

RI Baker Middle School Council  
Meeting Minutes for  
Tuesday, May 14, 2019 - 6:30pm

1. Call to Order at 6:35 pm
2. Introductions/Attendance – Shannon Little, Josh Martens, Sharon Rutledge, Debbie Laternus, Krista Gaskell, Jason Prebushewski, Amy Hass, Diane Gallagher, Tanya Johnson, and Shauna Pauls. Shannon Kasko sends her regrets.
3. Review of Approval of Agenda
  - Motion to approve – Diane Gallagher
  - 2nd – Amy Hass
4. Approval of Minutes from March 19, 2019
  - Motion to approve – Tanya Johnson
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Diane Gallagher
5. Reports:

Trustee report – Sharon Rutledge

**RI BAKER SCHOOL COUNCIL TRUSTEE REPORT  
MAY 14, 2019**

- Board Planning Session
  - i. Superintendent Dave Driscoll gave an update on the March planning session in which Palliser’s senior leadership team, Board of Trustees and school administrators worked on coming up with a direction for the school division for years to come.
  - ii. The two main goals which surfaced were the importance of both literacy and numeracy, and the need to provide supports for the wellness of both students and staff. The senior leadership team is now working on possible wording of these goals, with a draft to be shared with trustees and school administrators, followed by working together on specific strategies to achieve them.
- Bus Tender
  - i. Secretary Treasurer Dexter Durfey informed trustees that plans to purchase up to five new school buses each year will be scaled back to three new

buses due to uncertainty over the delayed release of the provincial budget. In addition, one motor coach-style bus will be purchased for the cost of \$130,000 funded entirely by the International Student Program. The bus will be equipped with separate seating, seat belts and luggage compartments. The bus could be made available to Palliser schools for lengthier trips, and would also be available for rent by outside schools or organizations.

- Budget Planning
  - i. Secretary Treasurer Dexter Durfey reported a final budget cannot be completed until the new provincial govt. brings down its' budget. At the present time, there is a possibility of a large deficit for the school division.
- School Grounds Maintenance
  - i. The Board heard that Palliser will be hiring summer students and purchasing its own lawn mowing equipment in order to carry out school grounds maintenance in a more cost-efficient manner. If community groups have supplied some of the work in the past, and can meet Palliser's criteria, they will be retained.
- Division Calendars
  - i. Dave Driscoll would like input from Trustees as to guiding principles, and values to be used when designing divisional school calendars in the future. Diversity is something that Palliser embraces and certain accommodations must be made to serve the needs of each school. There should be rationale behind calendar decisions other than 'it's always been done this way'. Once draft guidelines have been arrived at, they will be shared with stakeholders, including School Council members, for their feedback.
- Board and Superintendent Evaluations
  - i. A subcommittee of 3 trustees has been formed to come up with proposals for the mandated evaluation of the Board and Superintendent. It was noted that there has been a lot of changes both on the Board and senior leadership team which makes it appropriate to discuss evaluations at this time.
- Next Board Meeting scheduled for May 21, 2019

Chairperson Report – Shannon Little for Shannon Kasko; sentiments shared by both.

- Nothing to report but wish to extend their thanks to everyone for coming this year.

Principal's Report – Jason Prebushewski

- Budgets and staff planning are challenging to put together without the government's budget. Numbers given are lower than prior years but nothing the school can't handle.
- Leaves/coverages:
  - o Miss Netzel is on leave and Maria Shultz is in for the rest of the year.

- o Emma Huff is covering Mrs. Smart who is on a maternity leave.
- o Ms. Gagne has been granted a leave for a year to teach in Cambodia.
- o Mrs. Conrad is leaving to pursue real estate and Mr. Conrad will be coming back to fill the Music position. The position was put out for applications and he was the most qualified.
- Report Cards
  - o Pilot for next year – Report cards will not be sent home. Instead the school will continue with Power School and allow parents to print a report from the program twice a year. Will endeavor to ensure that teachers provide enough information to parents and there will always be a computer available at the school for those that don't have one. The school will also provide a printed copy to those parents who request it. Notifications are available through the App. With regards to the parent signature that is currently required on returned report cards; there is the possibility of having a check on the Power School stating that the Parent has looked at the student's grade. Staff will initiate contact with parents if a student is struggling.
  - o In the 2019/20 school year the school will also be increasing Parent/Teacher nights from 2 full nights to 4 nights a year; with the second night of each session being shorter.
- New student orientation is being held on May 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. The orientation will include a Passport scavenger hunt and assembly. The Grade 4's from JEES came over today and they look like a fun group.
- Drama production on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>. They are performing The Lion, The Witch, & The Wardrobe; which Mr. Smith says is the best production put on to date. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. A Facebook page has been suggested to promote the production
- Farewell assemblies on June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 8 start it off at 9:00 with all the grades attending. Then the Grade 5's at 11:00, the Grade 6's at 1:00, and ending with the Grade 7's at 2:00.
- Outdoor Education Survival Trip, involving 20 kids, is scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. This is a week later than normal but the band concert and athletic awards are scheduled for the prior week.
- A huge thank you to the council for coming out this year and providing their support and help.

## 6. Old Business

- Storage shed is built and looks great, as it blends in with the school. The fencing is still up because they are going to pour concrete around the shed area. In addition, concrete will be poured around the benches that aren't currently on concrete. The painter still needs to seal the shed with concrete sealer before the school can begin using it. Once the school has cleared out space and moved items into the shed they can begin planning a "Snoodlin' room".

7. New Business

- No new business.

8. Bouquets

- Mrs. Conrad for her commitment to the kids over the last three years; Diane Gallagher
- Miss Vanhell for her work on the track season, track and field day, and the track meets; Mr. Prebushewski.
- All the staff that offer an extracurricular program and/or after hours help; Shannon Little.

9. Next Meeting Date is September 17, 2019 at 6:30 pm for both the AGM and the first meeting of the year.

10. Adjournment at 7:05 pm.