

# Kate Andrews High School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2019

**Present:** Cindee Nyrose, Tina Kochan, Heather Lee, Scott Godin Tanya Wurzer, Trisa Thompson, Daniel Grimes, Sherrie Duda, Kris Van Wieren, Debbie Laturus, Diane Gallagher

1. **Call to Order** - 7:15 by Sherrie Duda
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Additions/Adoption of Agenda**
  - Additions: 8.1 - Indigenous Students, 8.2 - Recreation Planning
  - Tina made motion to accept agenda with additions. 2nd by Trisa. Carried.
4. **Adoption of Minutes**
  - 4.1. May 27, 2019 - Diane moved to accept minutes. 2nd by Cindee. Carried
5. **Business Arising from Minutes** - none
6. **Reports**
  - 6.1. **Trustee Report** - Debbie Laturus - see attached. Sharon Rutledge - see attached.
  - 6.2. **Principal's Report** - Daniel Grimes
    - 6.2.1. **School Numbers** - For 2019-2020 school year at Kate Andrews: 19 teachers, 370 enrolled students (compared to 350 projected)
      - Grade 12 -74 students
      - Grade 11 - 84 students
      - Grade 10 > 100 students
      - Grade 9 > 100 studentsGrowth in school enrollment is projected for coming years. Parent Council members expressed concern re: need for more teachers if school enrollment increases as expected, and about potential loss of option classes, specifically CTS, when teachers retire/leave. Mr. Grimes recognized the importance of meeting the needs of students and finding suitable teachers for any vacancies that occur.
    - 6.2.2. **Initiatives for 2019-2020** - Further K and E program development; ESL/ELL classes for international students and landed immigrants are being provided.
    - 6.2.3. **New Staff** - Analee Hamilton - Social Studies, Colleen Davies - ELL/ESL, K and E, English and Social Studies
  - 6.3. **Teacher Rep Report** - Scott Godin -
    - Art Classes are making tiles for the Coaldale Centennial Project.
    - Terry Fox Run was Sept. 26 with \$836.35 raised.
    - Spirit week was Sept 30-Oct 4 with pep rally Friday and senior volleyball tournament Friday- Saturday. 50/50 raffle took place at tournament with all proceeds going to Cancer Research.
    - October 21 - Food bank donation bags will be distributed around Coaldale with pickup planned for November 1.
    - October 10 - Scholarship information night for grades 10-12.
    - October 22 - WE Day in Calgary. KA has been given 25 tickets for the event.
    - CTS classes are building a shed to be sold upon completion.
    - Grade 9 Fabrication classes have been continuing clean-up of courtyard.

November 8 - Remembrance Day Ceremony at Kate Andrews, organized by Student Council with band playing music.

November 28 - School Dance

**6.4. Student Rep Report - None**

**7. Old Business**

**7.1. New School Planning Update** - Planning continues with preliminary steps moving forward. Division is still awaiting government approval.

**8. New Business**

**8.1. Indigenous Students** - Heather Lee presented for information:

81% of indigenous youth do not graduate from high school. Increasing awareness of ways to support these youth needs to be present. Heather presented information on Belcourt Brosseau Metis Awards for post-secondary funding and U of C Indigenous Student awards through Cummings School of Medicine. Kris Van Wieren responded that the school will be offering staff PD this year to increase awareness, education and resources teachers can use to better support Indigenous students in Kate Andrews. Her information on awards will be passed on to Jo-Anna Meurs.

**8.2. Recreation Planning**

Sherrie Duda is part of town of Coaldale advisory group on recreation planning. Members of the group are seeking input from a variety of community groups on potential uses of future recreation facilities. Students have contributed input during advisory periods and Sherrie will send out a survey to KAHS Parent Council members.

**9. KAHS Toasts**

To all school staff for great effort at improving school spirit so far this year.

To Miss Meurs and Ms. Hierath for commitment and time (in and out of school) supporting Student Council this year.

