



Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Time: 7:00pm to 7:29pm
Meeting Room: Virtual
Facilitator: Debbie Belgrave (Chair)
Timekeeper: Grant Fong (Vice Chair)
Minute Taker: Ann Pan
Attendees: Debbie Belgrave, Grant Fong, Ann Pan, Dayle Vienneau, Kelly Tebbutt, Barby Peterson, Nilani Liyanage, Damilola Abegunde, Stephanie Schroeder, Jolene Giesbrecht, Chelsea Thiessen, Lisa Kuehn, Courtney Dreger, Heather Patterson, Rafael Mendez, Amanda Toews, Natalia Goncharova, Camilla Chan, Anna Braun

Agenda Item	Notes	Speaker
1. Welcome, Call to order, absence for apologies, introductions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:05 pm – Greetings from Debbie. Call to order. • Thank you for coming! • 7:05 pm – Grant opened in prayer and land acknowledgement. • Introductions of School Council and School Staff 	Debbie B
2. Roll call.	Ann took attendance. 19 people in attendance.	
3. Open Orders of Business: Chair	Motion to approve minutes from last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve the minutes for October 18, 2023, meeting: Debbie B • Second by Grant, all in favour, minutes passed 	Debbie B
4. New Business: Update from Palliser School Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorelei sends her regards, Palliser Report posted below, see Appendix 1 	

8. Outstanding tabled actions	No outstanding tabled actions	
9. New tabled actions	No new tabled actions	
10. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting closed at 7:29pm Next Meeting, March 20, 2024	

Appendix 1 – Board Trustee Report

Regular Board Meeting December 12, 2023

The Naming of Coaldale School: Palliser School Division's Board of Trustees has officially chosen Coaldale Prairie Winds Secondary' as the name for the new school. The name elements were proposed by the community at large through submissions on an engagement website. A panel of members from the Coaldale school community helped refine the ideas, and the Board of Trustees considered this to be the most fitting choice.

The school will serve students in Grades 7-12. There will also be a grade reconfiguration for the other two Palliser School Division schools: R.I. Baker School will serve Grades 4-6, and Jennie Emery Elementary School will cater to Kindergarten through Grade 3.

Palliser School Division believes that having a name for the new school will not only provide a sense of identity but also generate excitement and a stronger connection within our community. The school is set to open its doors to students in the 2024/2025 school year.

Early Learning Report: Palliser School Division's Early Learning program currently supports 226 children. These programs, often a child's first experience with school, are designed to offer rich learning environments. They are particularly beneficial for children who need assistance with language development or have other identified needs that benefit from early intervention.

This year, enrollment numbers are higher than projected, with many parents reporting high satisfaction with the programs. Unfortunately, there has been a decrease in funding and support for critical services such as speech and occupational therapy, as well as family-oriented programs. This is concerning, especially given the increasing need for speech therapy support.

International Program Report: The international program continues to expand. This year, the program will facilitate five reciprocal exchanges with Spain. The Spanish students have already completed their 5-week visit. In March, five students from RI Baker and Kate Andrews will travel to Spain for their part of the exchange. The Division is enhancing the program's growth with the addition of an Activities Coordinator, a Homestay Coordinator, and a Primary Student Transporter to assist our Program Coordinator. These roles will help foster connections between students, host families, and schools, and assist in integrating the students into their temporary homes abroad. The International Program continues to provide our students and schools with a window to and connection with the world.

Facilities Report

All schools have had new camera and doorbell systems installed. This crucial step will enhance school safety by allowing office staff to clearly identify individuals requesting access. This year, the facilities team will conduct assessments of Palliser schools to anticipate any significant future work that will need to be budgeted.

Regular Meeting of the Board January 16, 2024:

Transportation Report: Bus service is probably top of mind for many families right now. The Palliser School Division operates a fleet of buses and vehicles that has significantly modernized over the past decade. With the average age of buses now at 7.5 years, down from an 11-year average a decade ago, the division demonstrates its commitment to maintaining a relatively young and efficient fleet. 62 daily bus routes transport 2,200 students across the Division, covering 1.9 million km annually. David Shaw credits his drivers for the reliable service his team offers our students.

The department has some significant challenges as well. New eligibility parameters for busing mean that 300 new students now qualify for busing. Two new routes have been added in Coaldale to handle the influx. However, due to the funding structure, our division will receive less funding per student, which puts the Division in a difficult financial position.

Occupational Health & Safety Update: Our Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) team is collaborating with our schools to maximize safety for both staff and students. This involves developing and practicing emergency plans through drills. Importantly, these drills will be conducted during 'less than ideal' times. This approach is designed to ensure that our staff and students are prepared to follow best practices and procedures under various weather conditions and at different times, enhancing our preparedness for real emergencies.

2024/2025 Division Calendar Approved by Board: The Board approved draft Division calendars for the 2024/2025 school year for our South, North and Islamic schools.

The 2024-25 divisionally approved calendar allows for three days for teachers to collaborate, plan and learn together before the school year even begins. There is also one day where the division learns together as a whole, often with a guest speaker who helps set the direction for the year.

During the school year, two more Fridays are dedicated to Palliser Staff having opportunities to learn from one another across the division. These days are yellow on the calendar and take place in September and March.

Additionally, recognizing the importance for schools to work on their own priorities and goals, three site based days are scheduled by the Division. These days are blue on the calendar and take place in October, November and May.

Now that the Board has approved the Division calendars, school administrators can consult with their staff and community to determine a local calendar. This may include additional school-based professional development days, shown in purple on the calendar, to continue to work on local priorities and goals, or a request may be made for additional non-student, non-staff days, also referred to as non-operational days. The calendars can be viewed on our Division website:

<https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/schools/school-calendar-information>.

The next regular Board Meeting is on February 13, 2024.

Any questions or concerns please contact Lorelei Bexte (403) 485-0823, lorelei.bexte@pallisersd.ab.ca

Appendix 2 – Principal’s Report

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT - January 2024

What’s Happening?

- Christmas Concert
 - Special guests from Carewest (connection to service opportunities in Grades 2&4)
- Uniform reminder
 - No jogging pants/sweatpants
 - Shirts must be the crested Menno shirts
 - Hoodies are okay to wear over top of a crested shirt
 - Leggings should only be worn underneath skirts
 - Indoor shoes - remove outdoor boots/shoes at front door when it is wet or snowy
 - Spirit days/dress up days will all follow the same pattern of dress up or casual for that day
- Athletics
 - Skating rink - thank you to the dads who have helped create/maintain the rink
 - Basketball
- JH Parent/Student portal is open! Please contact the office if you have not been able to sign on through Edsby.
- New JH options - robotics, 3D printing, stage make up, and so much more!

Looking ahead...

- Division Calendar (not official Menno calendar quite yet)
 - Dates that are approved:
 - September 3 - first day of school
 - December 23 - January 3 - Christmas Break
 - March 21 - April 4 - Spring Break
 - June 25 - last day of school
 - Dates that are awaiting approval:
 - November 11-15 - Fall Break
 - February 17 - 21 - February Break
 - Report Cards coming home February 2
 - Spring Drama - Sherlock Holmes and the 1st Baker Street Irregular (May 2-4)
 - Assurance surveys from AB Ed - Grades 4 and 7 - you should receive information in the mail.
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