

Penhold School
School Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Minutes

- Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 pm by Chair, Nora Holben

Members Present:

Nora Holben, Chair
Natasha Caissie, Vice-President
Elizabeth Dahl, Treasurer
Lisa Baird, Principal
Giselle Meyers, Vice-Principal
Teresa Cunningham, Town Councillor
Jennifer Blaylock, FCSS Community Worker
Lori Wolfe, Parent
Mike Dahl, Parent
Margo Gruenewald, Parent
Delacey Von Busse, Parent
Karen Kormos, Parent
Mandy Toporowski, Parent
Janice Draper, Parent

Members Absent:

Jennifer Charles, Parent
Renee Mairs, Secretary
Sherry Cooper, School Trustee

- Welcome and introductions
 - Round table of introductions completed
- Approval of Agenda for February 13, 2024, meeting (members can request to add items at this time)

Motion to approve the February 13, 2024 Agenda as presented.

Moved by: Lori Wolfe

CARRIED

- Approval of the Minutes, as presented (OR as amended)
 - January 16, 2024
 - Amendment near the end of the School Report point from “****an issue with dogs running off lease...” to say “****an issue with dogs running off leash....”

Motion to approve the January 16, 2024 Minutes as amended.

Moved by: Mike Dahl

CARRIED

- Executive Report: Elizabeth Dahl (for Renee Mairs)
 - Correspondence
 - We got notice about the Annual General Meeting for the Alberta School Council Association which is taking place in April.
 - Discussion surrounding ability to attend AGM virtually for \$19

Motion for Karen Kormos to attend ASCA AGM virtually on April 28, 2024 and to cover the virtual fee of \$19/virtual voting delegate.

Moved by: Delacey Von Busse

CARRIED

- We received an email request to co-sponsor on an Advocacy Resolution for existing playground replacements to receive similar funding to the \$250,000 that new build playgrounds receive. Decided against for reasons including conflict of our school receiving funds, where money would be taken from, etc.
- School Report: Principal – Lisa Baird
 - Snow Shoveling - Students have been hard at work utilizing the snow shovels that were bought with leadership money. Students are making an impact throughout Penhold and the school has received many kind words & thanks for our students. Students are learning the importance of giving back to the community.
 - Thrift Store - Ran a school-wide thrift store from donations given by school families and community members. It was a huge success on February 13th and will be running again on February 14th. Almost all of the students found a new to them item they loved. Many of our students with families who struggle financially were able to take home a number of items that they needed including snow pants and jackets!
 - Literacy Day- The school hosted their annual Literacy Day at the end of January. Many teachers were able to spend time reading to students in other classrooms. In the library students were able to enjoy some book talks and look at new books, all while enjoying baked goodies and warm drinks from the Panther Café (aka PES Starbucks).
 - Astrodome – The Grade 6s had the Astrodome here in January which was a great success! Students learned an abundance about the nighttime sky, planets, and stars. The cost was high at just under \$12 per student but overall, the experience was worth it.
 - Reaching out to large companies - The school has had no luck getting playground funding from with larger companies. Many of the larger companies have stated they do not support infrastructure or capital projects.
 - Town Council Meeting - Several Parent Council members, Giselle, and Lisa attended the February 12th Town Council meeting to request financial support for the Penhold Waskasoo Middle School (PWMS) playground.
 - Red Deer County March 25th Meeting at 1:30 pm – They are also planning to attend the county March 25th meeting to request financial support for the new playground at PWMS.
 - Report Cards – There were system errors with the PowerSchool portal during the

report card time throughout the division. The division office explained that report cards were unable to be sent out due to these errors and there was no ability to print paper copies.

- Grade 4 Report Cards - Grade 4s are moving to the PowerSchool system for the

last report card of the school year. The report cards will be the same as the current Grade 5 and 6 students report cards. Grade 4 parents will soon be able to access student marks, grades, and comments through the Power Teacher/PowerSchool portal.

