

**Penhold School**  
**School Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, *March 19, 2024*  
**Minutes**

- Meeting Called to Order at 7:03 PM by President, Nora Holben.
- Members Present:  
Nora Holben, Chair  
Natasha Caissie, Vice-President  
Elizabeth Dahl, Treasurer  
Renee Mairs, Treasurer  
Lisa Baird, Principal  
Giselle Meyer, Vice-Principal  
Ken Denson, Town Councillor  
Jamie Sieyama, FCSS Community Worker  
Sherry Cooper, School Trustee  
Lori Wolfe, Parent  
Karen Kormos, Parent  
Charlene Egan, Director  
Jenna Murphy, Director
  
- Review of the Agenda
  - **Motion to approve the Agenda, as presented/amended.**  
**Moved By: Renee Mairs**  
**CARRIED**
  
  - **\*\*Motion to add Parent Matters to current agenda**  
**Moved by: Natasha Caissie**  
**CARRIED**
  
- Review of the Minutes
  - February 13, 2024
    - **Motion to approve the Minutes, as presented/amended.**  
**Moved By: Natasha Caissie**  
**CARRIED**
  
- Executive Report
  - Correspondence - Renee Mairs
    - School Council AGM notification
  
- School Report – Lisa Baird
  - Ski Dates
    - All the kids had a blast skiing
    - It is expensive, which is regrettable, but the kids who can't afford to go love coming to school because they know they will have a fun day

- Pink Shirt Day and Dance
- Candy Gram, Sales
- Concerns around Social Media Use, etc.
  - Still spending a lot of time monitoring and dealing with inappropriate social media use - sometimes happening outside of school hours.
  - Mrs Meyer is making a pamphlet that will be available for parents on tips about how to talk to kids about social media etc.
  - WIFI settings in the school block certain apps but not all of them
- Staff vs. Student Hockey Game- A huge thanks to PAC for the donations, etc.
  - Teachers had a great time although they hurt for a while afterwards
  - Some concerns about some kids not getting as much ice time as others
- Basketball and Badminton Participation
  - This is starting up, with thanks going to the teachers who are staying behind after school hours to facilitate
- Hanging Baskets Sales
- Pi Day and Pie the Principal
  - Pie Day was a huge hit with pies being made for the students
  - Pie the Principal will be loads of fun - Lisa may well get pied in the face this year!
- Parent/Teacher Interviews
  - Scheduled for next week
  - Still spots available
- PWMS Update, etc.
  - Ground has been broken. Yay!!!!
  - Approval of the color scheme for the school by the other schools
  - Furniture has to be ordered by December to arrive on time.
- Inline Skating
  - Starting on March 28th
  - Great program that kids absolutely love
  - Really looking forward to it - teachers may get a go on the last session
- Lockdown Drill
  - Lockdown drill happening
  - Kids don't like it but it is needed for safety
  - Kids will be well informed by teachers and email sent out to parents explaining the procedure
  - Kiddos will special needs will receive extra coaching
- Donate button on our website to help families get through spring break - some families are struggling. Can we help out a bit? Families can donate through the portal. Lisa to look into it.
- School Board – Sherry Cooper
  - New School - Sherry needs Lisa's help for good signage to get put up on the new school building. Needs to be readable. It isn't on the Crossing - needs to be noticeable
  - Captial Plan was approved in March. Penhold Waskasoo school is now off the plan. It's off because the money has been approved. County asking for another school which is No 5 on the list.
  - It can take a number of years to get new schools approved.
  - Budgets are coming through.

