

# Kate Andrews School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

May 23rd, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

KAHS Conference Room

**Present:** Sherrie Duda (Chairperson), Shannon Little (Vice-Chairperson), Diane Gallagher (Parent), Kim Alexander (Vice Principal), Debbie Laturmus (Palliser Trustee), Amy Morice (Parent), Abby Giacchetta (Student Rep), Scott Godin (Teacher Rep), Darwin Giacchetta (Parent), Carley Campbell (Secretary).

**Regrets:** Amy Kerr (Parent), Sharron Rutledge (Palliser Trustee), Daniel Grimes (Principal)

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - at 7:02 p.m. by Sherrie Duda

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

3. **Additions/Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion** to accept the Agenda as presented.

1st Diane Gallagher. 2nd Amy Morice. **Carried**

4. **Additions/Adoption of April 4th, 2023 Minutes**

**Motion** to accept the Minutes as presented.

1st Shannon Little. 2nd Carley Campbell. **Carried**

5. **Business Arising from Minutes**

- a. Council of school Council's meeting took place on May 4th. Simon Sorenson and Joanne Wolochaty presented information on using the internet safely and how it can affect children's mental health.

6. **Reports**

- a. **Trustee Report** - Debbie Laturmus (see attached #1)
- b. **Principal's Report** - Kim Alexander (see attached #2)
- c. **Teacher Rep Report** - Scott Godin (see attached #3)
- d. **Student Rep Report** - Abigail Giacchetta (see attached #4)

7. **Old Business**

a. **New School Update**

- i. Site Visit date/time discussion - Building updates and walk through photos will be posted on the website every 3 weeks.

b. **ASCE (Alberta School Council Engagement) Grant**

- i. Skylar Roth-MacDonald presented to parents, staff and students on May 18th following the KA Student Information Night. It was a pretty good turn out and there was some great goal setting information shared. This speaker was funded by both the KA and RIBMS parent council ASCE Grants.

8. **New Business**

- a. ASCE had their AGM and the new executive was chosen. There are lots of great resources on the ASCE website.

9. **KAHS "TOASTS"**

- a. Miss Muers and the student council. The activities have been great and wonderful for the student body this year. You really "stepped into the batter's box and hit a home run".

10. **Next Meeting Date:** AGM and regular meeting - September 25th, 2023.

11. **Adjournment:** 7:49 p.m.

**Motion** to adjourn the meeting.  
1st Amy Morice. 2nd Carley Campbell. **Carried**

## **Attachment #1**

Presented by Debbie Laturus - Trustee Report  
Board Highlights from April 18 and May 09, 2023

- The Terry Fox Foundation sent a letter of thanks to the Palliser School Division for their continued support of raising over \$13,000 in eighteen Palliser schools for the 2022 Terry Fox Run. The Board was thanked for its leadership and looks forward to continuing Terry's Marathon Hope in the fall of 2023.
- Positive mental health is a critical component of academic success. The Alberta Govt. has provided Palliser with a grant of \$673,470 over two years to assist with mental health support and resources for families in the division. With the assistance of a Wellness Navigator, a team of Family School Counsellors, Making Connections Workers and partnerships with Alberta Health Services and other agencies, needs are identified with resources and support made available to families in need.
- Dr. Adam Browning, Director of Learning, presented the Annual Report on Literacy and Numeracy. Palliser has developed an assurance framework for literacy (2022-23) and is working to establish a numeracy model in 2023-24, that support schools with assessments and interventions. Palliser students from Grades 1-4 have demonstrated significant growth in early reading skills. On May 4, 2023, teachers and administrators participated in a division wide literacy and numeracy symposia with presentations from leading experts in the field.
- The English Language Learners Annual report was presented. Palliser has 3,525 ELL students, an increase of 220 students from 2021-22. Most of the students are in the Calgary area, LGM and colony schools. There are 10.9 FTE teaching staff with 14,155 support staff hours allocated for support of students. We have started to implement "Sheltered Instruction" that integrates language and content instruction.
- Students from Milo Community School presented highlights from their recent Marine Biology Sailing Trip to Vancouver. The 12 students and 3 parents sailed around the coast with opportunities to hike, swim, sail, as well as having close encounters with marine life. Students, staff and the Milo community worked together fundraising for 3 years to support this trip.
- The Board reviewed the Assurance Framework. The Division looks forward to sharing when the report is finalized and shared publicly on May 30.
- The Naming Committee for the new Coaldale school is comprised of 2 Coaldale trustees, principals, P/C chairs and a representative from Coaldale Town Council. The committee will meet on May 30 to review submitted names and make recommendations. Palliser School Division will announce the name of the new school in the fall of 2023.

