$1.3 million is currently forecast for the year ending August 31, 2024. Approximately \$1.26 million will be transferred to capital reserves for required projects.

The Board received as information the [2024-2025 School Year Calendar Report](#). The school calendar amendments accommodate the strong interests represented through stakeholder feedback and take careful consideration into the placement of non-instructional professional development days as well as Alberta Education's schedule for Diploma Examinations.

Highlights include a first day of school for students as Wednesday August 28, 2024, maintaining the November Fall Break (Nov. 12 - 15), as well as a Spring Break beginning March 31, 2025. The last day of school for students will be Thursday June 26, 2025. The calendar consists of:

- a. 181 instructional days
- b. 10 Statutory holidays
- c. 13 professional development days
- d. 18 non-operational days

Alternate school year calendars will be adopted specifically for a few PSD schools, including Entwistle School and Athabasca Delta Community School. Those alternate calendars will be shared with families once they are finalized.

The Board received as information the [Literacy Report](#) as presented by Division Principal, Linda Madge-Arkininstall.

## **5. Chair Report**

Jeremy shared that a Google form has been created for online submissions to the school council as well as an email address for those wishing to connect with school council. A QR code is being developed so that feedback and appreciation can be shared.

Jeremy spoke about the letter being crafted regarding the concerns with the weighted moving average (WMA) and his attendance at the Council of School Council meeting. He shared with members in attendance that the PLC school council plans to send the letter to ministers (health, child and family services, etc.) and MLAs in the near future and encouraged members to use the letter to email their government representatives.

The PLC school council has a \$500 budget to attend the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) conference and AGM which is being held in Edmonton from April 26-28 or to bring in speaker, if desired. There is an option pool the \$500 with other schools to bring in speakers/presenters.

## **6. Principal Report**

Chris shared that North Central teacher convention is running from February 8-9. This is an annual 2-day professional development event. Approximately 5,000 people will attend, there is a keynote speaker, and various categories are covered including athletics, French immersion, administration, etc.

Chris shared that PLC held a Valentine's dance (one for K- 5 and another for Gr 6-9). Overall, they went very well.

There is a Winter Walk planned for Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at Jubilee and there was a request that if anyone has gently used winter gear to donate, to please contact Chris.

Chris indicated that weekly memos would start being posted to the PLC website. This allows for the incorporation of images.

There was a discussion about inviting Constable Gord Marshall (community liaison with the RCMP) to speak to the PLC school council about social media and children. Members present agreed that it is a great idea to invite Gord to speak to the council in the coming months and to invite other schools to attend.

Mr. Shaw also shared information on the assurance surveys which consists of the survey results from quantitative data including Provincial Achievement Test (PATs) results that is available province-wide so that children and parents can share their feedback. The survey is a report card for the school. More information will be shared at the March school council meeting.

An attendee asked about the Government of Alberta's announcement about new policies that will be introduced concerning gender identity and sports participation. The Board is not responding until a policy is available for review but it was noted that changes to the Education Act may need to be changed.

## **7. Motion to Draft a Letter**

The draft letter re: the WMA was discussed and it was decided that the focus of the letter would be the WMA and the issues with the model for base instruction funding for schools. The goal is to have the letter finalized and ready for approval for the March meeting.

## **8. Roundtable**

One parent gave kudos to Chris and the team regarding the handling of a medical emergency faced by a guest speaker in a Grade 3 class.

Another parent brought up a concern regarding the sidewalk near the kindergarten entrance close to the Beaverbrook centre.

**Next Meeting:** Set for March 6, 2024 at 6:30 PM MT in the Collaboration Centre.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.