

Draft Minutes of Joint General PTA Meeting

Poplar Ridge School Council and Poplar Ridge PTA

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 @7:00 pm via Google meet

*indicates written report / attachments provided

Google meet attendees: Megan Vallet Fredine, Colet Grimbeek, Colleen Robertson, Eloise Silvernagle, Kelly Fairall, Natasha Dudman, Jenn Creasy, Sherry Cooper, Karen Crawford, Carolynne Muncer, Darren Pickering and Alaina Ross

1. Call to order / Introductions ; Due to difficulty getting signed in to join the Google meet – the meeting was called to order at 7:26 pm and introductions were made
2. Approval of the Agenda for the meeting - Jenn C. was 1st and Kelly F. was 2nd approval
3. Approval of the September 27, 2021 minutes - Colet G. 1st and Colleen R. 2nd approval
4. Principal's Report: as written by Carolynne Muncer and Darren Pickering

1. **Thank You:** A huge thank you to Colet G, Megan VF and Tara G for making the teachers an amazing gourmet dinner on Thursday night of Parent Teacher Interviews. It was beyond delicious and it meant so much to our staff. We are so spoiled! Thank you.

2. **Parent Concerns brought forward to School Council:**

a. An all English version of O'Canada: We were working on this. We have found a version and have used it, but it is not with the new words. We will continue to look for one.

b. Drop off in am: Concern over cars on highway as they aren't pulling up far enough. This is rarely an issue in the am. Cars are there before supervision starts and they wait at the stairs. We have tried to use pylons to cue them to pull forward, however some do and some don't. We will remind parents again in our November Newsletter as well as not to let children out of the car until supervisors are in the loading zone.

3) **Parent Concerns Process:** It is important that when you have a concern to bring it forward to the school and not the School Council. This applies to concerns with your child's classroom or learning. You would contact the teacher first as they can provide clarification and work to resolve concern. If it is a concern about a general school issue (i.e. O'Canada), a call to Darren or Carolynne would be the best first step. We are the folks that can provide more info, clarification, ask questions, find out more info and ultimately work to resolve the issue. We have asked the Executive to direct concerns and questions back to us when they receive them.

4) **Picture Retakes:** November 4, 2021

5) **Virtual Remembrance Day Ceremony:** November 10 at 9:45am - 10:20am this will be led by Mrs. Sargent and the grade 6 class. We are working to find a way to record it and put it up on our website for parents.

6) **Virtual Scholastic Book Fair: November 15- 29.** Get your Christmas shopping done! We get a portion of the proceeds which goes to our school and classroom libraries.

7) **New EA & New Bus Driver for PR 3:** We were allotted a bit of money as a result of increased enrolment, which has allowed us to hire Sharon Henschel as a part time EA on Tuesdays, Thursdays and K

Fridays. This provides us with time to support in Kindergarten and a few other classes when needed. We are so happy to have her back at PRS!! Welcome to Don, our new driver for PR3. Doug is in Arizona!

8) **Parent Teacher Interviews:** Were so well attended 94%! How did parents feel about the virtual platform? A few parents' feedback – convenient, didn't have to drive to school, easy to book online – quick 15 min time slots, easy to see and hear – platform worked well.

9) **Fall Break:** November 11-14

A question was brought forward about going to a different camp with Grades 5 and 6 instead of Evergreen due to the camp costs and bussing increases this year. A suggestion was made to explore Camp Kuriakos near Sylvan Lake since it is closer and will reduce bussing costs.

A question was also brought forward about having the "parents prepared" hot lunches coming back into the school. At this time with Covid restrictions, this is not possible. Information needs to be gathered regarding new requirements for parents preparing lunches. It will also take some time and organization to prepare meal options and find volunteers to make and serve meals.

A question was also brought forward about the necessity of having to do both the Child Intervention check as well as the Criminal record check in order to volunteer in the school. Currently, both are required, but it will be looked into if there is any cross over and repetitiveness in the 2 checks. It has to do with risk factors and insurance implications.

5. Financial Report * Kelly Fairall

We are getting paid frequently by Healthy Hunger.

There was a total of \$3275.00 of ADMazing coupon books sold this year, with \$1661.84 as revenue for the PTA, which has not yet been deposited.

a) Casino Update: Great job and thank you to all who volunteered. The AGLC should notify the PTA by mid-November as to the revenue earned at the casino. Kelly has already submitted an application for the next casino dates, which should be for 3 years from now. A huge shout out to Kelly for getting this all coordinated during the summer months!!

b) New Casino Coordinator Required for the next Casino: Karen Crawford has volunteered for this position and Kelly will train her as the new Casino Coordinator.

6. Trustee Report – Sherry Cooper

There was an organizational meeting held virtually on October 27, as there are still no in-person meetings due to covid restrictions. Meetings will also happen soon to discuss additional covid requirements, such as immunizations.

A question was asked regarding feedback about making September 30 a non-instructional day, since not all school districts did the same. Sherry responded that this was Chinook's Edge decision on the best way to be respectful of the purpose of the day. Elders were available to go to the schools and speak and other activities were offered during the week leading up to September 30. There is an assumption that

by next year, September 30 will be more widely acknowledged as a statutory day, and therefore other school districts will follow suit. Chinook's Edge calendars will need to be amended for future years and this will be addressed at upcoming meetings.

7. PTA Committee Reports

A) Fundraising updates – Colleen Robertson

Colleen presented some Christmas fundraising opportunities, which would allow various options for families to choose from. Parkland Nurseries vouchers will be available for people to purchase poinsettias, wreaths and live Christmas trees, with a variety of options available for each. Calyx Floral Designs are offering a Whoville Tree Kit, for families to pick-up supplies and assemble their own tree with a how-to video. There will also be options available from Purdys Chocolates. All three options will be presented to families to order from November 15-30. Volunteers will be required to organize the Purdys Chocolate orders at the school. Jen C., Eloise S., and Colleen R. all volunteered.

- i. ADmazing Books - covered in the financial report.
- ii. October Bottle Drive - \$1251.40 in bottles were collected.
- iii. School Clothing: The last day for clothing orders is November 5. Parents will be sent reminders via email and notes in agendas.

8. New Business

- a) Playground Equipment - There have been quotes received from various playground equipment companies on a wide range of pieces. The next step will be to ask for quotes to include everything - installation, freight, groundcover, equipment required etc in order to determine a complete pricing. Ultimately, through consultation, 2 playground options will be presented to Poplar Ridge students to vote on their preference. Once final quotes are received, a proposal can be made to Red Deer County for help with funding, as well as other donations of money or labour can be requested.
- b) Next Meeting – Tuesday November 30, 2021 at 7 pm via Google Meet.
 - i. Future meeting dates for 2021/2022 Jan 18, Mar 1, April 26 and May 31. All are Tuesday evenings and for now will be via Google Meet.

9. Meeting Adjourned 8:41 pm