

Parkside Montessori, School Council

MEETING AGENDA

Monday, January 6, 2025

6pm

** indicates items for which a written document/report will be attached/provided*

- 1.0 Call to Order at 6:00pm
- 2.0 Review of Agenda*- (*motion to accept*)
- 3.0 * Approval of Minutes from Dec. 2, 2024 Meeting – Keedra (*motion to accept*)
- 4.0 Introduction of attendees and guests
 - 4.1 Feature Teacher – Miss Trisha
- 5.0 Executive Reports-
 - 5.1 Monthly Executive updates and/or advisory from Council Executive- Keedra
 - 5.1.1 Celebration of Learning Potluck
 - 5.1.2 Brunch for Lunch Debrief
- 6.0 Principal's Report and Advising Opportunities
 - 6.1 Miss Corrine and Miss Terra's monthly report
- 7.0 Trustee's Report- Joan Nellis, Trustee Liaison
- 8.0 Old Business:
 - 8.1 Alberta School Council Engagement Grant (\$500)
Link to ASCA for information re: ASCE grant [HERE](#)
 - 8.2 Planning for Upcoming Events
 - 8.2.1 Nothing scheduled at this time
- 9.0 New Business:
 - 9.1 Movie Night (Jan or Feb)
 - 9.2 Round Table
- 10.0 Next Regular Meeting of the School Council of Parkside Montessori: Feb. 3, 2025 @ 6pm
- 11.0 Adjourn



Parkside Montessori, School Council

MEETING AGENDA

Monday, December 3, 2024

6pm

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1.0 Call to Order at **6:04pm**

2.0 Review of Agenda*- (*motion to accept*) **KW 1st, DM 2nd**

3.0 * Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting –11/04/2024 (*motion to accept*)
1st KW, 2nd YK

4.0 Introduction of attendees and guests

4.1 Feature Teacher-Monty Simo, Phys Ed teacher

Monty has been with the Division for 17+ years, most of which was substitute teaching, and full time with Parkside Montessori for 3+ years. Had a lot of experience with different school environments in Grande Prairie through his substitute work and was very grateful to have the opportunity to join the staff of Parkside Montessori. Thank you to School Council & the Fundraising Guild for the new school mats that were purchased this year. He has enjoyed doing the maze activity with students and plans to do it twice more this year. Council had the opportunity to participate in the “Maze” at a previous meeting. Just did a MALT day with students where they used flour to create juggling balls with inverted balloons.

Monty has developed “Not Yet” days which he will be presenting at Celebration of Learning as well as this year’s Teacher Conference. It began with a student who felt very frustrated because they were trying to accomplish a skill that wasn’t going their way. He introduced “Not Yet” Days where students can pick anything from basketball, floor hockey, to gymnastics and juggling - the only stipulation is it they must be working on a skill they can’t do yet. “I love shooting baskets, but I can’t shoot from this location – yet” “I can’t shoot 2/3/4 baskets in a row - yet” other examples are hockey stick balancing, whiffle ball catching, headstands, etc. Not Yet Days allow students to utilize all kinds of equipment that are otherwise hard to bring into class as some only have <5 sets. He has also enjoyed observing how students must be aware of the space they’re practicing in so as to not interfere with other students given the various activities that happen simultaneously. It has also given him the opportunity to expand his knowledge on skills not covered in the Phys Ed. curriculum (i.e. Gymnastics)

Parents in attendance affirmed hearing a lot about Not Yet Days and how this Social Emotional Learning reaches beyond Phys Ed. as students apply the approach to skills they can’t quite accomplish yet at home. Parents discussed the fondness the children have for Monty & how many of us hear about games like Who Let the Dogs Out.

5.0 Executive Reports-

5.1 Monthly Executive updates and/or advisory from Council Executive-

Update from the first School Council Chairs & the Board of Trustees of the Grande Prairie Public School Division meeting (Nov.28th, 2024)

Was not able to make the meeting. Will send the summary out to those interested.



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6.0 Principal's Report and Advising Opportunities

6.1 Miss Corrine and Miss Terra's monthly report

Remembrance Day assembly, school spirit day, 456 students had UofC engineers visit, was excellent & they were here for the whole day, wacky hair day, hold & secure day, MALT morning, there was an RCMP presence in the neighbourhood in mid Nov. and admin wanted to let parents know that if there's ever a potential safety risk to the school the RCMP will contact the school to initiate a lockdown. During their presence in Nov. they hadn't contacted the school as they didn't deem the risk to be at that level but School Admin elected to initiate a Hold & Secure protocol as an extra precaution.

