

Coaldale Prairie Winds Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: CPWS Conference Room

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees were welcomed and introduced.

Carley Campbell, Amy Morice, Curtis Uyesugi, Cindy Rogers, Tannis Chartier, Josh Martens, Rana Koopmans, Sharon Rutledge, Debbie Laturus, Chelsie Pitcher, Kim Alexander.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Carley Campbell moved to approve the agenda, and Curtis seconded the motion.

4. Approval of the January 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Carley moved to approve the minutes, and Amy Morice seconded the motion.

5. Reports

March Board Highlights

Bus Service Update

New transportation regulations set by Alberta Education will impact the distance at which students qualify for busing services in the 2025-2026 school year. Under these changes, walk limits will increase to 1.6 kilometers for K-6 and 2.0 kilometers for grades 7-12 students. The Palliser School Division Board of Trustees recognizes that these changes will impact many families. To assist families with these changes, the Board has committed to maintaining the current level of bus service for students presently accessing Palliser buses. Clarification of the new transportation regulations will be forwarded to parents in the new school year. The Palliser School Division remains committed to exploring solutions that provide the best possible transportation support for students and families.

Human Resources and Payroll Update

The Board received the Human Resources report, highlighting continued improvements in staff retention for both teaching and support positions. Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the number of teachers registered as substitute teachers, strengthening the Division's ability to provide classroom support.

The Board also received positive updates on support programs for new teachers and those aspiring to leadership roles. These initiatives, led by the Division's Human Resources and Learning Services teams, have received excellent feedback and continue to help attract, develop, and retain high-quality educators within Palliser.

Edwin Parr Nomination Announcement

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce their 2024/2025 Edwin Parr Award nomination. Rachelle Warchola teaches grade 2 at Jennie Emery Elementary School. Her engaging and hands-on teaching style has impressed staff, parents, and most importantly, students!

The Edwin Parr First Year Teacher Award recognizes outstanding first-year teachers in Alberta who demonstrate excellence in teaching and a strong commitment to student success. The award celebrates emerging educators who make a meaningful impact in their classrooms and communities. – Debbie Laturnus

CPWS P/C Meeting

March 18, 2025

Board Highlights from Feb Meeting

The **Technology Dept.** has implemented **Esports** which offers regional tournaments and global competitions opportunities. To ensure a structured, safe experience for students, the Tech Dept. has standardized Game selection & Safety, Secure accounts and Software and Nintendo Switch consoles being tested to help smaller schools participate.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) presents both opportunities and challenges in education. The Board and IT team will continue exploring its impact, ensuring responsible integration into our schools.

Palliser's Counselling Team includes 15 full & part time Family School Liaison Counsellors (FSLC) and 8 full time & part time Making Connections Workers (MCW). Referrals include anxiety, peer issues, family/primary support group issues, depression, grief and loss, educational problems and crisis support. The team also assess student threats of violence and risk to others, support families with community resources and support school staff through consultations and presentations.

Bell Let's Talk Day was implemented division-wide to support mental wellness. New emotional support services were launched in two colony schools. Social-emotional programming is expanding with parenting courses piloted, as well as ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) support groups being introduced for parents and children.

Priorities for next year include enhancing high school counselling, expanding trauma-informed classrooms and increasing social-emotional learning for all student development stages. – Sharron Rutledge

b. Administrators Report

- Campus Tech will be showing up tomorrow and Friday to finish up everything in the building. Tech training will be held in the gym, band, and theatre.
- An awards night is scheduled for April 2, 2025. Invitations have been sent, and it will be turned into an annual event for academic awards.
- A new replacement has been hired, and Curtis feels he is a great addition to the team.
- PD day will focus on culture and working on the mission statement.
- Discussion on E-Sports and its support across schools.
- Continued support for K-6 for the next year, with updates for the 2026 school year.

c. Teacher Rep Report

March 19, 2025 School Council Meeting - CPWS TEACHER REPORT

ATHLETICS

- High School and Junior High students had the opportunity to receive coaching from Lethbridge Badminton Club on March 8th in a combined Badminton Camp at our school.
- High School Badminton has begun with their first tournament of the season being in Brooks on the 22nd.
- Jr. High Badminton has already had one tournament and more to come in the next few weeks.
- Track and Field will start in gym class shortly with the Track season quickly approaching
- Softball and Baseball have started.

FINE ARTS & DRAMA

- Alice in Wonderland JR was a great success as Prairie Winds first ever production. Thank you to families and the community for supporting our Fine Arts programs.

- Prairie Wind's next production, "Murder in the Heir", has been cast and rehearsals have begun. There is a junior high and senior high cast for this production. More details will be out in the coming month.

