

Dr. Plaxton Elementary School Council Meeting
Minutes - March 15th, 2023

1. Jan Davies (Chair) called meeting to order 8:20 p.m.
2. Land Acknowledgment
3. Welcome/Introductions
Present - Jan Davies, Jaelyn Belisle, Heather Hoover, Maria Lindsay, Carol, Brooklyn Oviatt, Jennie Low, Jennifer Gordon, Caylee Low, Tom Scott, Andy Tyslau, Erin Hurkett.
4. Additions to Agenda:
 - Policy Review (13.2) - Jan Davies
 - Fundraising Society (13.3) - Jaelyn Belisle
5. Approval of Agenda: Maria Lindsay, 2nd - Jennie Low.
6. Approval of the Minutes from Jan. 18, 2023: Jennifer Gordon, 2nd - Caylee Low
7. School Report (Erin Hurkett):
Staffing Update: Grade 4, a family of triplets and other families have joined the school. The school was given additional 0.5 grade 4 teacher. Brooke Dykslag. She works 9:30-1:30 supporting literacy and numeracy. The transition has gone smooth and the smaller class sizes are working really well for the teacher and students.

School events:
 - Grade 4/5 Ski Trip (March 3) Very positive response (Tom Scott will share update)
 - Sign Language Club: Thursday during 2nd nutrition break, lead by Char Schow. Lots of interest.
 - Chess Club: Upper Elementary
 - Spring Learning team meetings coming up this week. (For kids with complex needs, IPPs)
 - Report Cards went out March 10.
 - Parent/Teacher interviews March 16 if needed.
 - Celebration of Learning March 16; 5-7 p.m.; anyone welcome to attend to see the learning that has occurred over past few months. (There will be early

dismissal March 16)

-March 17th, Professional Development Day; Numeracy continued learning.

-Currently taking in registration for 2023-24; will use to begin projections for staffing, etc.

-Division mandate of more recycling - Plaxton is part of pilot for the division; updated bins in the foyer including compost. Will monitor and provide feedback.

-Mars Month is happening now. Every grade has participated in the maker space at least once; Robotics, colony making, Virtual Reality, Connecting with NASA (Connor Nixon) - next Tuesday morning (March 21).

Basketball wrapped up with successful tournament at Plaxton. 5 schools participated. Approximately \$1000 @ canteen raised for the grade 4/5 ski trip.

-Running Club also started this month.

-Badminton starting; support through Ard Biesheuvel

Look forward to:

-Spring Break! April 7-16; April 17th PD Day. Students return April 18.

8. Teacher Report (Tom Scott, Learning Support Teacher)

-Shared photos from March 3 ski trip for grades 4 and 5. Lots of smiles!

-124 total grade 4/5 - of this, 103 attended the ski trip.

-\$8673.26 was fundraised for the trip (there was A&W fundraiser, Panago fundraiser, personal donations, canteen sales, student council donation).

-Parent cost per child is approximately \$34 (the parents have not been charged yet, still finalizing the numbers.)

-Plan is to host the trip every other year, and fundraising during the off year, so every student will go in either grade 4 or 5.

-For many students, it was their first experience skiing ever.

-Castle was very well organized; full day lessons, so kids were always supervised.

-Parents, students and staff who attended all had very positive experience and feedback.

Teachers are looking forward to the Celebration of Learning. There is currently a display of the grade 4's "building" project in common space.

9. District School Council Report (Caylee Low)

March 16 7:30 @ Division Office - Community Engagement Meeting

April 18, 2023 Meeting: Parent learning session: Youth anxiety

[Town Hall results](#) can be found on division website (click on link)

ICE scholarships - winners can be found on website.

Cheryl Gillmore (Superintendent) is retiring.

The Board want feedback on what parents, staff and students are looking for in new superintendent to help guide the hiring process for new superintendent.

You can provide feedback by reaching out to Trustees, or by attending a “community conversation” meeting.

Budget recommendations - community engagement survey/tool can be found [here](#).

