

**Penhold School**  
**School Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
**Minutes**

- Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 PM by Chair, Nora Semchuk.
- Members Present:  
**Members Present:**  
**Nora Holben, Chair**  
**Jennifer Charles, Parent**  
**Natasha Caissie, Vice-President**  
**Elizabeth Dahl, Treasurer**  
**Renee Mairs, Secretary**  
**Lisa Baird, Principal**  
**Giselle Meyers, Vice-Principal**  
**Sherry Cooper, School Trustee**  
**Ken Denson, Town Councillor**  
**Lori Wolfe, Parent**  
**Mike Dahl, Director**  
**Margo Gruenwald, Director**  
**Delacey Von Busse, Parent**  
**Karen Kormos, Parent**
  
- Review of the Agenda  
**Motion to approve the Agenda, as presented/amended.**  
**Moved By: Natasha**  
**CARRIED**
  
- Review of the Minutes
  - November 14, 2023  
**Motion to approve the Minutes, as presented/amended.**  
**Moved By: Elizabeth**  
**CARRIED**
  
- Executive Report
  - On December 11, 2023, Penhold Elementary School received a confirmation letter from Alberta Education, through Chinook Edge Division that \$250,000 has been granted to the school for playground development.
  
- School Report – Lisa Baird
  - Concerts were a success. Looking for feedback on the concerts. Margo's husband was upset that the grade 4's weren't on stage. Letting the parents know where the kids will be could be helpful
  - School-wide turkey dinner went off without a hitch. Kids loved it. Lots of extra volunteers.

- Kudos to Sherry Cooper for coming out to so many events in December, including the concerts
- Shoebox campaign was very successful. More than 50 shoeboxes given out to families in our community. Leadership team helped wrap gifts. We sponsored 3 families with gifts. 6 full hampers given out to other families.
- 2 Red Days recently. Its a struggle for families to find out the morning of that school has been cancelled. Received lots of feedback from parents on that. Some questions about kids getting on to Google classroom, but up to 60% of kids don't have access to a device at home
- report cards out 2nd Feb. 5-6 live on Powerschool. Grade 4 is on paper. Digital by June.
- Valentines Day - dance, candy grams sale
- 2 ski days, one in Feb and one in March. Parents have to have fees paid up front this year. If some families cannot afford skiing, benevolent funds are available to those families. For kids staying back, fun activities will be at the school. Curling and snow shoe fun available.
- Astrodome coming. Literacy day
- Grade 6's attending the Grand Slam curling event on Thursday
- Mission impossible set up for the kids in the gym
- NEW School update - Electrical and plumbing is going in. Utilities getting set up for the future site. Lisa and Giselle working with a furniture company to get all the furniture ordered and delivered on time. Vivid color scheme has been approved - blues and greens and some grey. Inventory on everything that is not coming from the current building is being done. Those items may eventually be tendered to other schools.
- New playground - Lisa and Giselle meeting with a playground company - BDI. Help with design and cost estimate. Approval processes still need to be done through the division
- Math-a-thon fundraiser going to happen soon to support numeracy. School fundraiser. Start in March.

\*\*\*\*an issue with dogs running off lease at the playground and field was brought up by Lori Wolfe. Question about signage which has to be brought forward to the school division. On-leash during school hours, but not sure about out of school hours. The town has a by-law that dogs have to be on-leash at all time. Lisa to look into it.\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*Question about design process - kids have already been involved in the design process. Committee will get appointed to finalize the design in accordance with safety guidelines. Cost is the priority at the moment.\*\*\*

\*\*\*shoebox campaign - families phoned in on behalf of other families - also the highschool had numerous families that needed assistance\*\*\*

- School Board – Sherry Cooper
  - AI discussions. March and April meetings will be talking about AI and policies that are already out there. Looking at developing a policy for AI. It's an important tool that can be used but how can it be implemented etc? What guidelines need to be put in place for teachers and students?
  - School design meetings still happening. Once the new school is built - then the Board will go through and declare a property surplus and ask the government as to

how to dispose of it - in relation to the current Penhold Elementary building. This is only thought about after the new school is up and running

- Financial statements got approved. Audit committee with three financial advisors came to the December board meeting and reviewed the financial statements. Motion to accept them was done and it was sent to the government
- Professional Development Report - a Superintendent has to write a report when people in the school division is going out of province to attend professional development functions
  
- Town of Penhold Update
  - Town Council - Ken Denson
    - First council meeting last week. Focussing on the capital budget
    - Services for the school are now up to the property line. All ready for spring
    - Trail system is ready now close to the new school property
    - Meeting with Chinook Edge on April 30th. Part of the conversation will be the school property
    - Ken to bring up money contribution by the Town of Penhold for the new school to Council
    - The pond is not safe for skating on in the winter time. It is aerated.
  
  - Penhold FCSS Community Worker – By Nora Holben on behalf of Jamie Seiyama
    - January Calendars attached
    - Family Time at PYC is on February 3 rd at 1-4pm and it will be pizza and board games. Please contact Amanda for any dietary restrictions or allergies. Poster will be ready next week.
    - No PYC on January 31 st for Team Building but there will be program on February 2 nd .
    - Caregiver Presentation: January 31 st , 1:00 p.m. @ Penhold Library. With Registered Social Workers, learn about caregiver stress, signs of burnout, and discover the formal and informal supports available for caregivers.
    - Energy Efficiency Workshop: February 6, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. @ 2 nd Floor Penhold Multiplex. This free session is part of the Red Deer & District FCSS “Every Little Bit Helps” series. Facilitated by the City of Red Deer, join us to learn more on saving money by weather proofing your home and looking at different ways to keep your utility bills manageable. Supper included! To register email fcss@townofpenhold.ca or call 403-886-4567 by Feb. 2 nd .
    - Daddy & Me Play Day: January 20 – CANCELLED
    - Family Law presentation: March 5, 5:00-8:00 p.m. @ Penhold & District Library. Join the Community Legal Clinic for an informative session on Family Law. This presentation will cover general information about parenting orders, child and spousal support, and property division for families going through a separation or divorce. Ask-A-Lawyer from 6:00-8:00 p.m.; meet with a lawyer for 20 – 30 minutes to receive brief legal advice at no charge.
    - \*\*\* Jen Charles spoke with Jennifer Blaylock about helping advertise the towns functions and also helping them come up with some new ideas
  
- Standing Business:
  - None

- New Business:
  - Alberta School Council Conference- Giselle Meyer
    - If anyone is interested in going, we can submit names to Lisa. The Board will look at how many are interested and see what they can pay for - registration or hotels etc. The Board will talk about this at the February meeting. It is in-person this year.
    - For more information visit: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conference>
  - Hot lunch - feedback and ideas?
    - Ms. Boreman is the new hot lunch coordination. Some regular vendors are pulling back so new ideas are needed for the students. A suggestion box can be made available.
    - Ms. Boreman would love some new ideas on healthy foods she can make. She is open to suggestions
  - Year end field trip
    - Usually take kids to the pool and the movie theatre for the year end school trip. Parent council has provided some funding in the past for this. Lisa is asking if the Parent Council would be open to providing some funding towards the year end school trip.
  
- Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn meeting at 7:58pm**  
**Moved by: Renee Mairs**  
**CARRIED**

- Next Meeting will be February 13 2024 at 7:00pm.

Approved on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_ *President*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Secretary*