- YES Program Impact - The YES Program is making a huge impact within our school and many of our students enjoy the components (during school breaks and/or after-school). Miss Keira is going back to school to become a teacher soon. As a result, there will be several weeks where there won't be any YES programming taking place. Additionally, our Family School Wellness (FSW) worker Ms. Lisa Daniels is working with a group of Grade 5 girls to work on healthy friendships.
- Candy Grams – Fundraiser for Grade 6 Field Trips. Grade 6 students are currently selling candy grams for \$2 each.
- Wellness/Kindness Activity - School wide hallway of hearts on February 14th. Staff have written heart cards to every single student in our school and they have been placed on their lockers with a little treat. Each heart contains a very kind message for specific students from an adult that they are connected with in the building. February 14th is also pink day and there will be a school wide dance with chip, pop & cotton candy sales.
- PWMS Update - Krawford Construction will begin digging in March. Lisa and Giselle are working on picking items for the building design.
- Springtime Flower Sales – The school's annual flower sales fundraiser will run from March 4th– April 10th (pick up May 9th) and all funds raised will go towards school field trips. There will be 4 different options: 10” Hanging Basket and Patio Planter - \$25 each, 10” Tomato Planter - \$20, and 12” Patio Planter - \$30. The fundraiser is being run with Blue Grass Sod Farms Ltd.
- Math Fact Frenzy - The teachers and staff are busy planning a math fact frenzy fundraiser. It will take place in the spring or fall and is going to be like a read-a-thon or a spell-a-thon. The school-wide goal is improved numeracy and this fundraiser will tie directly into our students learning and improving their academic abilities.
- PWMS Playground Update - Lisa and Giselle are busy working with BDI Play Designs and the school division on the playground development.
- Co-op Grant - Lisa and Giselle are working on the Co-op Grant for Parent Council that is due by the end of February. Approval and signatures will be needed from Parent Council.
- Parent-Teacher Interviews – The school is hoping to have a number of things set up during Parent-Teacher interviews on March 20

th & 21st including: Kids Market, Bake Sale, New Playground Plans Display, Book Fair, and Math Game Demonstrations. The Kids Market will allow students to sell some of their own items (3D printed, crocheted, etc.). Lisa requested that the council organize a bake sale again during the interviews. Student ambassadors will also be demonstrating some math games that students can play at home to build their learning capacity.

- Trustee's Report: Trustee – Sherry Cooper
 - Absent

- Town of Penhold Update:
 - Town Council Representative – Teresa Cunningham
 - A rain barrel program has been approved for the town.
 - Land for a dog park has been approved in the Oxford Landing area. The town is planning to reach out to dog owners to form a group to add fencing, etc.
 - They will be attending CA Economic Partnership to assist in bringing new business to Penhold along with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, as they are close neighbours of the town.
 - Last week the Grade 6 students went for a tour at the Town of Penhold to learn about municipal government. Teresa also recommended the following youth book about government: Tucker goes to City Hall: A Kid's Guide to Local Government
 - Lisa made a presentation on behalf of the school and the Parent Council at the November 12, 2024 Town Council meeting to request financial assistance with playground funding. The Town Council provided their contact for Grant writing assistance and offered to look into how else they could assist with the playground.
 - FCSS Community Worker – Jennifer Blaylock
 - PYC Kids Summer Camp will be taking place on July 8th-12th & July 29th-August 2nd. More information will be available mid-March including on how to register and registration will open on May 7th @ 10 am. The cost will be \$150 per week plus an extra fee for early drop off and late pick up.
 - Question around ages allowed and it will likely be the same as last year, which was ages 6-10.
 - Save the Date - Princess Tea is coming back on May 4th @ 1-3 pm. Princess Elsa and Anna will be joining the party this time. More information to come!
 - PYC Grades 4-6 calendar for March was provided.
 - PYC will be doing another Hockey Tournament fundraiser on March 15th-17th. Parents should reach out to Amanda if their child would like to help.
 - FCSS will be out of the office from Friday February 16th - Friday February 23rd, and will be back on Monday February 26th.
 - Family Law presentation: March 5th, 5-8 pm @ 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 6-8 pm; meet with a lawyer for 20 – 30 minutes to receive brief legal advice at no charge.
 - Easter Eggstravaganza: Saturday March 23rd at the Multiplex from 10-12 PM. Free Admission. Wagon Rides, Cookie Decorating, Face Painting, Crafts, Easter Bunny Photos and more.
 - Jennifer discussed that the Community Advisory Service Board (CSAB) connects community groups and allows collaboration. They hold 2 charity check stops per year and their next meeting is in March.

- New Business
 - ASCA Task Force
 - Parent representative for School Council Engagement Task Force
 - Discussion regarding whether the school council should sign up for the ASCA Task Force surveys. Historically there are 3-4 surveys per school year to answer as a council. The current survey they have out is on Parent Responsibilities and is due February 23, 2024.
 - Lori volunteered to work on with assistance from Elizabeth when required.

Motion for Nora Holben to sign up Penhold Elementary School Council for Alberta School Council Association Engagement Task Force. Then Lori Wolfe & Elizabeth Dahl will distribute and complete surveys on behalf of the school council for the remainder of the 2023/2024 school year.

Moved by: Natasha Caissie

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Date – March 12, 2024 or March 19, 2024 following the Penhold Elementary School Council meeting
 - Lisa and Giselle will be away on March 12, 2024

Move our next meeting to March 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm

- Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:53 pm

Moved by: Lori Wolfe

CARRIED

Approved on the _____ day of _____, 2024.

_____ *Chair*

_____ *Secretary*

