

Terrace Road Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Thursday, 18 January 2024 – Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order

The TRS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Jacek Krzywicki (Chair).

2. Welcome parents and special guests

Approximately fifteen parents and guests were physically present or online, including:

- Tina Bisson Parent
- Dan Buchanan Principal
- Katie McMillan Teacher
- Kevin Howell CBE Area Director
- Amber Hamilton Volunteer Coordinator
- Jacek Krzywicki Chair
- Sean McCoy Secretary
- Jason Sokolosky Vice Chair
- Heather Sorensen Treasurer, Parent Association
- Tracey Tran Fundraising Coordinator, Parent Association
- Melissa Valgardson Outdoor Classroom & Community Garden Coordinator, Parent Association

3. Approval of the agenda

Jacek moves to approve the agenda; seconded by Melissa.

No objections. Motion passes.

4. School update

a. Special Guest: Kevin Howell, Area Director

Kevin oversees Area 1 in CBE, which includes TRS. Kevin was formerly a K-9 teacher and is also a CBE parent. The area includes 17 schools as well as response team for CBE (discipline, attendance, etc.), and he visits these schools monthly. He is attending the meeting as part of Dan's evaluation as a new principal.

b. Special Guest: Katie McMillan, Music Teacher

Katie introduced her philosophy on music education and shared the benefits it brings for broader development. She approaches music education through the ORFF approach, which encourages students to approach music at their level and presents opportunities for creativity and movement. She presented parents some examples of what she does with different grades.

c. School business: Dan Buchanan, Principal

Half-way through school year already! Many surveys are coming out, so please be on the lookout for an email with an access code. Important to capture data from the school for the coming school development plan and for future school activities.

Some points dan reviewed:

- Alien Inline starts January 22 (volunteers are welcome)
- Skiing starting on February 28 (Grades 4-6).
- Report cards will be available on January 30. Teachers should be reaching out as needed to parents via normal weekly messages and phone calls. If you have questions about report cards, please do reach out to your child's teacher.
- Elder So'go'goto will be visiting and doing the "blanket activity" on January 26. In addition, Chantal Chagnon will have a residency in April for five days.
- Kindergarten registration is ongoing. Currently 14 students registered, hope is that TRS is closer to 30 (which would allow two classes).
- Additional funding made available from the province to hire a teacher to focus on literacy in Grades 2-5, which will also free-up capacity for other teachers to focus on numeracy.

Dan also thanks the parent council for the books provided to refresh the library, which are much appreciated by all (see photo below).



d. Q&A

- Jacek asks if we can see the survey results when they are available. Dan says yes, certainly with share at an upcoming meeting.
- Jason asks about an email he received from Google about his child's Google classroom. Dan was unaware of email, and Jason will share with him afterwards.
- Jason asks about math education results (recently discussed in a newspaper article). Kevin shares perspective on the overall CBE math results and notes that a renewed focus on math is coming, particularly in upper grades. Dan reiterates that teachers should be sending home feedback and parents can follow-up with worksheets. Dan also notes that teachers have been encouraged to send home worksheets, but that is their decision.
- Jason asks about the spring dance. Dan proposes April 18.
- Jason asks about male recruitment for teachers. Kevin and Dan discuss challenges in recruiting teachers in general but do acknowledge the importance of male role models in the school.

5. Approval of previous minutes

Jason moves to approve December 7 meeting minutes; seconded by Jason.

No objections. Motion passes.

6. Board reports

a. Chair: Jacek Krzywicki

Jacek notes that we have received \$500 from Alberta Education to increase parent engagement. Discussion about possible speakers ensues, but no decision on specific option.

b. Vice-chair: Jason Sokolosky

Jason reminds parents about the Montgomery Community Association (MCA) AGM at end of February and the upcoming Jellybean dance (also in February).

c. Secretary: Sean McCoy

Sean asks about the SharePoint implementation for the Parent Advisory Council and the Association. Jacek notes we are awaiting the name change for the Association before proceeding.

d. Key-communicator: Tammy Dewan

Not present.

e. Volunteer coordinator: Amber Hamilton

Not present. Discussion of when we ask Amber to use sign-up genius vs. teacher-coordinated volunteers.

f. Fun Lunch Coordinator

Not present.

7. Upcoming meetings

The next meeting will be held in a **hybrid format on Thursday, 7 March 2024 at 6 pm** (there will be no meeting in February).

A reminder of upcoming meetings in 2024:

- 11 April 2024
- 2 May 2024
- 6 June 2024

8. Adjournment

Jason moves adjournment; seconded by Heather.

No objections. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sean McCoy, Secretary

Please see next page for Parent Advisory Council Association Minutes.

Terrace Road Parent Fundraising Association Minutes

Thursday, 18 January 2024 – Hybrid Meeting

The Terrace Road Parent Fundraising Association (TRPFA) Meeting was held immediately following the Parent Advisory Council Meeting to discuss matters concerning fundraising to support Terrace Road School.

1. Call to order

The Parent Advisory Council Association meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Jacek Krzywicki (Chair).

2. Executive Reports

a. Chairperson: Jacek Krzywicki

New bylaws submitted to Government of Alberta by email and we are awaiting confirmation. Jacek is still working on the name change.

b. Vice-Chairperson: Jason Sokolosky

Jason asks about D&O insurance (required by new bylaws). Sean has it on his agenda to do but hasn't got there yet.

c. Treasurer: Heather Sorensen

Discussion of society returns between Maria and Heather. Agreement that the 2022-23 society returns are complete and filed. However, TRPFA will need to complete 2023-24 reports to align with September 1 to August 31.

Heather reports she is now a signatory on TD accounts and that all Connect First accounts now closed.

We have an extension to January 26 to submit the AGLC Casino report.

Heather reviews our current accounts and spending against our budget. The conclusion is that we are roughly on budget with \$45,000 remaining until next Casino.

We agree to review the budget in May.

d. Secretary: Sean McCoy

No reports.

e. Fundraiser: Tracey Tran

No present.

Discussion of the upcoming Coco Brooks order planned. Jacek will discuss with Alta (Preschool president) about coordination.

Discussion about Purdy's at Easter. Agree that, if Tracey is willing to take on Purdy's, then we'd like to do it.

Jason notes that we need identify a new fundraising coordinator. Maria will consider the position.

f. Casino Coordinator: Vacant

Not present.

g. Outdoor Classroom & Community Garden Coordinator: Melissa Valgardson

Melissa notes she is starting seeds for the classroom grow towers.

3. Requests for funds

Dan requests \$3000 to subsidize the upcoming school ski trip to Winsport.

Jason moves to approve up to \$3000 for the school ski trip (Casino account). Heather seconds.

No objections. Motion approved.

4. Next meeting date

The next meeting will be held in a **hybrid format on Thursday, 7 March 2024 following the Parent Advisory Council meeting**. There will be no meeting in February.

5. Adjournment

Jason moves adjournment. Sean seconds.

No objections. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sean McCoy, Secretary