

Pine Street School Council Meeting

June 9th, 2020

The regular meeting of Pine Street School Council was duly called and held on June 9th, 2020 virtually via Google Meets. Quorum was present.

In Attendance:

Executive: Lesley Bowman (Chair), Cara Kern (Vice-Chair), Lorena Ellsworth (Secretary)

Administration: Shelby Hines (Principal), Tracey Arbuthnott (Incoming Principal), Kerri Remeika (Assistant Principal), Lorna Magnan (Teacher Liaison), Michelle Vetro (Music Teacher)

Parents: Trina Loucraft, Leah Brown, Carrie Albrecht, Megan Hahn, Stefanie Tindoy, Janice Mills, Tracey Nielsen, Jamie Wells, Sukhjinder Clark, Marie Beliveau, Nasreen Banman, Victoria Doucette, Matt Bradley, Amanda Gibbons*

Community: Trina Boymook (Board Trustee)

Absent with Regrets:

* Denotes partial attendance.

1. Chair, Lesley Bowman, calls to order at 6:31 pm.
2. Welcome & Treaty Six Acknowledgement – Lesley Bowman.
3. Attendance, introductions and virtual platform / voting instructions.
4. Additions to agenda
 - a. None.MOTION: Cara Kern motions to accept agenda, Trina Loucraft seconds.
IN FAVOUR: 14
NON-VOTING: 6
ABSTAIN: 2
CARRIED
5. Adoption of Minutes from May 12th, 2020.
MOTION: Cara Kern motions to accept May minutes, Trina Loucraft seconds.
IN FAVOUR: 11
NON-VOTING: 6
ABSTAIN: 5
CARRIED

6. Elections for 2020/21 Society
 - a. Lesley read position summaries before each
 - b. CHAIR – Lesley Bowman let her name stand. Call for nominations. No other nominations. Lesley Bowman will remain Chair by acclamation.
 - c. VICE CHAIR – Cara Kern let her name stand. Call for nominations. No other nominations. Cara Kern will remain Vice Chair by acclamation.
 - d. SECRETARY – Lorena Ellsworth let her name stand. Call for nominations. No other nominations. Lorena Ellsworth will remain Secretary by acclamation.

7. Policy Review & Adoption
 - a. No material changes.
 MOTION: Cara Kern motions to adopt Policies, Tracey Nielsen seconds.
 IN FAVOUR: 13
 NON-VOTING: 6
 ABSTAIN: 2
 CARRIED

8. Trustee Report – Trina Boymook
 - a. The Board will be approving a \$196M budget at the Board’s regular meeting being held on May 28 that draws \$4.7M from reserves. Board’s reserves have been frozen by government as result of Bill 5 and can only access them with Minister’s approval. Boards are to make their request with as part of May 31 budget submission.
 - i. It is expected that schools and departments will be ending this year with a small surplus. The schools will be allowed to retain the surplus up to 1% (\$2.56M) of their operating budget for next school year.
 - ii. Schools will use up to \$819K of their school generated funds.
 - iii. \$355K allocated reserves
 - iv. \$1M from unallocated reserves earmarked for emergent needs as we respond to rising insurance costs and COVID additional costs.
 Central departments allocations have been decreased by 20.3% and allocations to schools have decrease by 2.9%.
 - b. In the fall we saw a reduction in funding and the Board was required to draw \$7.96M from reserves to complete the year.
 - c. Parents and students are going to experience a number of changes that come as result of the new funding formula and the investment into education being frozen at 2018-19 rate.
 - d. Board has been participating in the stakeholder engagement on the Alberta Education re-entry plan. The plan will focus around three scenarios. Boards will be expected to develop plans for each of the scenarios. A parent survey went out last week to gather your thoughts on different elements that we will need to consider in building our plan. The results will inform the direction that will be taken. Our intent is to share our initial plans with parents by the end of the school year.
 - e. Questions/comments
 - i. None.

