

Parkside Montessori, School Council

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 5, 2025

6pm

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

Attendees: Joan Nellis (School Trustee Chair), Corrine Shmyruk (Principal), Terra Shewchuk (Vice Principal), Miss Julianne (Feature Teacher), Danielle O'Connell (Vice Chair), Desiree Miguel (Secretary), Andrea J. (Parent), Olivia G. (Parent)

Danielle O. acting Chair in Keedra's absence.

1.0 Call to Order at 6:02pm

2.0 Review of Agenda*- (*motion to accept*) DO Motion, DM 2nd.

3.0 * Approval of Minutes from April 7, 2025, Meeting – DM – Motion, Andrea 2nd

4.0 Introduction of attendees and guests

4.1 Feature Teacher – Miss Julianne

Teaches grades 1-3, has been with Parkside for 4 years. Loves all subjects across the curricular board. Likes to apply multiple curriculum outcomes to projects within the class. Recently she did an election project with her practicum student. Kids had IDs, ballot lists, ballot booths, created animal candidates with campaigns running for premier and then each student was able to vote. Fuzzy Fox came out on top.

Miss Julianne loves being a part of the Parkside Montessori community.

5.0 Executive Reports-

5.1 Monthly Executive updates and/or advisory from Council Executive

April events involving parents included the annual Egg Hunt. It was a great hit again this year. Mom's Pantry was well received but cannot be again in April as too warm. Parent volunteers responded quickly to assist & luckily parents came & picked up orders promptly before temperature could become an issue. Danielle O. & Desiree attended the ASCA conference symposium on Saturday April 6 and watched sessions on empowerment and anxiety.

6.0 Principal's Report and Advising Opportunities

6.1 Miss Corrine and Miss Terra's monthly report

Professor WOW, very well received, pattern day, egg hunt, earth day, beach day, admin assistant day. Lacross day, school spirit, MALT, fire & evac.

Upcoming May – Telus coding camp for every afternoon for an hour this week. Headed to city hall, prov building and library, casa to firehall and library, 456 forest walk & historic Dunvegan, continuing fire & evac, hats on for mental health, 3d tournament coming up – 40 kids participating, Saturday from 10-3 Pax Den market. Duct tape day is coming up. PL day, school spirit day assembly, western day, part A of language arts exam, Casa kinder graduate photos, patrollers going on a swim day. Assurance Survey overall had school scoring higher than last year with close to the same number of respondents.

Staffing ongoing for next year – just have to hire Miss Stephanie's mat leave. Miss Julianne is receiving the staff award for Exemplary Service for 2024-2025

Desiree was nominated by Parkside Admin & awarded the parent of distinction with the Alberta School Council Association. The award was acknowledged during the ASCA Conference online and an assembly will take place to present this in the near future. Looking for council feedback on doing "Donuts with Desiree" for Parkside students/staff & Desiree in conjunction with assembly



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presentation. Executive abstained from feedback (bias) and general members in attendance thought the idea was cute and enjoyed the alliteration.

7.0 Trustee's Report- Joan Nellis, Trustee Liaison

The annual employee wellness report was received recently. This one was on staff wellness programs. Provided info to the board/assurance feedback that the board is committed to wellness, what it is doing and what some of the strategies are. 9 elements of wellness were reviewed (highlights), division vs. employee roles in wellness decision making.

April 11 had the pleasure of announcing that the comp received funding for 450 more students and 18 more classrooms. 3 story expansion will take place on west side of building. Career pathways – choose your own adventure. Framework that emphasizes interconnectedness from K-12, discovering interests and how to make a career from the interests. Operations are doing engagement with students, families, and local economy, to see what that looks like and what we need to move. This is done in partnership with NWP.

Summer school for high school students. Condensed courses that students can check off their list for more flexible programming during the standard school year. Calm & Phys Ed are popular ones that students will do through summer.

Teacher bursary program, 60 applicants received from students & graduates. 4 were awarded contracts and a \$5k bursary. 3 more will be awarded this year.

Edwin Parr nomination available to board, it has not given every year but they're excited to announce that Ali Estrada (Hillside Gr. 5 teacher), will be nominated by GPPSD.

Jordan's Principal is a human rights principle established by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) to make sure that First Nations children do not face gaps, delays, or denials in accessing government services because of their identity as First Nations children. Families receive funding for children that need assistance in the classroom. Government is changing the funding. Nationally the program had been misused so fence posts have been installed. For GP public it means that 56 EAs whose funding comes from JP, will not be renewed for 2025/26.

At the last meeting we reviewed what prov budget meant for us. Had a full day meeting re budget recently but the first draft is not yet out. Budget has increased by 4%. 75% of the funding goes directly to staffing. Surplus is proportionate to district growth.

Council of School Council meeting on Thursday – 7pm, Central office.

8.0 Old Business:

8.1 Alberta School Council Engagement Grant (\$500)

May 20 – More than a meeting workshop 7pm.

- Talk about May 20 workshop.

8.2 Planning for Upcoming Events

8.2.1 Spring Dance June 13th, 2025

Theme suggestions from students included: turtles, animals, tropical colors, sparkles, fish, pastels, spring, sheep, garden, disco, sprouts, land, rain, rainbows, fireflies, birds, trees, bunny, Under the sea, beaches, forest & floral.

Winner: Floral

Some kids will do pop up tables of Pax Market Vendors – admin advised no volunteers needed for table setup.

Flip entertainment quoted \$420, set up, take down, 2 hours, mic, basic lighting.



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Admin suggested DJ Otis do a set, 10 min.

- The School Council will send formal invite to DJ Otis (Dani O.)
- Admin does not anticipate there should be any tech issue involved with plugging Otis's computer into DJ system.

9.0 Summary of Current Guild Business

9.1 MunchaLunch Feedback

9.1.1 Des is going to create a survey for the student advisory committee

10.0 New Business:

10.1 ASCA Symposium & AGM Debrief

10.1.1 ASCA "Access Pass"

Briefly reviewed new initiative introduced by ASCA. More information [HERE](#). Could partially fund this year after tentative May 20 workshop and request top up for pass from Guild, or see what kind of sessions they host in 2025/2026 and consider purchasing in 2026/2027

10.2 Reading University Donation Request

10.2.1 Council members approve advising Fundraising Guild to fund request

10.2.2 School Admin advised they could add "Silly Business" Day profits

10.3 Excellence in Education Lunch Wednesday May, 7, 2025

11:45am Holiday Day Inn – Council will not be able to attend.

11.0 Round Table

11.1 Parent inquired re: safety of walking field trips in the downtown area.

12.0 Next Regular Meeting of the School Council of Parkside Montessori: June 2, 2025 @ 6pm

13.0 Adjourn

