

**Eleanor Hall School Council Meeting Minutes
January 23 2018**

In Attendance:

Debbie Nestorovich- Director	Michelle Rigney- Director
Melissa Hittinger- Director	Sue Starr
Carmen Harben	Kristina Doblanko- Director
Jacqueline Shank- Director	Donna Moore- Vice Chair
Jantea Vandervelde- Director	Jolene Beurence
Jackie Carson- School Trustee	David Garbutt-Superintendent
Jennifer Moffet	Chris Lantz
Tara Thue- Div 2 Rep	Nadine Marchand- Principal
Jill Rauscher-Div 1 Rep	Raime Drake
Sherry Tollenaar	Summer Halliday- Chair
Dale Erickson - Associate Principal /Div3 Rep	

- Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm
- Agenda approved by Sherry Tollenaar **Please note agenda was revised prior to the meeting
- November 29th, 2017 meeting minutes were approved by Jantea Vandervelde

Guest Visitor David Garbutt Pembina Hills Public Schools Superintendent–

Question and answer period was left for end of meeting

OLD BUSINESS

School Council Communication Efforts: deferred to March meeting, but Summer invited anyone who is interested in assisting with this initiative to contact her. She will send out the 'bones' of the plan to review prior to next meeting

NEW BUSINESS

ASCA Training Opportunities: facilitators are available to come to school and run workshops on various topics. There was support from those present to consider planning one in February

March Goal Setting Nights: volunteers needed to provide supper for teachers on these nights (March 14 & 15). Summer will send out further communication

Easter Tea & Bake Sale: March 22nd, volunteers needed to help with this event

'Turning Point' – Taking Control in the Face of Youth Drug Use: Not currently available for our school to attend (in Barrhead), so Summer will look into having it brought in. Maybe possibly work it with Westlock schools

Enhancement Society Update

-\$1900 remaining from Casino money needed to be used up by January 30th. It has been earmarked for library books, basketballs, 3D printer, & digital cameras; which the school will purchase

-Enhancement Society is paying for K-5 skating in February

Administration Report –Please see attached report

- a. **Website** – Dale reported on issues with new website since moving to new provider
 - i. Subscriber list needs to be cleaned up and parents will need to re-subscribe (we currently have over 1900 subscribers, which bogs down the system when sending emails)
 - ii. Parents will be asked to re-subscribe at the beginning of February once clean-up is done
- b. **Alternate Calendar**
 - i. School will resume after September long weekend
 - ii. We are no longer able to use alternate days to block off a week in November, so days have been redistributed throughout the school year
 - iii. PHRD Admin made this decision based on the original intent of 'alternate days' and they are meant to create 4-day weeks before a school can consider grouping them together to create an extended break
 - iv. All schools are on Alternate Calendars other than Westlock and Barrhead
 - v. Attendance Boundary Review shows many families choosing to send students to Westlock because of Alternate Calendars (working parents, etc.)
 - vi. Alternate Calendars have not impacted our schools' academic standings
 - vii. There was some concern over the scheduled 4-day weekends (Friday and Monday off). EHS Admin and teachers will review
- c. **What is school doing well, what can school do better?** – parents are encouraged to email Nadine or Summer with feedback
 - i. Summer will send 'The Walk Around' document to school council members as a starting point for providing feedback

PHRD Trustee Report: See attached pages

Round table discussion with David Garbutt

- a. Question about change to cut-off age for Kindergarten. PHRD already has December 31st cut-off, so will not be impacted
- b. Bussing – all concerns should be directed to Shantelle Haitel (Transportation Director) and then escalated to Superintendent if further action required
- c. School Structures – decisions are made by Alberta Government, not at the division level i.e. school size for new builds
- d. Mr. Garbutt suggested we create a list of priorities to be considered by the board rather than individuals contacting him.
 - ii. Meeting will be scheduled to discuss this further outside of normal School Council meeting

- Next meeting date scheduled for **March 21st 2018 at 7:00pm**
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

School Trustee Report: Eleanor Hall

January 23, 2018

Board approves 2018-19 school year calendar

The 2018-19 PHS calendar features dates common to all schools. Schools operating on alternate calendars will finalize their calendars in February 2018.

Key dates for 2018-19

First day of school – Sept 4

Christmas break – Dec 24 – Jan 4

Teachers convention – Feb 7-8

Spring break – March 25-29

No school – Oct 5, Oct 19, Nov 23, Mar 8, Mar 15, Apr 12

Last day of school – June 27

Sunny Bend Colony School

The December 13th School Board Meeting was hosted by Sunny Bend Colony School. The Board had an opportunity to observe the various programs at the school and listen to the students from Grades four to nine sing one of the songs they performed at their Christmas concert.

BCHS students to head to Eastern Canada

The board approved in principle a request from Barrhead Composite High School for grade 7-9 students to participate in an out-of-province field trip to Ottawa, Quebec City and Montreal in the spring of 2019. The approval will allow the school to continue planning the trip.

Student Services — supporting schools and students

In his report, Director McGarva reported on the ways Student Services supports schools and their students through staff deployment, distribution of resources through an allocation model which identifies the level of support students require, and utilization of partnerships.