BAND/MUSIC PROGRAM

- The Coaldale Musical Arts Society (CMAS) is holding its annual Dessert Concert on **Friday, March 28th, 2025** at 6:30pm at the CPWS Gymnasium. Tickets are 20 dollars each and include a wonderful dessert prepared by our culinary arts students and performances by the CPWS bands, a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and a special Cupper's Coffee fundraiser.
- The Coaldale Musical Arts Society is a non-profit organization that supports the musical arts programs at Prairie Winds Secondary. Over the past 19 years, CMAS has assisted with the purchase of instruments, equipment, interactive teaching tools, and subsidized student travel to musical retreats and participation in music festivals.
- Tickets for the concert are now on sale and are available for purchase at the Learning Commons or from Mr. Godin.

d. Student Rep Report

- In February we sold Candy Grams for \$2 each and delivered them to students on Valentine's Day.
- We also hosted a sugar cookie decorating event during lunch hour the week of Valentine's Day for both Junior and Senior High students.
- We also ran an all-school assembly on Valentine's Day where we celebrated our Students of the Month, recognized the cast and crew of Alice in Wonderland JR and played some fun games to send students off on a high note before reading week.
- We had our Student Council president, Tyler McNeil dress up as a leprechaun and hand out gold coins to students wearing green on St. Patrick's Day! Tyler has been our president for the last two years, and we are so thankful for his willingness to lead in school assemblies or put himself out there to bring some fun to our school days! We are going to miss him next year!
- We are planning a fun Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt for April and are considering putting on another school dance, though nothing has been confirmed for that yet. We are also already thinking about year end activities and hope to do something similar to our start-of-the-year harvest party!
- PW discussed and had a display for Black History Month.

- Students and teachers created some positive moments and messages for Pink Shirt Day. Free Pancakes, music and pink bows were handed out to students upon entry. PW also encouraged a future T-shirt design for our own Pink Shirts for 2026.
- High School students have been enjoying monthly craft sessions during lunch hours. We have made key chains, ornaments and fridge magnets so far. We are in the process of planning our next session for April.

IN THE CLASSROOM

- March 14 (Pi Day) was celebrated at both Jr. High and Sr. High with some delicious pie prepared by our culinary program. If students could recite 7 digits of pi they were entered in a draw for a piece of pie!
- The Grade 7s are in the middle of their first-ever "Tectonic Plate Dance-Off"! Our judges, Ms. Alexander and Mrs. Leusink, selected 7C and 7D to advance to the finals. The winner will be crowned and awarded the trophy by the end of the week!
- The Sr. High Science Club is heading to the SciFusion Science Fair at Lethbridge Polytechnic at the end of the month (Mar 28-29). Here is a summary of their projects:
 - Gus Sorensen and Dylan Hurl: functional heart model made from bowls and tubing
 - Bailey Tanaka: investigation into SPF in skincare
 - Elizabeth MacMullin: testing the impact of different acids on plant growth
 - Emerson L'Hirondelle and Shelby Shomachuk: investigating the impact of energy drinks on blood pressure, heart rate, and glucose levels
 - Sophie Metheral: investigating the impact of sugar content on tooth enamel using pig teeth as a model
- We are hoping to do a showcase of their work at the school when the science fair is over.
- We are also looking into a Marine Biology trip to take place in May for our senior high marine bio classes. We plan to take the students to Edmonton for a tour of the aquarium at West Ed (they are booked into a program where they get to feed the sea lions!). There is an orca exhibit at the Royal Alberta Museum and an Imax presentation on dolphins we are going to go to as well.

6. Business Arising

a. 2023-24 Academic Awards (from KAHS) Update

b. Council of School Councils Meeting

- Carley attended the meeting, and Chris Mattatall gave a presentation.
- Discussions on budget information, board planning, and community engagement.
- End-of-year school council needs to submit a year-end report.

c. ASCE (Alberta School Council Engagement Grant)

- Possible options for using the grant money were discussed, including inviting speakers and creating a parent library.
- Carley made a motion to use the ASCE grant if a presentation becomes available, and Amy seconded it.

d. Society/Fundraising

- Discussion on forming a society and the need for fundraising for the new school.
- Community sponsors and transparency in fundraising were emphasized.

e. School Division Funding

- Various grants and funding sources were discussed, including technology and capital funding grants.
- Emphasis on transparency and thoughtful spending of funds.

7. New Business

a. BeYou Rec Therapy Presentation

- Tanis, a 4-year student, presented on the BeYou Rec Therapy program, focusing on supporting students' goals and wellness.

8. CPWS 'Toasts'

- Carley toasted the Drama productions and Mr. Smith.
- The ski trip was also acknowledged, with kudos to Mr. Martens.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 14, 2025 (updated from May 21, 2025 due to a scheduling conflict)