

PBHS School Council Minutes

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

4:00 pm

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

Review of the Agenda: adopt minutes

Approval of Minutes - (last meeting October 20th)

Reports:

1. Trustee/Central office - Michael Oliver:

Capital Plan:

Now that plans for the new Coaldale High school are underway, Palliser School Division will be moving forward on the next project on the Capital Plan which is Coalhurst High School. Palliser administration will be working with architects to make a business case to move forward. Palliser Regional Schools would like to modernize or replace the Coalhurst High School and proposes to reconfigure the grades from 7 –12 to 6 – 12. This will increase the immediate utilization from 58% to 71%

COVID – 19 Update:

The Palliser School Division continues to monitor the COVID – 19 situation across our schools. As of November 5, we had 124 reported cases of COVID – 19 amongst and staff. Alberta Health is currently providing rapid test for students in K – 6 who are in outbreak status. Palliser applied for rapid testing at one school that was in Outbreak but it has since been removed from that status. Therapid test can be administered to and staff at home, and participation in the program is optional.

Alberta Education has confirmed that Palliser will receive funding as part of the learning disruption grant to support students in Grade 2 and 3 for this school year who are in need of numeracy and literacy support. Palliser is working with school administrators to determine how to best utilize these funds.

Coaldale School Virtual Walk-Through:

Ferrari Westwood Architects provided trustees with a presentation of the new Coaldale School. The goal of the exercise was to showcase the features of the school and show how this design would meet the needs of the students and community for the years to

come. Dan Westwood walked Trustees through a 3-D model of the school as well as the Recreation Centre that the students have direct access to. The new school has now moved to the construction phase, but a completion date has not yet been declared due to unpredictable supply deliveries.

2. Principal Report: Mark Lowe

Student Leadership - taking on a bigger role in the form of running monthly assemblies and Remembrance Day to date. They have done an amazing job so far and have enough students that they are running coordinated teams to look after all aspects of the group.

Christmas Dinner - Leadership would like to help with this and are creating a proposal at this time. Perhaps in classrooms or potential to split into groups in the gym. We will need to keep kids in cohorts and be aware of serving restrictions. Perhaps individual meals from the Uptown (Carlene) or individual serving of items.

Jessa Van Nistelrooy - Friday, Dec 17. (It's a Friday 1) Hoping to have a buffet style and sitting in a cohort in the gym. Set up, clean up, serving is what they can help with. Turkey Dinner would be the option. The general preference would be to use the Hutterite Colony again and have it brought in. Dinner would be for about 180 people. Jessa will check with the Uptown and see if they could make food for that many. We will poll the students informally and see how many are attending and get back to Sandra with it.

Spectators in the Gym - our system has worked out to date and we are hoping to accommodate more after Christmas as protocols come into place from the Division or Sports Governing Bodies (ASAA, COLJHA).

COVID Update - It is not a stressor in the school right now. Protocols are working and any vaccination protocols will not disrupt the operations of the school. All volunteers (incl coaches) must be vaccinated by January. Volunteer driving does not have a protocol yet. The Division protocol (according to M. Oliver) is that if a volunteer is in direct contact with a student, they need to provide proof of vaccination. More information to follow after a discussion with Division experts.

2022-2023 Calendar - must be into the Division earlier so we will need to get input from the council in Jan/Feb of this year

DDS grade 6 and the teacher has been invited over in January to get a transition time so that students can experience PBHS for a few days in the row and hopefully decrease stress before next September. Includes, lockers, classroom, visitations from existing teachers, etc.

Fundraiser - We did not promote this very well and had a few families not happy about the roll out of this. Education on what the money is used for and how the fundraising program works needs to be communicated better in the coming years.

Mental Health Committee - This group presented on LGBTQ to classrooms and it did not go over well. Some students came forward on what they did not like about the presentation. Mark is bringing both groups together and hopefully they can do a presentation together in order to mend some fences and bring everyone back into unison.

Coaching - it has been a struggle to get coaches. We almost did not have basketball coaches for the year. This is going to be more and more of a problem as we move forward.

Bussing - On Fridays, we are having a transportation concern. Our students are out early and no getting picked up until about 12:30 ish. We are looking at either solutions teaching longer but it takes our teachers over teaching/assignable time or keep as is. What are the thoughts of the council? Conversations included teaching extra minutes and PBHS takes a Friday off later in the month. More to follow.

Council

Operating Procedures - Sandra looking for feedback on operating procedures and things like voting at meetings, etc. Parents have the voting power only, not admin, teachers, or others.

Council should include admin, trustees, community members, and potentially a student(s) from student council.

Old Business:

Natalie is in need of dirt/soil for school garden boxes but we will leave this until Spring.

Next Meeting: No meeting until Thursday, January 13, 4 pm