**10. Next Meeting Date** - November 25, 2019, 7pm in Kate Andrews conference room.

**11. Adjournment** - Diane moved to adjourn meeting at 8:15. 2nd by Tina. Carried.

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Chairperson, Sherrie Duda

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Secretary, Diane Gallagher

TRUSTEE SHARON RUTLEDGE BOARD REPORT FOR SCHOOL COUNCILS  
SEPTEMBER 2019

1) At the Board's Organizational Meeting held on August 26, 2019 the following were elected for the 2019-2020 school year:

Robert Strauss----- Chairman of the Board

Debbie Laturnus--- Vice-Chairman of the Board

Lorelei Bexte----- Alternate Vice-Chair of the Board

2) Mike Nightingale has been designated Deputy Superintendent for the 2019-2020 school year upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dave Driscoll. Each year the Board is asked to designate one of the associate superintendents as the acting superintendent for those occasions where the superintendent is unavailable. There is no financial compensation for this designation.

3) Mark Stolte was introduced as Palliser's Occupational Health and Safety Co-ordinator. He has a background as an electrician and has worked with school divisions for over 12 years. He mentioned one of the challenges of the role is the wide diversity of school buildings in Palliser.

4) Rod Swartzenberger Facilities Services Supervisor provided a long list of work done in the schools this summer, such as concrete work, lighting and plumbing repairs, refinishing of floors, painting, new irrigation lines, kitchens and lunch room remodelled, storage sheds built, playground clean up, as well as the installation of more than 100 interactive white boards, projectors and large-screen televisions. He was very pleased with the local contractors from the communities offering their services as a sign of community pride for their schools.

5) The Board addressed recent concerns raised over busing in Palliser and a Draft Policy on Transportation has been developed. The draft of Policy 19: Student Transportation can be found on the Palliser website under the Trustees section and heading 'Policy Review'.

6) Dexter Durfey, Secretary Treasurer, provided financial projections as of Aug. 31 of just over \$203,000. A few months ago it looked like the deficit might be as high as \$800,000. Surplus funds were found in the areas of early childhood services, plants and operation, transportation, and board administration.

7) The sale of the surplus land on the Palliser Education Centre property has been finalized with the purchase price of approximately \$730,000. With the sale of the land, Dexter Durfey said tenders will be put out for necessary mechanical and electrical upgrades to the PEC.

Next Board Meeting scheduled for Oct. 15, 2019 at the Board Office.

## **September school council**

Policy 19: Student Transportation Secretary-Treasurer Dexter Durfey reviewed the wording of the policy and clarified the intent. A standard for busing must be set that supports schools of choice for parents and yet ensures that small, rural schools are viable. Administration is recommending that the policy be accepted as presented but that the fee schedule be reviewed and that it be implemented for the 2020-2021 school year. They also recommend that the changes to the existing bus routes be

implemented on January 1, 2020. This will give parents the opportunity to plan and to provide input to the fees. The fee schedule will be reviewed in the spring and communities will have the opportunity to have input before they are implemented. The draft fee schedule will be brought to the Board for discussion in November. Input will be gathered from school administrators, parents and the communities. The transportation department will have the official stops identified and will share them with the affected families. The transportation supervisor will make arrangements with the families of the existing stops to ensure that they are aware that additional students will be getting the bus as of January 1, 2020.

Presentations: The Board heard from Director Adam Browning about increased professional learning opportunities for staff in the area of literacy and new partnerships to promote literacy, including the addition of Summer Reading Tents. He also spoke about the work of Palliser's literacy team and a change of focus to a more holistic vision of literacy.

Director Shane Cranston shared with trustees Palliser's Wellness Goal, one of three priorities that were identified by school administrators at last year's planning session. The goal states: "Palliser students will become literate in mental health, gaining knowledge and understanding that will provide them confidence and support in their pursuit of living a healthy life."

Audit committee: government has stipulated that boards now need to have 2 community members on our audit committee, one from the adult learning community and one from the business community. If anyone is interested or knows of anyone that would be a good fit for the committee, contact Palliser.

Meeting with Minister Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education: the board and senior administration met with her on September 17th and had a very positive meeting. We shared all the highlights of our division and some of the challenges that we face. They were very interested in how diverse our division is and how well our students are doing.

Debbie Laturus