

Parent Council - March 15, 2021

Welcome

As we begin I would like to recognize the land we are on. To the South of the Red Deer River is Treaty Seven and the land that our school resides on, North of the Red Deer River is on Treaty Six. Red Deer is located on ground that was traditionally used by the Blackfoot, Stoney and Cree people. They would come to this area for hunting and trading. The Metis people also traded along the Red Deer River. It is important that we recognize and give thanks for the use of this land.

1. Call to Order 4:40pm

2. Addition / Adoption of the Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes - [FEB 2021](#)

4. New Business:

a) Reports / Updates

- **Trustee Report and Questions** - Cathy Peacocke

Funding approved for Hunting Hills improvement- roof and additional classrooms

Diversity Week first week of June has not been confirmed but at this point and LBGTQ+ policies will be reviewed to see if any areas need going over. LTCHS is doing a pride week during Diversity Week. It is on Chad's (Superintendent) radar but he hasn't gone over it during any board meeting but expectation is that Diversity Week will happen this school year.

Nicole Lydiard asked: Regarding Pride week is there anything that applies to curriculum?

Lori Irvine: In Elementary no curriculum for LBGTQ+ only inclusion. The Board is trying to be all inclusive with Diversity week and not just gender.

Ian O: In elementary focuses more on Physical changes like puberty. If a student asks for GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance) then schools are required to have one. Only a handful of schools have a GSA in our school district and Oriole Park is one of them. It is Student Driven not teacher driven.

Cathy Peacocke: Alternative School doesn't have an official GSA but the whole school is inclusive so they don't have an official one. Our school libraries should have a variety of LBGTQ+ books in each school library.

Sarah Rolingson: As a parent she knows that there is some curriculum in High School about gender and safety whomever your partner is. LBGTQ+ is likely something the Alberta Curriculum will be reviewing

- **Principal's Report** – Lori Irvine

○ **General school updates**

Mel Hanson prepared 7 Grandfather FNMI teachings which really tie into the School district's values as well as OP's focus on FNMI teachings..

Spellathon this year? No, Math-a-thon this year and it will be sent home this week. April 16th will be the deadline and the school wide goal is \$8000

March PTI are this week and sign ups are this week. Report Cards are now online.

Scholastic Virtual Book fair happening now. Free Shipping on Wednesday so Lori will advertise that. This year book fairs haven't been as profitable. Sona Mcnaughton asked if ordering with class code will distribute funds differently than ordering at the school Book Fair? Sarah clarified that Yes; some teachers send out scholastic orders monthly and then that money goes to her own classroom and the school book fair is for school needs.

In Fall ESL was very high and Lori asked for an extra EA and the District has said no twice but now the district did find funds so OP was able to hire an EA focusing on ESL & Kindergarten support; but the EA will be able to help out in other rooms such as a large class of Gr. 3.

Asking the teachers: What are our Literacy and Numeracy Goals? Does our council have any Numeracy and Literacy Goals? Any plans to do track and field or other things going forward with Covid? No sharing equipment so at this point no. No Track meets being run or sports being run due to Covid. As soon as AHS lifts restrictions there won't be able to do school wide activities. In regards to Mental Health and regulation kids need connection in order to learn so next year or as soon as possible in order for them to learn. Lots of Mental Health conversations have come out of the Thought Stream. OP lucky to have a F/T CLW

Anything school council can purchase for the school? Kidney Style Tables pre-covid was something the classrooms wanted so can we save for them after covid restrictions are lifted? Wax-free cross country skis would be wonderful as well as larger sizes skis and boots. Does Staff want agendas again? We didn't order them this year due to covid? Lori will ask staff once again. Parents appreciate agenda's as a means of communication with the teacher/school.

March 22 is the final re-entry date for at home learners. OP has 5 students coming back.

School got 3 new sandwich boards, one that has blackboards, one with Bulletin Boards and one that has white boards. As well as Flag stands made by a students Family Member. They are stellar! Thank you to our parent community.

Nicole Lydiard How much IT Teachings do staff get? Do they need higher level instruction for Google and Google meet? Any way to make sure the online schooling process is less painful for staff and students? Is there any way teachers could learn how to be more successful with online teaching?

Lori Irvine: Google Meet is mostly seamless but with bandwidth or network issues. Each PD staff has to do literacy, numeracy, FNMI, etc so it is hard to add more instruction on PD Days. Lori will give more time for the technology training. Make sure each teacher has Training on how to effectively use Google Meets. Too much noise, too much going one, too many links etc. Some teachers just don't have the kinks worked out yet. Trevor Pikkert will be called to come in and help. Lori knows what staff need help on the tech end.

- **Chairs Report** – Sarah Rollingson

Any theme days coming up? Annie L Gaetz is trying to have whole school level activities where they don't have to be together like Plaid Day, moustache day etc.

Healthy Hunger cheque came through, it is minimal but it affected the financial report. See attached spreadsheet.

- [Current Financial Report](#)

One year anniversary of Schools Closing. Does anyone have any positives from this last year?

Lori: Thankful we can be in school again every day, more stressful for teachers to do online teaching and not an effective way for students to learn.

Ian: Because we haven't been able to do everything it makes us question why, how, what are we doing? Especially with school traditions etc and when we are able to go back to "normal" we will appreciate what we do have and do

Nicole: More time with kids and less activities

Sona: Despite Hiccups with online it gave an opportunity to be closer with her child's learning

Sarah: Families were able to join from all over with jobs etc via Technology. Blended options for in person or google meet was appreciative. Her kids realized their love of school and learn to value education and school.

Question for Lori: We used to do Family Fun nights in the spring- an outdoor family night at the park with mantracker. If AHS lifts restrictions could that outdoor school gathering happen again? Lori: Until restrictions lift we can't make plans but if things change we will discuss.

Adrienne Gadsby's sons last year at OP and she is going to continue to provide hot lunches for the less fortunate students. She has received awards from the district and is going to be able to quietly continue with her program.

5. Round Table

6. Next Meeting(s)

- **Oriole Park School Council**
 - April 19th at 4pm - Plan for Online but let's hope we can meet in person.
- **City Wide - District Wide Council**
 - May 11th - Aspen Heights - in person or online TBD with guidelines

7. Adjournment - 5:06pm