

**Jennie Emery Elementary
School Council Meeting
Thursday – May 16th, 2024**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – 7:05 PM
2. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Danie Lawrence (Chairperson), Toni Klassen (Treasurer), Joisa Tillack (Secretary), Sharon Rutledge (Trustee), Chris Spanos (Principal), Amy Kerr (Vice Principal), Jade Barron (Teacher), Kim Booker
3. **REVIEW OF AGENDA**
 - a. ADDITIONS – None.
 - b. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – 1st Kim, 2nd Amy, none opposed. Approved.
4. **REVIEW OF MINUTES**
 - a. ADDITIONS – None.
 - b. APPROVAL OF APRIL 17th, 2024 MEETING MINUTES – 1st Toni, 2nd Kim, none opposed. Approved.

5. **REPORTS**

- a. **CHAIRPERSON** – Reports from the May 8th ASCA meeting: Southern Alberta Collegiate Institute did a presentation regarding career training for Grades 7-12. There is hope that in the next 3 years, a similar presentation will be created specifically for Grades K-6. Purpose to do so is to help children discover passions and to help them understand that you do not just have to pick a career or job; you can be a multi-potential light and take that into the real world. Palliser covers 6 school divisions between Calgary to the US border.

Wellness Kits (which includes Jenga, Dominos, Skipping Rope, etc.) were reviewed during this meeting. Follow up on whether or not JEES received this kit will be done.

Longer break times and school day times for students and faculty were discussed. Some schools have already received parent and student feedback regarding this. Conversations within Palliser regarding adding an extra 15-minute break could possibly mean adding 2 hours to make Fridays longer. This has already been tested in Medicine Hat with a 10- or 15-minute transition and results show that high schools are more affected by this.

Meeting was held with the Playground Coordinator regarding playground expansion. Dennis Dirtworx has graciously offered to fix the drainage and will asphalt that whole area between the playground and the gazebo. The parking lot area and between playgrounds is also set to be fixed by Palliser.

Currently in the process of updating the bylaws so it reflects accurately on the website.

Google Form to survey parents were sent out with the May newsletter and only 2 people filled it out.

- b. **PRINCIPAL**

i. **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS** – Thank you on behalf of staff for all that was done during the Teacher Appreciation Week. Snacks, breakfast, lunch and treats throughout the week, topped with messages from students was a highlight. Intramurals has certainly been an excitement for the children with one more left to go with Grade 4s. Badminton Club has wrapped up with very good feedback from students. It ran 3 nights a week for 4 weeks. Assembly led by Grade 3 classes for May went well. Quest came out and gave a performance that was enjoyed by the student body. Nora Chomistek provided her annual bug presentation for the Grade 2 students which was also enjoyed. Kindergarten had another outing to the garden centre. Grade 4s went on their Remington Carriage field trip today.

ii. **BGC** – Current conversations about BGC possibly staying at JEES for the next school year. Will be discussed some more at next week's staff meeting.

iii. **PALLISER SCHOOL DIVISION CALENDAR** – In the midst of making some changes with the calendar and will share some of this information with staff at their next meeting. This will likely be approved in the next week or so.

iv. **JEES OPEN HOUSE** – Planning for the first week of June before RI Baker's open house on June 11th. In the process of getting some updated photos with a new video to add to our school website. Goal is to have a quick and informal open house with some booths. Possibly have the preschool doors open for families to observe.

v. **RI BAKER TRANSITION** – June 11th is the date for their open house.

vi. **SURVEY** – Potentially planning to send these out to families and try using the new Palliser survey program.

c. **TRUSTEE** – See attached.

6. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.

7. **NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday – June 19th, 2024 at 7pm

8. **ADJOURNMENT** – 7:53 PM

TRUSTEE REPORT:

JEES Parent Council Meeting

May 16th, 2024

Board Highlights from May meeting

The Palliser School Division presented the Board with a draft of the **2024-2027 Education Plan**. The Plan will shape school site-based plans to develop learning experiences for all students by developing foundational skills of literacy and numeracy in all aspects of daily living as well as supporting wellbeing with tools and confidence to live a healthy life.

The Palliser School Division continues to foster **student wellness**. Key priorities include creating a culture of belonging, embracing diversity and fostering positive mental health. Significant progress was made with the implementation of Wellness Teams and action plans in every school. Also, Threat Assessment Training and student led initiatives like the Headstrong Summit are noteworthy achievements. Wellness Navigators, Family School Liaison Counselors and clinical consultations continue to be a strong support.

Our Division is committed to fostering a community of diversity and belonging ensuring that every classroom is inclusive for all learners as defined in our **Three-year Plan of Inclusive Education**. In year one, the Division focused on defining our vision of inclusive learning and understanding of its' importance in creating a framework for support in our schools.

This year, in year two, the focus was professional learning for staff and building support plans for classrooms. Some schools also piloted a new software platform. Staff were surveyed on the changes and progress and the feedback was positive.

Next year, the Division will focus on ensuring our curriculum aligns with the hard work that has been done to ensure our schools are inclusive spaces with a strong culture of belonging.

During the 2023-24 school year, Palliser schools supported 246 self-identified First Nations, Metis and Inuit students. The Division emphasized professional learning of Indigenous perspectives, student well-being, building relationships with local Indigenous groups, understanding of residential schools and how to address learning gaps. Our Indigenous Success Coordinator, Kylie Fineday, has shared resources, educational opportunities and student success stories with regular newsletters.

