

March 18, 2025 School Council Minutes - Sunnyside School

In attendance: Michelle Perlich, Jenn Knutt, Ger Gratton, Brittany Pavan, Whitney S., Baylli Hain (online), Amanda Bohner, Daicya Munton, Sharon Rutledge, Mitchell Van Dyk, Lynnell Hudey

Call to Order: 5:34pm

1) Additions and Approval of Agenda:

- a) 1st Michelle Perlich
- b) 2nd Kaylee Lowe

2) Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2025 meeting:

- a) 1st Michelle Perlich
- b) 2nd Kaylee Lowe

3) Trustee's Report (Sharon Rutledge):

Board Highlights from March, 2025 Meeting

The Board has committed to maintaining the current level of bus service for students presently accessing Palliser buses. Clarification of the new Transportation Regulations will be forwarded to parents in the new school year. The Division remains committed to exploring solutions that provide the best possible transportation support for students and families.

The Board received the Human Resources Report highlighting continued improvements in staff retention for both teaching and support positions. There has been a significant increase in the number of teachers registered as substitute teachers, increasing more classroom support.

Support programs for new teachers and those aspiring to leadership roles have received excellent feedback to help attract, develop, and retain high-quality educators within Palliser.

The Board heard there have been ongoing improvements in the payroll system. The team has been working diligently to streamline processes and enhance efficiency, ensuring all Division staff receive timely and accurate support.

The Board is pleased to announce their 2024-25 Edwin Parr Award Nomination that recognizes outstanding first-year teachers in Alberta. Rachelle Warchola teaches grade 2 at Jennie Emery Elementary School in Coaldale. Her engaging and hands-on teaching style has impressed staff, parents, and students!

The next scheduled Board Meeting is April 08, 2025

4) Principal's Report (Mitchell Van Dyk)

It's hard to believe that it's almost April! And we know that April always goes so fast with the two-week break. Here are a few things/updates:

- Our word of the month for March is "Growth." We are busy talking about having a growth mindset and celebrating our growth - whether it's physical, academic, or otherwise.

- I recently sent out the codes for Alberta Education's Assurance Surveys. These surveys are really important for us - they help us know what we are doing well in and what we need to improve on. If you have a child in grades 4,5, or 6, please see the code that I sent home with your child on Friday. You can use that code to fill out a survey about Sunnyside.
- We are starting to plan end of the year events, so please keep an eye out for information around field trips etc.
- We have started putting up important words that represent us around the school. Our first one is Weather Warriors and will probably add Kindness, Work Hard Play Hard, Kindness, Play, and Creativity. These are from the visioning that we completed over the last few years.
- Becky and I are going to run another Kernels popcorn fundraiser. The plan is to start it next week Monday and run it for 2 weeks. This money will go towards extra things for the kids (greenhouse, prizes, toques, field trip bonuses etc.)
- Our mini-basketball tournament is tomorrow from 2-5 PM. If anyone is going to be around at that time it would be great to have a helper or two in the kitchen!
- A HUGE thank-you to Ger Gratton and everyone who helped with our Staff Appreciation. We were blown away by the kindness and generosity!
- Report cards go out this week and Parent-teacher interviews are on March 27th.
- I just wanted to say thank you for the privilege of being the principal of this school - I don't think I say it enough. I am so lucky to get to do this job and we have such amazing people - the community, the parents, the incredible staff. I truly believe that this school is an incredible place for kids to learn and grow - because we have an entire community of people all pulling in the same direction. Thank you for your support!

5) Old Business:

- a) -Track and Field
 - i) Tentative: Thursday, June 5th
 - ii) Country mile, breakfast: pancakes, orange juice and sausages, track events, lunch: subway ordered
- b) -Year end breakfast
 - i) Is on the track and field day
- c) - greenhouse update: just waiting for soil and then the kids will help move it into the raised beds. May sometime

6) New Business:

- a) Assurance Surveys: emails have gone out. Encouraged to fill them out

7) Celebrations and/or Thank-you's:

- a) To everyone working on the Barn Dance Committee to prep for that event

Adjournment: 5:56 pm

Next Meeting: April 9, 2025 4:00pm