ASCA Conference is April 21-23 in Edmonton. Must register by April 14. If you would like to attend, please reach out to Jan Davies.

It was noted that parent councils should check their bank accounts, as some received a \$95.00 auto deposit from the Government.

Citrus Fundraiser (in the past, G.S. Lakie has done this). Andy Tyslau shared that there will be apples available in the fall. Bulk pricing. No answers needed right now, but keep in mind as the school will need to decide if interested in participating.

Reminder for Division Council meetings: Parent Learning Sessions 6:30-7:00 (In person or can also do through TEAMS). All parents welcome (e.g. how to support literacy at home) District meeting follows at 7:00.

10. Treasurer Report (Erin Hurkett shared as Jenn Giles, treasurer was absent)

Opening balance: \$6848.67

Closing balance: \$9107.13 (unclear if amount donated to ski trip has come out of account yet).

11. Committee Report

11.1 - Hot Lunch (Jennie Low): Offered every 2 weeks. January 31 Booster Juice: \$669.39 (the smoothies were frozen, so owner did not charge as much), Feb. 13 A & W: \$353.26, Feb. 28 Little Caesars: \$400.92, March 13 Booster Juice: \$331.00

11.2 - Running Club (Jennie Low/Erin Hurkett): Started this past Tuesday. Delayed start to club due to weather. Today was quite icy, but hopefully better next week.

0.5 mile loop for a couple weeks, then move to 1.0 mile loop, and eventually 1.5 mile loop.

Brooklyn asked whether shirts are available again this year? Erin shared that if kids do not have one, they could order more. There was still money left over from sponsor last year for this.

12. Old Business

12.1 - Teacher Appreciation Week May 8-12.

Tabled until April meeting.

13. New Business

13.1 Alberta School Council Conference: (Jan Davies): Jan provided information on ASCA Conference April 21-23 in Edmonton. Jan cannot attend. If anyone would like to attend, please contact Jan.

Registration Deadline April 14. (Lethbridge School Division will pay the registration fee for one parent per school to attend the conference/AGM. The School Division provides \$250 to schools each year to support other costs as school councils best see covered (this additional money could possibly be used to help cover the attendee's travel costs? There are some virtual possibilities for this conference and AGM - however may not have voting rights (unclear).

You can get another school council to vote on your school's behalf if you assign a proxy.

You can find the Resolutions for the Conference [here](#)

13.2 Policy Review (Jan Davies)

Policy Advisory Committee Change.

Jan provided printed copies of policies reviewed and amended. If you have feedback, please email the Plaxton Division Representative, Jamie (Jamie Walburger, jamie_walburger@hotmail.com) or the executive assistant (Kristin Solwoniak) by April 3, 2023.

13.3 Fundraising Society (Jaelyn Belisle)

Would there be interest in creating a fundraising society for Plaxton to tackle larger fundraising items such as playground expansion?

Erin, Jan and Jennifer Gordon attended learning session last year, however there were not enough present to create a society. Need 5 people to start the society, and then are able to fundraise through casinos, etc. and raise large amounts of money that is not possible/allowed through parent council.

Maria Lindsay would be willing to chair. Jaelyn Belisle would be part of society.

Jennifer Gordon willing to write the grant and has taken the course.

Add to agenda for April. Will create society if enough interested members present.

Action Item: Jaelyn Belisle to inquire with Lakeview and Agnes Davidson on their fundraising societies and approximate \$ required for playground expansion, types of fundraising, etc.

13.4 Brooklyn Oviatt shared that she received a phone call from AHS as her child in grade 1 is overdue on vaccinations. She was informed these vaccinations will occur at the school. Brooklyn wasn't sure if Erin or the teachers were aware this would be happening, and it could be stressful/emotional, so it may be beneficial to let parents know so they can be at the school with their child if that may be helpful. Erin will talk to grade 1 teachers; she did just receive an email.

14. Future Meeting Dates

Feb. 7 Town Hall, Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17, June 21

7:00 meeting start time.

15. Adjournment:

Caylee Low motioned to adjourn the meeting. Heather Hoover seconded.

Meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.