Looking ahead to 2024-2025, the focus will be on supporting the growing number of Indigenous students with additional staffing and resources in areas of student well-being and achievement. The **Terry Fox Foundation** acknowledges the generosity of Palliser Schools in supporting the 2023 Terry Fox School Run. Sixteen Palliser Schools raised \$14,529.80 for the Foundation which supports cancer research.

Report submitted by Trustee S. Rutledge

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, June 11th, 2024.

Jennie Emery Elementary
Friends of Jennie Emery Elementary Society Meeting
Thursday – May 16th, 2024

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:57 PM

IN ATTENDANCE – Danie Lawrence (Chairperson), Toni Klassen (Treasurer), Joisa Tillack (Secretary), Chris Spanos (Principal), Amy Kerr (Vice Principal), Jade Barron (Teacher), Kim Booker

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA

- a. ADDITIONS – None.
- b. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – 1st Kim, 2nd Toni, none opposed. Approved.

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. ADDITIONS – None.
- b. APPROVAL OF APRIL 17th, 2024 MEETING MINUTES – 1st Toni, 2nd Kim, none opposed. Approved.

4. FINANCIAL

- a. TREASURER'S REPORT – End of April balance is \$216,131.37 with \$182,538.48 spoken for and \$33,593.09 of unallocated funds. Cupcake sale (\$975.12), grant for playground and more gala funds (sold décor) came into the account the previous month. Cheque was sent out for the playground deposit. BMO account can now be closed as we no longer require it to be open since the grant was approved.

5. FUNDRAISING REPORT

- a. REVIEW OF 2024/2025 YEAR (ADDITIONS, EDITS, GOALS) – The last 3 previous years were reviewed. Previous school years, many different fundraisers were done. This school year we planned to do the gala with a few little fundraisers. Next year, because we are not doing the gala - we will need to do more fundraisers. Focus with these fundraisers will hopefully be something more families can participate in.
- b. FUNDRAISING IDEAS FOR NEXT YEAR – Open to receiving any ideas. Please send to Danie before May 31st. Danie to plan these fundraisers during the summer so we can vote during our September meeting for 2024/2025 school year.

6. HOT LUNCH REPORT – Reviewing list of vendors and how many we are planning to pursue for next school year. Discussion on the idea of getting multiple parents make food for hot lunch (for example: pancakes, hot dogs, nuggets). Everyone at the meeting agreed that this was a wonderful idea that they would love to see move forward for next year.

7. PLAYGROUND REPORT

- a. DEPOSIT – Toni has sent out the cheque to PlayQuest.
- b. DIRTWORX DONATION FOR DRAINAGE – Dennis to help with this.
- c. TIMELINES – Once the money goes into PlayQuest's account, within 6-8 weeks we will receive the shipping confirmation. Nora will let Danie know once this is received. Danie to book Dennis.

8. UPDATES ON ACTIVITIES

- a. TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (MAY 6th – 10th) – 10/10 well received by faculty and well done by our volunteers: Dani Walsh, Kim Hazuda and Shanda Westerhoud. Good response from parents as well.
- b. FUN DAY (JUNE 10th) – List of ideas for stations has been discussed and to be finalized soon. Last year, we had Swirls. Ideas were thrown around for Kona Ice or to just do freezies and ice cream sandwiches with volunteers to hand them out. Bubbles, chalk and glitter tattoos will need to be replenished. Art project by Nicole will cost roughly \$200.

Two options:

(1) If FOJEEES is funding it, it would cost roughly \$840; or

(2) Students to bring one (1) dollar each.

MOTION: To fund Fun Day with a budget of \$1000. 1st Danie, 2nd Kim, none opposed.
Approved.

ACTION: Toni to send email to Danie regarding permission from the Town for the slip and slide or and the sprinklers. Toni to set up SignUp Genius for parents and to contact high school student / international student volunteers to help out.

- c. ADHD (ENGAGEMENT FUNDS) – Dates were provided for May and in the fall and discussion concluded that we will commit to select two (2) dates in the fall.

ACTION: Chris to provide two (2) dates for the ADHD presentation and to update us on which date is available to be booked.

- d. BINGO (SUNDAY - JULY 14th) – 10:45am for approximately 4 hours. Danie, Darren, Kim Hazuda, Mike, Toni, Chance, Kim Booker and Luke have volunteered to help with this. Kinettes to provide funds towards FOJEEES after this volunteering has occurred.
- e. FOJEEES LOCKER STORAGE – Still waiting to arrange a date to get this done before Fun Day.
- f. COOKIE FUNDRAISER – Shanda is still waiting on a quote.
- g. TUDI WRAP FUNDRAISER – Still waiting for pamphlet options.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. FOJEEES MEETING DATES – Feedback from the Google Form survey suggested that we have more regular scheduled meetings (for example: 2nd Tuesday of each month) versus random and irregular dates selected for each month. Possibly get feedback from parents during the JEEES open house on meeting dates.
- b. TOY DRIVE (CLCLC) – Danie is also a board member for County of Lethbridge Learning Council (Adult Learning). Their toys were vandalized so they are planning on doing a Toy Drive (old, used, broken toys) and would like to know if JEEES could be a drop off location. It could be a box in the atrium. Discussion concluded that this is no problem with the school.
- c. OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS – Nicole Kaminski through the Wellness Committee and Danie through the FOJEEES are looking into this idea. Goal would be to have some kind of nature, outdoor type of classroom with lots of shade, shelter space and wind protection. Will

provide update possibly at next meeting.

10. **NEXT MEETING** – Wednesday – June 19th, 2024 at 7pm

11. **ADJOURNMENT** – 8:53 PM