9. Administration Report – Shelby Hines
 - a. Welcome & thank you for coming!
 - i. I would like to start by welcoming Tracey Arbuthnott to our meeting today. Tracey will be the new principal at Pine Street for the 2020-21 school year.
 - b. Kudos
 - i. Thank you to our School Council for your continued commitment and dedication to our Pine Street community! It has been an honor and a privilege to work collaboratively in partnership with all of you over the past five years. Not only do you want to do everything you can to support your own children, but you also want to do your very best for all children which is to be commended. As I reflect upon my time at Pine Street Elementary, I am so incredibly grateful for the opportunity and extremely proud of the work we have collectively done for and with our children. Individually you each are amazing, but together you are unstoppable, and I can't wait to see what is next. I must share that although I am sad to be leaving, I find great comfort knowing that I am leaving my Pine Street family in good hands and I look forward to our paths crossing again someday.
 - ii. Thank you to Trina, our Board Chair, and the rest of our Board who has diligently persisted to help our entire school community! Your work is hard and has not gone unnoticed. You are such an amazing part of our school community and we are so grateful for the hard work you have put in to changing our world for the better. Thank you so much for all you do!!!!
 - c. Facilities
 - i. The gymnasium painting is complete, and a decal of our athletic bear put on the wall opposite of the stage yesterday. As well, we are replacing the basketball backboards both in the gym and outside on the playground.
 - d. Literacy
 - i. In support of our School Education Plan goal #1 related to one year's growth in literacy, we have started our professional development related to the reading intervention program I mentioned at last month's School Council meeting. So far, we have reviewed the screening tools, phonemic awareness, and phonics. In the next three sessions we will cover fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. This initiative will continue to be supported next school year.
 - ii. We now have six of our teachers piloting a new way to use technology in their instructional practices. This will be done by Debbie Bessette, Susan Woodbeck, Heather Ferguson, Lorna Magnan, Jocelyne Kavalinas, and Wendy Forbes.
 - e. First Nations, Métis, Inuit
 - i. We have been working closely with our Elk Island Public Schools First Nations, Métis, Inuit consultant, Cheryl Devin and Jeremy Albert, our First Nations, Métis, Inuit educator to plan a Truth and Reconciliation garden to incorporate land-based learning into the story of Pine Street Elementary School. It is our intention to have some improvements made by fall of 2020.

f. Budget/Enrollment

- i. The EIPS 2020-21 budget was approved by the Board on May 28, 2020.
- ii. The following information was shared in the June 2020 school newsletter.
- iii. Classroom Configuration & Staffing 2020-21
 - 1. As with any planning process, projections can change greatly between now and the fall so please understand these are tentative projections. Based on our projected enrollment, our anticipated class configurations & staffing are as follows.

Grade/ Class	Staff
PALS	Mrs. Rachelle Gagnon
PALS	Mrs. Shannon Robinson
Kindergarten – Group A (18 students)	Ms. Jennifer Appleby
Kindergarten – Group B (22 students)	Ms. Jennifer Appleby
Grade 1 (25 students)	Mrs. Jocelyne Kavalinas
Grade 1/2 (25 students: gr. 1 - 11 & gr. 2 - 14)	Mrs. Lorna Magnan
Grade 2 (27 students)	Mrs. Wendy Forbes
Grade 3 (26 students)	Mrs. Heather Ferguson
Grade 3/4 (27 students: gr. 3 - 13 & gr. 4 - 14)	Mrs. Susan Woodbeck/Mrs. Deneen Zielke
Grade 4 (27 students)	Mrs. Debbie Bessette
Grade 5 (32 students)	Mrs. Heather Weber
Grade 5/6 (31 students: gr. 5 - 18 & gr. 6 - 13)	Mrs. Heather Lockwood
Grade 6 (32 students)	Mrs. Cheryl Hawryluk/ Mrs. Deneen Zielke
Music (ECS – Grade 6)	Ms. Michelle Vetro
Counselor	TBD
Assistant Principal	Ms. Kerri Remeika
Principal	Mr. Tracey Arbuthnott

Educational Assistants

Mrs. Janet Alty
Mrs. Janelle Caldwell
Mrs. Denise Conrad
Mrs. Keltie Herzog
Mrs. Tracy Kent

Mrs. Linsey Marwick
Mrs. Leanne Rosko
Mrs. Nikki Rufenack
Mrs. Leanne Strong
Mrs. Louise Wall
Mrs. Mellissa Willisko

Office Staff & Library

Mrs. Lisa Leitch (Office)
Mrs. Lisa Waselenkoff (Office)
Mrs. Darlene DeMarco (Library)

2. As you can see, we have hired a new PALS teacher, Shannon Robinson who comes to us with 17 years of early education experience from Ardrossan Elementary. Welcome to Pine Street Elementary Shannon! You are going to love it here!
3. As well, our counsellor, Suzanne Stevens is retiring so we will be welcoming a new half time counsellor sometime soon. I would like to sincerely thank Ms. Stevens for her generosity, support, and dedication to our staff, students, and families. She continues to demonstrate this as she has shared that she will do everything she can to ensure that the transition will be as seamless as possible. Thank you, Suzanne!

iv. Fees/ Refunds

1. On Monday, June 8 a Synervoice went out to inform our families that now the Minister of Education has confirmed in-school classes will not resume this school year, Elk Island Public Schools has calculated the balance owed for fees paid to date. This amount has been entered into your child’s PowerSchool account. Families are encouraged to log in to review your account. School fee credits can be:
 - a. Applied against the student’s 2020-21 school fees
 - b. Applied against a sibling’s 2020-21 school fees or current outstanding account
 - c. Refunded upon request (\$25 minimum, unless student is leaving the Division) NOTE: If you are requesting a refund you will need to complete the EIPS Credit Form on PowerSchool, in the School Fees section no later than June 12. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Waselenkoff in our school office at 780-467-2246. All borrowed materials must be returned and in good condition before refunds can be issued.