## **Attachment #2**

### Principal's Report - Presented by Kim Alexander

- Staffing - 3 positions (all mat leaves) and possibly all filled with staff that we currently have in the school
- Schedules are being given to next year's 12's then 11's and 10's. Daniel is trying to have everything out early to ensure there are less problems and changes in September.
- Students at St. Joe's and RI Baker were given a presentation about Kate Andrews and registration forms to start turning in to the office.
- On April 21st a group of 15 grade 9 boys participated in an online summit titled "The Future of Masculinity" which Daniel supervised and participated in with them. The purpose of the summit is to "reimagine masculinity" and is put on by an organization called "Next Gen Men." There were two sessions: "New Lines on Headlines" and "Let's Talk. . . About Locker Room Talk"
- 3 of us attended the Collaborative Response Retreat in Lacombe to further our knowledge and skills in collaborative response and it was a very successful weekend.
  - We held a parent information night on May 18th, thank you to those who attended. We had a keynote speaker on mental health funded by our council (and RI Baker) and had a decent turnout of about 56 people.
  - Today, after school, we completed our third session on Workplace Culture to help work towards a healthy and collaborative culture at KA, and to help us dig into solutions to any problems staff identify.
  - Our spring edition of the OurSchool Survey will go out in TAP this Friday, giving students the opportunity to speak to how they feel about the school and give us feedback and data to use going forward.
  - The exam schedule is completed and will be posted tomorrow for students and parents (the last day of classes is June 14th)
  - Grad rehearsal takes place on June 26th, and graduation ceremonies are on June 27th at the College Drive Community Church and the banquet at the Coast Hotel. Tickets should go on sale by the end of May.

## Attachment #3

Teacher's Report - Mr. Scott Godin

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - Tuesday 23 May 2023, 7pm

- On June 13th, Culture Club is hosting the End of Year BBQ. This is a free event for all KA families and staff. It will run from 5:30 to 7:00, right before athletic awards.
- Once again, Kate Andrews art students will have a showing at the library's McCain Gallery. There will be art shown from a variety of grades for the month of June. The Opening Reception will be held on June 1 at 7:00, and is hosted by the Friends of the Library. Last year they put on a nice reception and was well-attended by community members.
- The year end band concert will take place on Tuesday June 6th at 7pm. I have invited alumni to participate, and so far a handful of former students have agreed to come out and join us at the concert! We will be accepting donations to the Coaldale Food Bank at the door; please come and enjoy!
- Kate Andrews will be offering a Creative Writing Club in Fall 2023. Students will have the opportunity to partake in writing activities, work on passion projects and have the opportunity to submit their work to be published or for competitions. Any questions, talk to Miss Gurski or Mrs Davies.
- Our year end Athletics Awards ceremony will be held June 13th in the Kate Andrews Gymnasium. All athletes that participated in any sports throughout the year are highly encouraged to attend! Award winners are NOT notified until the ceremony.
- Kate Andrews High School Athletics Programs are hosting a golf fundraiser June 9th at Land-o-lakes Golf & Country Club. Last year was a great success and had over 100+ golfers attend. Please help spread the word and encourage others to register. Any sponsorships or prize donations can be directed to Mr. Ressler.
- Spring Sports have had a busy May, right now the baseball team is 4-1, the girls softball team recently placed 2nd in our home tournament, and badminton Provincials wrapped up with KAHS sending 3 athletes all placing in the top 8 in the province.
- We have the largest track and field team attending zones in the past 5 years, and many provincial hopefuls. Zone meets are this week and next with Provincials the first weekend of June.
- The KA library learning commons hosted a travelling art exhibit from April 20 to May 17, 2023. *Farming in the Dust Bowl* featured three unique historical mediums - encaustic painting (wax painting), cyanotypes, and photography by Grande Prairie artist Carol Bromley Meeres.

## **Attachment #4**

### Student Rep Report - Abby Giacchetta

- We are still selling Pizzas. As the weather warms up, we do sell less but are selling about 5 large pizzas consistently.
- In April we hosted an Easter Egg Hunt. This was very well received by students and was a lot of fun!
- We are currently running spirit week. Today is Pajama Day, tomorrow is Anything But a Backpack Day, Thursday is Decades Day, and Friday is Country vs. Country Club which is when students will show off their outfits for the dance next week!
- On Wednesday, May 31st, we are hosting a spring dance! The theme is Country vs. Country Club and we are so excited for it!
- We'll plan one final activity to finish off the school year, but haven't decided on that quite yet.
- Youth Do Crew is also planning on create the mental health care kits for June
- Prom is still in the works for June 24th.