

**R I Baker Middle School**  
**School Council Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 5, 2018**

1. Call to order at 6:32 pm.
2. Attendance - Shannon Kasko, Diane Gallagher, Sharon Rutledge, Debbie Laturnus, Tanya Johnson, Shauna Pauls, Corey Davis, Shannon Little, Josh Martens, Jason Prebushewski, Amy Hass, Natasha Richards.
3. Review and approval of Agenda
  - Motion to approve - Diane Gallagher
  - 2nd - Tanya Johnson
4. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2018
  - Motion to approve - Corey Davis
  - 2nd - Natasha Richards
5. Reports
  - Trustee Report (see below)

NOVEMBER "R I BAKER" SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING SHARON RUTLEDGE TRUSTEE REPORT

\*\*The September 30 enrollment figures are now sitting at 8,494 students, up 199 from last year. Of those additional students, 120 of them are kindergarten students, and the rest are international students.

\*\*Trustees will be provided with an update at the Dec. Board Meeting of the plans and cost estimates of the work needed of the faltering plumbing, heating, and cooling systems at the Palliser Education Centre, as well as where the funding will come from to pay for it.

\*\*In a follow-up meeting of support for the Dominica Project, following their catastrophic hurricane in 2017, Palliser will explore ways of helping out by providing storage for third-party donated technology and putting project organizers in contact with Palliser partners to offer their support in various ways.

\*\*David Shaw, Transportation Services Supervisor, outlined the process that goes into the decision to cancel bus service due to inclement weather, on a route-by-route or division-wide basis. He personally is on the roads by 5:00 a.m. & by 5:45 a.m. a decision to cancel or delay a route is made community by community. Also, the bus driver may cancel the route when weather conditions warrant it. Contact is then made to the Superintendent to cancel school and a phone fan out system is utilized to contact staff, parents and the community. When school is closed a staff member will still go to the school to ensure that if a student arrives, he/she will be returned home safely.

\*\*The Board passed a motion to have administration apply for a modular classroom at Sunnyside School to alleviate a space crunch in the fall of 2019 with a combined Gr 5-6 class of 43 students.

\*\*A meeting was held on Tuesday, Oct. 16 with Palliser representation and the Town of Coaldale Councillors to update information on the Coaldale Solution of future overcrowding in the schools. Also, information was shared by Jason Kupery, of the possibility of a dual credit program to be offered by the Coaldale Fire Dept and Palliser in partnership with NAIT. Depending on receiving a \$50,000 Start Up Grant from the province, the turn around time could be Jan – Feb 2019. Hopefully, this will have a positive impact on retention of students in Coaldale.

\*\*In a response to the “Coaldale Solution”, a Value Scoping Study was held on October 25 and 26 in Coaldale. The 2-day sessions were attended by invited participants from Alberta Education, Alberta Infrastructure, Tech Cost Consulting, FWBA Architects, Palliser Administration, Coaldale Trustees, Lethbridge County, and Principals, Vice-principals, one Teacher and the School Council Chair from each of the Coaldale Schools including Sunnyside School. After much discussion of modernization vs. new school options, the consensus was in favour of a new school Grades 7-12 with capacity of 800 students with the Town of Coaldale building a new recreation centre on the same site west & adjacent to Coaldale. With minor renovations to JEES (K-3) and RIB (4-6) the proposal will be presented to Alberta Education with hopes of being approved in April 2019. If approved, the new school will be completed in Sept 2022 – Jan 2023 at an estimated cost of \$36 million.

- Chairperson report – Shannon Kasko
  - Nothing to report
  
- Principal’s report – Mr. Jason P.
  - Fontness & Pernell reading assessment time; the data provides grouping information & literacy intervention.
  - Storage unit will begin in the next week (Ward Brothers)
  - Parent Portal is a link to Power School - will eliminate progress reports but allow parents to check on their child's assignments. To begin it will be updated once a month and then updates will be dependent on the subject and the frequency of assignments. It will be rolled out to parents during parent teacher interviews which will be on Thursday, November 8th. On January 1, 2019 RIBMS staff will open the portal for grade viewing, assignment viewing, and attendance data and then on June 25, 2019 the staff will evaluate the effectiveness of the portal and plan for the following years.
  - Remembrance Day Ceremony will be Friday, November 9th at 10:45 in the gym. It will include a performance by the choir and will end by following the pipers to the Cenotaph to lay the wreath.
  - Quebec exchange through the government funded 75% for a week. Students are paired up with another students’ family for the week and they will get to sight see. RIBMS has been accepted and pre-approved for 25 students to go from

March 8th to the 15th. Unfortunately, this interferes with marine biology trip; as the dates are the same and they are both grade 8 trips (approved as a grade 7 and 8 trip but trying to keep as a grade 8 trip). The Quebec reciprocal trip is scheduled to occur in April.

- Breakfast Club - spread the word that the school has breakfast at the school for any and all students, everyday. It is run by Ms. Gaskell, who is helped by Deanna Smith and some of the students. Funding comes from McCain's.
- School goals: In prior years Palliser provided academic wrap arounds to support students and the school has created their own version for struggling students or students who could do better. The first session is coming up soon.
- The student relationship project that addresses the issue of having students who are not connected with teachers. The school is working to improve this situation by having teachers "adopted a child" and teachers are working to make connections with these children along with a group that has been identified as needing a bit more love.
- The Walk-A-Thon raised over \$30,000. This money subsidizes the ski trip, winter sports day, the end of year swimming day, and year-end field trips. The money will be used by the Pods to give to the students this year. RIBMS will also be enforcing the \$50 minimum required donations raised policy to receive field trip funding this year; as they have let this slide in the past.

## 6. Old Business

- Turkey Dinner - Natasha Richards will chair this committee and event again this year. It will be on Thursday, December 20, 2018. Last year the committee planned to feed 450 people but this year they will need to plan for 470. Natasha proposed that instead of cooking the turkeys at the school that they be prepared elsewhere. She has Steve Klassen checking into whether they can be cooked at the Lethbridge College as this will meet the Palliser protocol that requires food to be prepared in a commercial kitchen. The shopping for the dinner will again be done locally at the Coaldale Food Market so that we are supporting local businesses. Last year the committee provided cookies instead of ice cream for dessert and this was appreciated by Mr. Cahoon. Feedback received on the water bottles that were provided last year included that there were lots of half full bottles left and there was concerns about the carbon footprint of the bottles. It was proposed that this year the committee fill large containers with ice water that the students could then use to fill their personal water bottles. The consensus was that everything went well last year. Action items included the need to get the online sign up sheet on the school website again and contacting Perry Farms to see if they would be willing to donate the potatoes for the dinner again this year.

## 7. New Business

- No new business

8. Bouquets

- Natasha Richards for taking on the turkey dinner again this year.

9. Next meeting dates (6:30 pm)

- Jan 22, 2019 (\*Jason's 40<sup>th</sup> b-day!)
- March 19, 2019
- May 28 (\*pizza)

10. Adjournment at 7:17 pm.