Student Services is working to improve the coordination of services and communication through:

- regular focused meetings
- individual staff rosters
- a case management communication tool
- use of a software program to help manage student IPP's (Individual Program Plans)
- involvement in professional development and a professional learning community

Students give back to Guatemalan school

R. F. Staples Secondary School teacher Teri Egert and two students from the School Leadership Group reported on their July 2017 International Field Trip to Guatemala, Central America. During the humanitarian trip, students worked and played with the Guatemalan students and assisted in helping in the construction of a new school. Egert reported that the trip has inspired each of the student travelers with goals to continue to move forward to make a difference in the world.

School division funding

The board reviewed the Alberta Education document: Education Funding in Alberta – Kindergarten to Grade 12 – 2017/2018 School Year to gain an understanding of the funding framework for K-12 education and the categories of funding. Secretary Treasurer Meunier outlined the 17 different funding areas that apply to Pembina Hills Public Schools, totaling \$50.77 million.

Alberta Education

As a follow-up to his meeting with the Pembina Hills Public Schools Council of School Councils on November 7, 2017, the board forwarded the written statements from each of the school councils to Education Minister David Eggen. In the letter, the board invited the Minister to a spring visit at the Sunny Bend Colony School in order to experience in person the uniqueness of what education means for the families at a colony school.

Highlights from 2017 include:

Bill 1- An Act to Reduce School Fees

Sponsored by Education Minister David Eggen, this bill will remove fees previously charged by public school authorities for instructional supplies or materials, and fees for eligible students travelling to their designated school. Upon proclamation of Bill 1, starting in the 2017/18 school year, public school boards will no longer be permitted to charge fees for instructional supplies or materials.

Bill 24- An Act to Protect Gay-Straight Alliances

Introduced by Education Minister David Eggen, Bill 24 sets out to strengthen existing legislation requiring schools to have a policy on GSAs, and prohibits staff from telling parents that their children have joined such an organization.

Bill 28- School Amendment Act

Education Minister David Eggen introduced Bill 28, which will make a variety of changes to the School Act. The bill includes proposed changes to enable the Minister to set certification requirement for principals and superintendents; authorize the Minister to establish standards for education service agreements; establish a common age of entry to Kindergarten of five years of age on December 31; revise the process for establishing a separate school district; ensure the government can provide clear and updated transportation eligibility criteria prior to the 2018/2019 school year.

2017 also saw an expansion of the nutrition program which feeds nearly 21,000 students daily across the province and marks the beginning of the largest school build in Alberta's history at 53 new schools with more to come in 2018

Looking forward to 2018: .

A continuation of the 6-year plan to completely revise and update Alberta's curriculum. The ministry's goal is to have the K-4 curriculum written in all subjects and approved by the minister by December 2018. Work on the Grade 5-8 curriculum will begin in 2018, and the ministry hopes the minister will approve the new outcomes by December 2019.

An implementation of the collective agreement that was signed with teachers and produced the (one-year, \$75-million) classroom improvement fund. Teachers and school boards have sat down together and looked for ways to spend money together to improve classroom conditions.

School Board Meetings

The public is welcome to attend our school board meetings. The next school board meeting is on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at Dunstable School starting at 9:30 a.m.

Community Events

In the month of December, I had the pleasure of attending the Christmas concerts here at Eleanor Hall School and at Busby School. I was also extended an invite from R.F. Staples School to attend their Christmas Turkey Lunch that was prepared by the Foods classes. The excitement of the season was infectious and I commend our school communities for the many service initiatives they undertook to give back to their communities.

I invite you to contact me with any questions, comments, concerns or good news stories you may have!

Please remember to enter your email address on our division website to stay current on all announcements and information from Pembina Hills Public Schools!

Jackie Carson

School Trustee- Westlock South

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Follow me on Facebook: Jackie Carson- Pembina Hills Public Schools Trustee

January 23, 2018 Principal's Report

- We are pleased to welcome Miss Jaylene Tye to our school. She will be Mrs. Rauscher's replacement while she is on Mat Leave. Miss Tye has an after degree in education from the U of A. Her first degree is a Bachelor of Science from Bethel University in the states. She was there on a full academic scholarship for athletic achievement and was the Captain of her university soccer team. She did her practicums in Morinville and St. Albert and lives in Morinville. We were especially impressed with her reference checks. Mrs. Rauscher and Miss Tye will be working together for transition starting Feb 1st. Mrs. Rauscher's last day is Feb 7th.
- CTF meeting update: We had a productive meeting last week to discuss plans for CTF. Mrs. Savoie went over what CTF is, the objectives of the course and what we do at our school. She also went over what each teacher is planning for the rest of the year and into next year. The parents who attended shared some excellent ideas and we look forward to working together.
- Website/sharing of newsletters-We have 1910 people who have registered for our newsletters. When we try sending out information it takes 6 hours. We will be unregistering everyone at the end of January. Please re-subscribe.
- Alternate school year. Just like last year we have 20 alternate days. The only change is that we are no longer able to group days together to take a week off. The original intent was for shorter weeks. From feedback we have decided to change the Friday off for the four day weekend for Family Day to October 26th as parents felt that sometimes four day weekends were too long. We will be keeping the May long weekend as a four day weekend-Parent request-first camping weekend. We also are keeping the four day weekend in June as there are many days we can't take because of PAT days
- Lockdown drills-after collecting information from other schools, and a request from a parent, we will now be having **two** lockdown drills a year.
- What is our school doing well? What can we improve? We have received some feedback, we would love more. Please e-mail to Summer or myself.