2. Student Transportation will be contacting families regarding credits and refunds as they apply to busing. These are not processed at the school level.
- v. Grade 6 Celebration
 1. Families are invited to sign up using the School Interview website to have a five-minute time slot to safety distance and participate in our Grade 6 Celebration on Thursday, June 25 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Students may bring up to 5 guests and there will be an opportunity for students to see their teachers, collect their certificate, and take a photo. All participants who choose to attend this optional event must be symptom free, not under mandatory self-quarantine and abide by all safety recommendations from Alberta Health.
 - vi. Collection of Borrowed Materials
 1. On Monday, June 22 and Tuesday, June 23 one representative from each family will have the opportunity to sign up through the School Interview website and drop off any borrowed school materials. This includes Chromebooks, chargers, mice, iPads, textbooks, library books, home reading books, tricycles, and specialized chairs. If you have purchased your school supplies through Write-On Stationery your orders will also be available for pick up.
 2. Alternatively, we have a bin located at our main doors so you may drop books off prior to these days. No technology should be dropped off here as the location is not secure. As well, you may contact Lisa Leitch to make other arrangements at lisa.leitch@eips.ca or by calling the school at 780-467-2246.
 - vii. Questions/comments
 1. Will Mrs. Hines and Mrs. Stevens be attending the Grade 6 graduation?
 - a. Mrs. Hines, Ms. Remeika, Mrs. Hawryluk, Mrs. Lockwood and Mrs. Marwick will be in attendance, Mrs. Stevens is unable to be there.

10. Teacher Liaison Report – Lorna Magnan

- a. Friday June 19 – final alternate learning day
- b. Friday June 26 – report cards available through PowerSchool
- c. Questions/comments
 - i. None.

11. Chair Annual Report – Lesley Bowman

- a. I would like to thank all the executive, attendees, staff, administration, and our Trustee, Trina Boymook for being a part of our work this year.
- b. I would like to remind everyone of our Council Mission:
 - i. To foster the well-being and effectiveness of the Pine Street Elementary School community and to enhance school learning. The Council is to provide a means for parents and the community to work together with administration,

staff, and students to promote the well-being and overall effectiveness of the school community in an advisory role.

- ii. Our efforts as a council this year served to support our Mission by making the school the best place for the students and staff. I look forward to continuing to build our relationships going forward and to make Pine Street the best it can be.
- c. The current challenges impact us all and I want to commend all of our administration, staff, students, and my fellow caregivers for their ongoing efforts to put our children's education and well-being up front.
- d. Change and the unknown are tough for all of us, but it is a testament to your professionalism that you have steered our school through these challenges and continue to do so. We went from considering new curriculum implementation, to managing challenging budgets, to a pandemic that changed our focus. The adaptability and diligence of the Board, Central Office, and our Administration at Pine Street has done the best with the information and resources they had. The situation changed frequently and continues to change, and I believe that EIPS has the best interests of students at the heart of decisions; thank you.
- e. To Shelby and Kerri, I want to thank you for your time and dedication to this school and the students and staff. Working with both of you has been wonderful this year and I am exceedingly grateful for the collaborative spirit you bring to the relationship with Council. It is evident that you understand the important and unique perspective that parents bring to education and it has been an honor being a parent partner with you.
- f. Discussing Results Review and the School's education plan and reviewing how Pine Street Council can support school improvement is always important to me; that looked different this year, but I hope that we were able to support your work and we will continue to do so in the future.
- g. I look forward to working with Administration to develop a strategy going forward that supports our school's education plan and involves as many parents and guardians as we can. This year, we had many thoughtful conversations and moments of sharing how decisions impact our kids and the challenges we face as parents. I am grateful for those parents who choose to contribute and share their voice and perspective. It is through the conversations we have here that we can continue to enhance our understanding and use that knowledge to inform our advocacy. It can be tough and emotional to share and I deeply thank you for engaging with us.
- h. At the district level, we continued our work at Committee of School Councils and gained insight and value from conversations and relationships with other Council Chairs and representatives. There is value in these conversations and hearing different perspectives and ideas from different schools.
- i. We participated in the ASCA surveys, I attended the ASCA Virtual AGM, several engagement opportunities both online and in person.
- j. I love to see these conversations continuing and I do look forward to continuing our advocacy and work to support public education and share the parent perspective.
- k. Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your Chair.

1. Questions/comments
 - i. None.

12. 2020/21 Suggested Meeting Dates

- a. Continue with first Tuesday after Staff Meetings
 - i. Council 6:00 – 7:00pm
 - ii. Society 7:00 – 8:00pm
- b. September 8, 2020
October 13, 2020
November 17, 2020
December 8, 2020
January 12, 2021
February 9, 2021
March 9, 2021
April 13, 2021
May 11, 2021
June 8, 2021

13. MOTION: Cara Kern motions to adjourn meeting at 7:28pm. CARRIED.

The next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 8th, 2020 at 6:00pm at Pine Street Elementary.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

Lorena Ellsworth, Secretary

Adopted by Council in the meeting of September 8th, 2020

Lesley Bowman
Chair