

RI BAKER SCHOOL COUNCIL AGENDA  
TUESDAY, March 11, 2025

1. Call to Order 6:34pm

a. Welcome/Introductions

2. Approval of agenda approved- Brent made motion, Lyndsey C. seconded motion.

3. Approval of November school council minutes- Meghan made motion to accept January minutes Brent seconded the motion.

4. Reports

a. Trustee

**Sharon Rutledge-** Board Highlights from Feb Meeting

The govt, Adjusting Bus Services, has announced planned changes to walk limits for the 2025-26 school year of 1.6 km for elementary students and 2.0 km for secondary students. The new proposal will impact up to 250 students in Coalhurst and Coaldale. The Board was presented with 3 Options and provided direction to Administration to support Option 1 of maintaining current service for the 2025-26 school year. A final decision will be made at the March Regular Board 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 to FSLC are for 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.

### **Debbie Latusus- 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.

b. Chair persons - no report

c. **Principal** -

**School Clubs** - Jason wanted to remind parents of the various clubs that take place at RIB. (Choir, Art, Finer things, SLC, Go girls ,Game on, Baking club, E sports, Sports experiences, Football club - spring, Indigenous garden club). Jason encourages students to create an idea for a club and present it to him anytime.

**Staffing** - We have hired a new EA and teacher. Mr. J will

be working with a student in grade 4. Jesse Serbu will be taking over for Mrs. Chapman while she is away on maternity leave.

**Theme 5** - Sexual education classes will be held in their own homerooms likely on Friday May 2nd. Alberta Education has implemented a mandatory OPT-IN for parents this year. We are currently creating those permission notices.

**New West Theatre** - Has changed the date with us to the week before Easter. There will be an evening presentation to showcase all the hard work the students have done on stage.

**PAT's** - This year we are writing only Math and Language arts exams. We are a pilot school for the new SS curriculum, and the Gov. did not have the science exams ready to go. We will send out some information from the office in the coming weeks.

**PTI's** are Wednesday and Thursday this week. If you are unable to book you can always contact your child's teacher to set up alternate means to check in.

**AERR** - Grade 4 Parents will receive notice and a survey link from the school that will grant them access to this survey. This survey is important to fill out as it informs the school, district and AB ED of parent perspectives and community needs and celebrations.

**Edsby** - Jackie Kark gave parents an opportunity to learn and explore the School information system. Grades,

assignment feedback, School communication,  
news/newsletters...are all a part of this system

**ATA Presentation-** Unlearning racial bias presentation March 21st

**Casie Presentation:** Building a thinking classroom

5. Business arising- Currently raising money for a new playground, looking for what kids would like to see and parents as well. Feedback would be appreciated.

6. New business

7. Bouquets- Jason gives one to Jessica Hoffman for organizing a soup club for staff. Brett for staff who organized winter active day.

8. Next Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ May 13 2025\_\_

9. Adjournment- 7:01 pm