

Draft

Minutes of the Joint General Poplar Ridge School Council and Fundraising
March 28, 2025 @ Poplar Ridge Elementary in MPR 9:00 am

*indicates written/attachments provided

Joint General Meeting attendees: Joanna Van Duzen, Colleen Robertson, Brandee Angeltvedt, Jen Hein, Kimberley Cocks, Stephanie Sommerfeldt, Tina Louise Steyn, Alyne Hoar, Sherry Cooper, Alissa Lidgren, Michelle Salomons

1. Call to order at 9:05 a.m.
2. Approval of Agenda*
 - a. Amendments to Agenda: Report from Sherry Cooper after Principal's Report 4b), no Eloise Silvernagle to report on hot lunch
 - b. Approval of Agenda 1st) Tina Louise 2nd) Alyne, carried
3. Approval of February 28, 2025 Minutes 1st) Tina Louise 2nd) Brandee, carried
4. Principal's Report: Kimberley Cocks

March, 2025

Thank you:

- All who are present

February Events:

- Swimming continued
- Grade 6 Badminton tournament at PR vs. Beacon Hill
- Family Day, Winter Break, Teacher's Convention
- Pink Shirt Day and Core Values Assembly - whole school singing a song

March Events:

- Kimberley's news
- Our teachers are at Professional Learning Days with teachers from around CESD
- **Academic Excellence:** Parent Teacher Interviews were fantastic connection points with parents
- **Indigenous Learning:** Clare Butterfly met with students during fine arts/ music to talk about his up bringing, culture and regalia then danced for the school and families who could attend
- **CESD Board Visit:** CESD Board visited Poplar Ridge to discuss successes and goals of PR!
- **Alien Inline Skating starts on Mar. 31** - more information to come!

April Events:

5. **Boston Pizza** has launched the Operation Education Fundraiser. When you eat out at Boston Pizza, save your receipts and send them to the school. The school receives a 5% cash back on the pretax total on submitted receipts.
6. **Education week (Apr. 7-11)** - Shout out to the educators!
7. **Academic Excellence:** - HLAT writing
8. **Admin Professionals Day (Apr. 16)** - Shout out to Michelle
9. **Gr. 6 Basketball Tournament (Apr. 17)** - HJ is hosting a tournament!
10. **Spring Break** - Apr. 18-27
11. **National Volunteer Week (Apr. 28-May 2)** - We truly have the best volunteers at Poplar Ridge!

- a. Thank you Kimberley for your time as principal at Poplar Ridge and your support of school council. We appreciate the care you have shown for our school in your time here. You will be missed!
- b. Report by Sherry Cooper
 - i. 4 trustees came to Poplar Ridge to visit in March - they were each able to get a first hand idea of the parking lot challenges at Poplar Ridge. They are hopeful that between the school division and Red Deer County they will be able to add a parking lot at the top end of the school yard that would help with the back up at pick up and drop off and make the playground accessible for, not only families at the school, but the entire community
 - ii. New superintendent will start on June 1st, Sherry will try to arrange for him to introduce himself at the next school council meeting on May 23rd
 - iii. Many issues in transportation budget have arisen in this past year, as walk limits are discussed, costs continue to increase and provincial funding changes

12. Financial Report*: Brandee Angeltvedt
 - a. Bottle drive brought in \$703.25
 - b. Hot lunches have been very profitable, some money still going out to pay for supplies for April and May
 - c. \$2250 has been paid towards Alien Inline Skating
 - d. Field trip requests were all handed in today, they will be reviewed at the next meeting
 - e. Thank you Brandee for the behind the scenes work that is done each month and, specifically for getting the AGLC Report submitted
 - f. a request has been made to purchase a set of Botley Coding Robots for the school - these are on sale for \$70 a piece right now
 - i. would it be possible to get half of a class set and have the kids work in partners to pilot the effectiveness at Poplar Ridge
 - ii. what kind of warranty is included with purchase
 - iii. we will revisit at the next meeting

13. PTA Committee Report

- a. Hot Lunch: Steph Sommerfeldt
 - i. hot lunch ordering is over for this school year
 - ii. Steph will check in with hot lunch volunteers before the school year ends to see who will be able to continue next school year
 - iii. new volunteers will need to be recruited for next school year, especially for people to head up a lunch
 - iv. possible recruitment ideas: Jen Hein will speak with incoming kindergarten parents at kindergarten orientation in May, a possible coffee or playground meet up with anyone interested in what is involved in helping out with hot lunch, more opportunities to visit with parents during pick up and drop off similar to what we had pre-COVID
- b. Bottle Drop Off
 - i. The next bottle drive will be May 29/30
 - ii. Tina Louise looked into the cost of signs to put out around the community during bottle drives but in terms of cost and time, we agree that the most effective means of communicating about bottle drives is through facebook and newsletters
- c. Healthy Hunger: Eloise Silvernagle not present
 - i. Michelle Salomons has asked that the restaurants chosen for healthy hunger be given her approval first as some restaurants add more work to her day, are messy or make a lot of waste

14. New Business

- a. Parents Matter: Tina Louise and Jen
 - i. next meeting: April 30
- b. Spring Fundraisers
 - i. Aspen Greenhouse GCs (\$25 and \$100)
 - ii. Medicine Hat Meat Trader Jerky: Alberta made, tastes great (Thanks for the sample Colleen), no minimum order and 50% of sales
 - iii. ordering will be between April 7 and 17th and ready to go home to families before Mother's Day
 - iv. Ordering will be set up on the Hot Lunch website
- c. EQUUS Round Up Grant
 - i. This is a grant that EQUUS uses to help out the community - EQUUS customers may opt to have their bills rounded up and grants up to \$5000 to help out a community project that positively impacts rural children may be applied for every 3 years. This summer will be our chance to do so again - with the last grant we paid for gaga ball pits, new sleds and tennis golf nets. Grants with funds that will be matched by another party are given preference so we should try to coordinate with the County again
 - ii. Planning for this will be addressed at next meeting
- d. Colleen's Last Year as Chair

- i. while the nominations and appointing of a new chair will not happen until the AGM in September, some planning will need to take place in anticipation of this and a smooth transition
 - ii. Thank you Colleen for the your many years of amazing work for Poplar Ridge and staying on to assist whoever steps into the role next year
- e. Any further questions or concerns
 - i. how can we re-establish the connections we made with parents pre-COVID, at drop off or pick up? Parents are encouraged to actually use the parking lot during pick up, if time allows. This will not only get vehicles off the road, it will also give parents a chance to connect, whether they chat a bit on the sidewalk while collecting kids or take the opportunity to play at the playground. If you would like your kids to meet you at the playground at pick up, please communicate this in the agenda
 - ii. Upcoming events
 - 1. June 5th: Walk the Talk: community members will be invited to come to the school and walk around with the students while making little stops along the way to get to know each other better
 - 2. June 24th: Sports Day for K-3, Track Meet for grades 4-6, hot dog lunch to be provided by school council
 - iii. Brandee will organize shirts for Poplar Ridge grads

15. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.