

COUNCIL MEETING 12/02/2020

December 02, 2020 5:30 PM via Google Meet

ATTENDEES

David Bexte, Leanne Hellman, Geri Budd, Diane Smith, Stacey Tharle, Bobby Donovan, Lorelei Bexte, Robert Strauss, Don Monts, Lori Gair, Fernanda Eisler

Called to order at 5:30 pm

AGENDA

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Add Christmas family support, gifts for students, posting of meeting information on social media

David moved agenda be approved as amended. Stacey Seconded. CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kimberly read minutes from November meeting. Diane Seconded. CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- Mossleigh Lions \$750 for Christmas baskets. \$500 from United Church. 8 families identified to receive hampers; changing to make it possible for families to make their own holiday meal. Gifts through the Angel Tree. Lundgren family will support a family from the list. Turkeys can be stored in the freezers in the school, and will assemble at the school. Hoping for pick up and delivery the week of the 16th.
- Student gifts; would like to continue to do something for the students. Geri has certificates for slurpees. Stacey has created labels. Fernanda will take care of labels. Teachers will also be sending a card for the students. Look into possibly bussing to deliver the treats.

NEW BUSINESS

- Awards - no ceremony planned. Will just have to make arrangements to have students come and collect their awards.

BOARD REPORT - ROBERT STRAUSS

- Robert shared the information from the November 24th meeting. Annual Education Results Report Trustees voted to accept the 2019-2020 (AERR) and Three-Year Education Plan for 2020 through 2023, which will be posted on the Palliser website. The AERR normally includes Provincial Achievement Tests, Diploma Exams but due to COVID these exams were cancelled or not scored. Input from students, staff and parents are also included in the AERR. The

Three-Year Education Plan represents a plan of action to deal with any areas of concern and to focus on the Board's priorities of literacy, numeracy and wellness. Associate Superintendent Tom Hamer said Palliser continues to do very well in all measures. Each school also has its own 'report card' and should be sharing that information with parents.

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- Audited financials from 19-20 were approved. Clean audit and the audit committee and outside members were thanked by Lorelei Bexte.
- Ward structure - Palliser consists of two wards - Ward 1 are the subdivisions in Lethbridge County, Ward 2 are the subdivisions in Vulcan County. Alberta Ed is looking for new structure for the 2021 municipal elections. Ward maps have been approved and can be found on the Meet your Trustee page on the website.
- Congratulations to Arrowwood school for participating in RAK day and winning a \$500 kindness grant which they donated to the FCSS food bank.
- The Trustees reviewed Policy 23 – Policy Making and Policy 1– Role of the Board of Trustees. The draft policies will be posted to the Palliser website and shared with stakeholders for input. For input into the policies go to <https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/board-of-trustees/policy-review>
- Next meeting Dec 15, 2020
- Following a question from Kimberly Collis, Robert Strauss spoke to the idea that Palliser is entertaining taking on another school - Winsport Sports School - specialize in small schools - if they join we will have access to their facilities. Not yet a done deal.

PRINCIPAL REPORT - LEANNE HELLMAN

- Transition to online learning began on November 30. All students 7-12. Chromebooks were signed out to those who requested and completed the agreement. 50 have been signed out. Attendance is being taken, expectations for classes remain the same.
- Diplomas are optional taking some stress of our grade 12 students.
- Four students are still working in the building. Students are able to come in for some one on one. There are limits, but can be arranged.
- Feedback from parents has been positive that transition has been smooth. Teachers are managing the transition well. Students seem to be coping. Teachers are checking in, making sure they don't need more. Grade 12s are understandably disappointed in the transition.
- Staffing - Brandy Zsomer for Learning Commons. Not new to the staff as she previously worked in the office. She will be responsible not only for library matters, but who will also provide career and academic counselling and help with post-secondary planning, support teachers in promoting literacy, build the digital capacity of our students, supervise and assist students working on their online courses, and manage scholarships. New Off Campus Coordinator - Jen Bowden will take care of work experience, green certificate, RAP and dual credit
- Grade 8s got to take the Ukeleles home because their music unit began and Ms. Oldfield will be covering music classes until the end of the semester.
- School Survey completed last week. Learning commons space is popular with students. Mixed feelings about masks and covid measures. Very divided. Students did not do well with online learning in the spring. Impacted their learning and mental health. This information was used to

make this transition easier for this round. Following schedule. Making sure to engage with the students. Want to ensure it is like "real" school.

- Still no sports - but one on one coaching is available for students
- School fees are still not fully paid, and some are even years in arrears. Reminders are being sent to family. Fees can be waived, but the fees do impact the school's overall ability to provide. *Technology Fee*: This is a fee set by Palliser to cover the cost of technology access including hardware, software, and network access. This fee applies to all students regardless if they are learning in person or online. *Options Fees*: These fees cover consumables for option classes (ingredients for Foods; welding rods, wood, canisters of gas for CTS; chemicals, specimens for senior science classes; etc.).
- Accountability Pillar Survey after Christmas. How can we increase parent engagement. Will be offered to all students 7-12.
 - David asked about ensuring bandwidth and technology for those students. Leanne has said that the government and Telus have offered some help. Doesn't help those students who are in more rural areas. Exceptions are made for those who are struggling so they can turn their cameras off.

TEACHER REPORT - DON MONTS

- Plan was to transition junior high students into moving from classroom to classroom. Then the switch to online happened. Teachers felt more prepared this time to go online. Experiences from the spring is guiding the transition and the move forward. The structure of a regular schedule allows for more meaningful teaching to take place.
- Issue to moving online is assessment issues. How can exams be done online. Talking about different options. Discussions with Palliser about some software options. This is something that will be ongoing.
- High School teachers and final exams - teachers are on board to modifying the value of the final exam. Not in the student best interest to just change a diploma exam weighting to a final exam weighting. Still important to have the testing experience.
 - David asked about the impact not having standardized testing on those transitioning to post secondary. Don stated that the students will need some grace, and that although important, not part of the curriculum.

SPORT COUNCIL REPORT - DON MONTS

- ASAA required fees to be paid. Request to Sport Council to pay the fees, and they did pay on behalf of CCHS.

Next meeting date January 6, 2021 5:30 via Google Meet

OPEN DISCUSSION

Can we have our minutes added to the facebook page? Stacey will add Kimberly as admin to Parent Council page. Will also be shared on the school page.

ACTION ITEMS

Leanne Will resend parent Our School Survey

Stacey will provide the label to Fernanda

Kimberly will provide the minutes for the School Council Facebook page to Alica Earl

Meeting Adjourned at 6:34 David moved. Geri Seconded.