

Terrace Road Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Thursday, 25 September 2025 – Hybrid Meeting

1. Call to Order

The TRS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by Jacek Krzywicki (Chairperson).

2. Welcome parents and special guests

Approximately 15 parents and guests were physically present or online, including:

- Maria Ali Parent
- Megan Axford Teacher
- Tina Bisson Teacher
- Dan Buchanan Principal
- Holly Clark Parent
- Samira Elmaaroufi Parent
- Melissa Kelly Parent
- Jacek Krzywicki Chairperson
- Renette Kurz Teacher
- Jen Massina Parent
- Sean McCoy Secretary
- Janice Murphy Parent
- Lindsay Weryshko Parent
- Whitney ? Parent

3. Approval of the agenda

Sean moves to approve the agenda; seconded by Whitney.

No objections. Motion passes.

4. School update

a. Special Guests: Grade 1/2 Teaching Team

Ms. Bisson noted that the Grade 1/2 class is leading the Terry Fox assembly this year, in which all the students will be reading a passage about Terry Fox. Ms. Axford spoke about the getting the students into a new routine at the start of the year and the team's use of the "Seven Habits of Happy Kids" in Grade 1/2. Ms. Renette introduces herself as this is her first-year teaching Grade 1/2 at Terrace Road (although she taught one of the kindergarten classes last year). Ms. Renette explained how they are linking truth and reconciliation week with the fall equinox and embracing autumn.

b. School business: Dan Buchanan, Principal

Dan stated off by noting that this is his 3rd year at Terrace Road, and that he's been working to guide the school through an exciting period of growth. At the current time, there are 223 students enrolled in Terrace Road. Dan explains that the official count for provincial funding happens on September 29. Following this, the school will get its budget for the year from CBE. To deal with the large kindergarten class, Dan plans to divide the one morning class into two using an existing, but unoccupied classroom, and to hire a new teacher (Ms. Kinnear) for this class. Dan expects Ms. Kinnear to be joining the school on 29 September.

Dan explains that the new Gaga Ball Pit is a huge hit (agreed by the parents in attendance), as is the new climbing structure that was installed over the summer. However, the new teeter-totter has proven to not be very durable. He also thanks the parents for their help with the corn roast earlier in September, which was a great hit. Dan is happy to see the school being the center of the community!

This year, Dan and the teachers are planning to have "family Fridays" where the kids (from K-6) will spend the day with a teacher doing activities that they plan together. The students and teachers are also working on a new logo, the design of which will incorporate indigenous perspectives from the children and school elder.

Dan asks parents to be on the lookout for the School Development Plan, which he will share later in the school year, and sets the plan for the coming school year.

c. Q&A: Dan Buchanan, Principal

Parents ask questions on the following topics:

- How does the school engage parents?

5. Approval of previous minutes

Those present agree to postpone adoption of the June 12, 2025 minutes until the next meeting since there wasn't enough time for their review.

6. Reports from board members:

a. Chair – Jacek Krzywicki

- Corn roast and apple fundraiser complete and a success.
- Jacek expects a less intense agenda of activities this year, as compared to last, for the Parent Council and the Parent Fundraising Association.
- Discussion about the new gaga ball pit

b. Vice Chair – Jason Sokolosky

- Not present.

c. Secretary – Sean McCoy

- Will work with Dan to make sure that our minutes are going to the TRS website.

- d. Key Communicator – Tammie Dewan
 - Not present.
- e. Volunteer Coordinator – Katheryn (Kat) Le-Williams
 - Not present.
- f. Outdoor Classroom & Community Garden Coordinator: Melissa Valgardson
 - Not present.
- g. Fun Lunch Coordinator – Katie Messel
 - Not present, however, Dan notes Katie has planned out the fun lunches for the year. First is planned for 16 October.

7. Upcoming meetings

The next meeting will be held in a **hybrid format on Thursday, 23 October 2025 at 6 pm.**

Future meetings are scheduled:

- Thursday, November 27, 2025
- Thursday, January 22, 2026
- Thursday, February 26, 2026
- Thursday, April 23, 2026
- Thursday, May 28, 2026
- Thursday, June 11, 2026

8. Adjournment

Jacek moves adjournment; seconded by Sean.

No objections. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sean McCoy, Secretary