Coming up in Dec. more hold & secure drills, tomorrow night is the ed foundation striving for excellence award presentation to acknowledge students from last year, report cards, hot lunch, 2 Christmas concerts, PJ day, movie day.

New divisional report card – learning outcomes will be written in a way that better describes what outcome is meant to achieve. Parent mini sessions on first night of Celebration of Learning on Montessori materials, reading materials, Not yet days, etc. (information is available in the email that went home to parents)

Admin would appreciate feedback on new layout of report card. What is better? What could be improved? Comment structure is one of the biggest changes. Admin feels they are much more user friendly.

6.2 2023/24 PAT Results

Reviewed Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results with parents in attendance.

2023-24 was the first year of full implementation for the new English Language Arts and Math. AB Ed decided that PATs would not be written in these subjects. 2023-24 was optional implementation of the new Science curriculum which Parkside participated in. Due to the optional implementation PAT was not written for Science, leaving Social Studies to be the only PAT written for the 2023-24 year. This year we will be writing all but Social Studies as we are participating in the optional pilot of the new Social curriculum.

We do not have a proper baseline of comparative data for PATs yet as we have had such small numbers of students writing tests. This makes comparing yearly data very challenging. We had 13 students write last year. We estimate it will take about 5 years post rollout of the new curriculum to really interpret trends.

Information can be reviewed within the Division Results Report appendix A [HERE](#).

7.0 Trustee's Report- Joan Nellis, Trustee Liaison

Not in attendance – Gave report to Terra

The board did the first reading of bylaw re potential trustees requiring criminal record checks. 2nd and 3rd reading readings in Dec.

Attendance matters initiative - in some areas is not great, but attendance overall appeared to improve last year.

Shared information about enrolment, budget and advocacy priorities.

Board approved audited financial statement. Had better than expected surplus on investments. \$700,000k surplus will require future planning. Expect new funding formula from government in the New Year. Approved annual education results report



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to be submitted to government (as required annually) it's posted on website – insert link here. [HERE](#)

8.0 Old Business:

- 8.1 Call for nominations for current Executive position- discuss roles/terms of Vice Chair prior to the call-out for the position.

Desiree Miguel nominates Lora Belyan. 1st call. 2nd call. 3rd call. Passed by acclamation.

- 8.2 Alberta School Council Engagement Grant (\$500)

Link to ASCA for information re: ASCE grant [HERE](#)

Discussion regarding how to spend, DM advs. Council has not done a workshop in a couple of years and given all of the new members it would be a good year to do so. Keedra motion to pursue ASCA workshop “School Council Purpose” DM 2nd, Keedra will look into dates available and coordinate getting info out to other councils through admin.

- 8.3 Planning for Upcoming Events

- 8.3.1 Celebration of Learning, Potluck for Staff (Wednesday, Dec. 11th, 2024)

Adhoc confirmed no dietary restrictions this year and has posted sign up.

- 8.3.2 Brunch for Lunch (Wednesday, Dec. 18th, 2024)

Danielle P. to do the shopping. Desiree will lead kitchen and create sign up for parents to join. After sign up parents will receive link to food safe handling course. Asked parents in attendance if interested in volunteering, will send sign up link to those who are.

Ran out of pancake mix last year, going to emphasize following the package instructions this year.

Fruit choices remain the same as previous years, will do berry sauce again. Parents can wear fun Xmas gear if they wish. Discussed with those in attendance that extra pancake griddles are always utilized and admin advised we can ask staff to bring some if we need to. Also mentioned school may just buy more as we do utilize them.

9.0 New Business:

- 9.1 Upcoming Fundraising Initiatives- discussion of proposed items

Reviewed goals from previous minutes

Cost for loose parts carts estimated \$4-\$5k, long term goal would be a maker's room like Telus World of Science.

Home readers could be an ask from Guild without being an initiative as could be less than \$1000.

Parents in attendance suggested doing a “Home Reader Drive” where families could donate gently used Home Reader materials.

Keedra motioned to voice council support for loose parts carts, 2nd Dani O.



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9.2 Round Table

Nothing at this time

10.0 Next Regular Meeting of the School Council of Parkside Montessori: Monday, Jan. 6, 2025 @ 6pm

11.0 Adjourn **7:21PM**

DRAFT