- Transportation fees - Board still have to get feedback from central office team to find out what recommendation is for fees for next year. Walk limit is down to 1 km from 1.6 which impacts the amount of buses. Carbon tax going up as well. All impacts transportation, including finding new bus drivers.
  - Will find out in April what the fees may be
  - Meeting with Town Council in April to chat about some things, including the new school
  - National School Board Association meetings in New Orleans - sending some trustees for professional development
  - Working on policies. Working on code of conduct and working on other policies to get them updated so the Board has guidance on what to do and trustees can follow the rules.
  - Asking for feedback on AI because that will be the next policy that will be written.
  - Rural Education Symposium happened in March in Edmonton. It was good. Celebrating Rural and all the good things that happening. Rural schools can be more innovative.
- Town of Penhold Update
    - Town Council - Ken Denson
      - Convention season - one group went to Prince George - SCM, ABM, and RMA conventions
      - Round about is going to be happening. Hopefully not too destructive. Ken hasn't seen the plans yet and isn't sure about the impact to the crosswalk
      - School Start - ground has been broken
      - Alberta Municipality - key note topic is water conservation. Central AB is doing ok compared to other areas
      - Community and personal activism to conserve water was discussed
      - CEO sent information on grant information to the school
    - Penhold FCSS Community Worker – Jamie Seiyama
      - Next Family Play Day is on April 20th @ Penhold & District Library, 12:30 – 3:30 pm. Drop into the library for a Pokémon Party.
      - Home Alone Safety for Kids – for ages 9-12 on Saturday, April 27. Registration is online.
      - Nominations for the 2024 Mayor's Youth Recognition Award is now open. If you know of a youth that lives in Penhold and is in grades 7-12 and displays strong character or volunteers then go to our website to nominate them. Nominations close April 15.
      - Town of Penhold Kids Summer Camps at the Penhold Multiplex are back again this year for children ages 6-10 years. There will be two separate weeks of camps offered, July 8-12 and July 29 - August 2. The camps will be filled with crafts, games, field trips, outdoor play and so much more. Registration will be available online, through the Town of Penhold website starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday May 7. Find out more information, including theme days, on the Town website ([www.townofpenhold.ca](http://www.townofpenhold.ca)).
      - Bring your little Princess to enjoy an afternoon of tea & treats with Princess Elsa & Anna. The Penhold Youth Club will be transforming Memorial Hall into a castle ball room filled with games, tea and treats, crafts, selfie wall, glitter tattoos as well as Princess lead crafts and story time with the princesses. Tickets will be available for \$25 / person through Eventbrite and the Town of Penhold office starting March 18th. Tickets are required for all attendees 12 months of age and over.

- Easter Eggstravaganza – Sat. March 23rd 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. at the Multiplex. Free Admission. Glitter Tattoos, Cookie Decorating, Face Painting, Crafts, Easter Bunny Photos and more. Thank you for volunteering for the Easter Eggstravaganza. These fun community events would not be possible without your assistance.
- The first Fall Festival meeting of the year will be Thursday APRIL 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room at Penhold Town Office. Volunteer roles will be decided at this meeting so ALL GROUPS wanting to be involved in this year’s Fall Festival MUST have a representative present who can speak on behalf of the group or have made contact with Carrie Black PRIOR to the meeting to discuss options. Honorary Parade Marshal and parade theme will also be decided at the meeting so please bring a suggestion or two with you to the meeting.
- Community Garage Sale & Kick-It-To-The-Curb will be Saturday May 25. Registration will open in late April and be done online using Town of Penhold website. Final list will be published the week before the garage sale.
- Census starts April 1, please encourage everyone to fill out the census as it is very important to have accurate data for grants, programming, economic development and more.
- PYC April calendar is out. Please note that we will only be offering program on Thursday April 18th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm during the April break.
- PYC Fundraising, there is lots of opportunities in May for youth to get their hours.
- Standing Business:
  - Parent Matters update:
    - Goal of every bus ride being less than an hour. Happening with few exceptions
    - Question about school division policy on cell phones. Division does not have a policy and they are looking for feedback from parents.
    - General input was that a division wide policy is needed for phones. Inconsistency has the potential to create animosity between schools because kids talk.
    - Topic of the night was student/teacher ratios: at a division level, money is recieved ased on the number of students. Money disbursed in a fair and equitable manner. Lisa and Giselle will be attending a Division-wide meeting soon to discuss teachers and division of budget dollars.
    - Survey on news letters for the division. Overall parents read newsletters on their phones. Most parents prefer the idea of having text messages only for emergency use. Question on whether text messaging of other items could come up as an option for parents to choose.
    - Division has been encouraging the use of FB as a platform for celebration. We are being asked if parents are seeing that on FB from their schools.
      - some parents wondering if the pdf is working effectively
    - Next meeting is April 24th
- New Business:
  - None
- Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm**

**Moved by: Renee Mairs**

**CARRIED**

- Next Meeting will be April 9 at 7:00 pm.

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

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

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