

Draft Minutes of the Joint General PTA Meeting

Poplar Ridge School council and Poplar Ridge PTA

Tuesday April 26, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

Poplar Ridge School library

*indicates written report / attachments provided

In person attendees: Carolynne Muncer, Darren Pickering, Sherry Cooper, Colet Grimbeek, Karen Crawford, Colleen Robertson, Megan Vallet Fredine, Jenn Creasy, Eloise Silvernagle, Kelly Fairall and guest speaker Raelynn Notley

1. Call to order / Introductions at 7:04 pm
2. Approval of agenda 1st approval was Colleen Robertson and 2nd was Kelly Fairall
3. Approval of March 8 minutes * 1st approval was Kelly Fairall and 2nd was Colleen Robertson
4. Guest Speaker – Raelynn Notley with Youth Empowerment and Support Program (YES)
 - The YES program is a Mental Health Capacity Building Project funded by Alberta Health Services which began in Olds in 2007
 - In 2019 they received an Expansion Grant through AHS and moved into the Communities of Delburne, Elnora, SpruceView, Bowden and Carstairs
 - With funding support of local Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and CESD, they have expanded to all communities within the Division in 2021
 - There are 12 employees providing social and emotional support to children in classrooms – no 1 on 1 individual coaching, (that is done by the family school wellness worker). Lindsey Noring is at our school and Nicole will be at Fox Run. This is a great transition for kids in Poplar Ridge to have the YES program here and then to carry over into Fox Run for their transition from Grade 6 – 7
 - Success coaches work alongside teachers to help them create safe and caring classrooms where the topic of mental health and wellness is normalized and commonplace
 - They practice Prevention not intervention
 - They help students to understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy coping
 - They help to Resolve conflict not interrupt
 - They engage students in a safe environment through pro-social recreation to help them feel secure and increase their sense of belonging
 - There is support provided to students in smaller, targeted groups, at lunch, after school and on collaborative day as well as throughout the summer
 - The Mission is to promote positive mental health in children, youth families and individuals in the community who interact with children and youth

The Board supports this program and the YES staff are Division Employees. This year these Success Coaches were able to connect with 8076 students in 25 schools in 13 communities!

5. Principal's Report: Carolynne Muncer

- **National Administrative Assistants Day - April 27**

As you know, we are beyond blessed to have an amazing Administrative Assistant at our school. Ms Salomons is the glue that holds everything together. She always goes above and beyond to help staff, students and families with whatever they may need. Without a doubt, she is outstanding at all aspects of her job. We appreciate her big smile, an infectious giggle and heart of gold. Ms. Salomons is our awesome, multi-tasking office Ninja! If you have time tomorrow, drop her an email or a call to say thank you!

- **Open House - Thursday May 12 3:15-5:00**

We are happy to be able to host an Open House for our families. Come grab your Poplar Ridge Passport and check out where your child spends their days and meet who they spend them with!

- **New Kindergarten Orientation**

Tomorrow, April 27, is our incoming Kindergarten Orientation with Mrs. Lidgren. We are expecting 23 new Kinders this year so far and look forward to welcoming and meeting them and their families tomorrow!

- **Fort McLeod School Band Performance**

On June 2, Rick Bullock, band teacher from Fort McLeod School, will be bringing his band to PRS to perform for our students. They will arrive the evening of June 1 and sleep in our gym and practice. They will perform first thing for us. We would like to have a light breakfast for them. Would the School Council like to support and help us with this?

- **Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in Grade 6:**

Our grade 6 students will be writing their PATs in ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science in the mornings on the following days:

- May 10 ELA Part A- Writing
- June 14 ELA Part B- Reading
- June 16 Math Part A - Problem Solving
- June 17 Math Part B
- June 22 Social Studies
- June 24 Science

- **Field Trips are back!**

All of our classes are in the process of, or have booked year end field trips in June. Thanks to our School Council for supporting these with "per student" funding. If you hope to be able to volunteer on field trips, you must have all your paperwork complete and in our office prior to the trip. All forms and info are on our website.

- **National Indigenous Peoples Month**

The month of June recognizes and celebrates the diverse cultures, languages, traditions, accomplishments, history and contributions of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. All schools take time to plan learning opportunities for students throughout the month and specifically on June 21st. As a school, we are in the process of planning our learning and celebration for the week of June 20 -24. Once we have more info to share, we will do so.

- **School Wide Year End Celebration**

We have booked Fit Ninja for our school wide celebration on June 16 th. This is an amazing obstacle challenge course for kids. We hope to make this day, a day where parents can come and watch or volunteer to help. We would also like to have a family BBQ and have the ribbon cutting of our Gaga ball pits and basketball court, which we partnered with PTA and RD County to complete two years ago. Would the School Council be open to helping with the BBQ food, prep and celebration part?

- **Budget & School Planning Season!**

We are in the process of budgeting and planning for next year. At our last School Council Meeting, we will share our school plan and seek feedback on it.

- **Mr. Pickering's Evaluation.**

We are happy to announce that Mr. P has been given another year contract as VP at Poplar Ridge School for the 2022-2023 school year!

6. Financial Report * : Kelly Fairall

Going over the report we have a difference on our Healthy Hunger, as we are above what we originally had Budgeted.

We wrote a check for \$50 for the difference on bringing Mellissa Prins in from To the Stars Wellness Centre. We had received a grant for \$500 to Parent Council Committees across AB to host informative sessions to parents at schools. Cost was \$550 in total

Bussing for swimming check was written (\$551.25)

AGLC report has been filed for the year and casino application has been confirmed. Due to the back log of casinos due to Covid, we may not get another one for 3-4 years

Report is balanced

Skipped to ...

8. PTA Committee Reports

a. Fundraising Updates: Colleen Robertson

We will be offering 3 fundraisers to choose from: Canada Safety Supplies, Sweetness and Tru Earth. Spring Fundraisers will be running April 27 to May 13. Tru Earth orders can be placed on line for "direct to home shipment", with a link to pay on line. The First Aid Safety Supplies and Sweetness orders will be ordered for pick up / distribution at the school. These can be paid by checks made to Poplar Ridge PTA or e-transfer will be accepted as well

b. Bottle Drive drop off will be available May 24-27 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Cosmos Trailer will be in the school parking lot

7. Trustee Report : Sherry Cooper

The Board supports the YES program and will write a letter saying that the funding should be for a 3 year term – not a 1 year, like it is currently – this is a great program

Budget approval will be at the end of May – The transportation budget went up 4.9% and there is money in the reserve right now for new busses and parts for busses (busses have been ordered but are not in yet)

1.2 million Over 3 years, is set for Social and Emotional wellness

There was a virtual meeting for “Parents Matter” on March 17 that went well

The school year calendar will be looked at for the Reconciliation Day on September 30 this year, and days will be adjusted as needed

Moving on to item ...

9. New Business

- a. Children and Anxiety Presentation with Melissa Prins – May 10 at 7:00 in the grade 6 classroom at Poplar Ridge School: all are welcome to attend. Please register ahead of time through a link on the school news letter
- b. Chairperson Required for the 2022/2023 school year – this position is needed in order to operate a PTA – a PTA is required in order to access funds that have been raised
- c. Playground proposal to Red Deer County – May 3 there will be an in person meeting – Poplar Ridge PTA is scheduled on the agenda to speak. The playground order time is approx. 16 weeks
- d. Next meeting May 31, 2022 7:00 pm at the school

10. Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm