

Agenda

March 18, 2021

Tomahawk School Council

In attendance: Desiree Janzen, Carmen Vanderwell, Maria Androschuk, Ron Heinrichs, Amber Hill,
Kerry Smith, Fran Bell, Natacha Cross

- 1) Meeting Called to Order @ 7:06pm
- 2) Additions to Agenda - none
- 3) Approval of Agenda - Approved by Maria, seconded by Carmen
- 4) Reading of Minutes from January 22, 2021
- 5) Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2021 – Approved by Kerry, seconded by Maria
- 6) Approval of December minutes - approved by Maria, seconded by Amber
- 7) Action Items from January 22, 2021 - none
- 8) Trustee Report – see attached report. Ron addressed his notes in the attachment and answered questions. He opened with a covid report; not much happening. Focussed mostly on the topic of next year transportation fees.
- 9) Principal's Report – see attachment
- 10) Teacher's Report – included in the principals attachment
- 11) Chair's Report – none
- 12) Discussion / New Business - none
- 13) Next meeting date and time – April 22, 2021 @ 7pm
- 14) Adjournment: 7:57pm

Trustee Notes (Summary Provided by our Board Chair
- Lorraine Stewart)

- The Board has been reviewing options and discussing transportation fees for two months.
- The Board reviewed six scenarios regarding transportation fees ranging on the spectrum from no increases to a minimal increase for all riders. There were fulsome discussions as we listened to all perspectives and discussed pros and cons of each option.
- At the Special Board Meeting on March 11, 2021, the Board approved the motion to accept Scenario Three resulting in a fee increase:
 - for ineligible (non-funded) rural riders of \$150.00 per year per rider;
 - for ineligible (non-funded) urban riders of \$75.00 per year per rider;
 - for cross attendance and alternate seat rider fees of \$75.00;
 - for private schools of \$50.00;
 - for eligible (funded) riders of \$10.00.

Four trustees voted in favor and three trustees voted against the motion.

- The Board clarified the following points:
 - The cost to transport riders is about \$1000.00 per rider per year.
 - PSD receives no funding to transport ineligible riders – those residing less than 2.4km from their designated school.
 - For the past many years, to offset the cost of transporting ineligible riders, a nominal fee was charged that did not cover the cost of transporting riders.
 - Also in the past, ineligible (non-funded) rural riders were charged considerably less per year than ineligible (non-funded) urban riders.
- The Board reaffirmed the belief that transportation should be available to all riders in Parkland School Division, including the ineligible (non-funded) riders wherever possible.
- The Board reaffirmed the belief that the Transportation Department should operate on a cost-recovery basis, and dollars for transportation will not come from the classroom.
- The Board reaffirmed the direction from the 2019-2020 school year to eliminate the \$1M deficit in Transportation. The plan to eliminate the deficit included: double running buses and aligning the fees for ineligible (non-funded) urban and rural riders.
- The Board acknowledged the importance of maintaining service levels for riders – which means working very hard to not reduce the number of buses from routes and to keep ride-times as low as possible.
- The Board acknowledged that we are in extraordinary economic times; however, there are payment plans in place for families requiring that option. It is important to call the Transportation Department to have a conversation.

The Student Transportation Task Force heard from school authorities across the province, including ours, last year regarding issues such as the 2.4km walk limit; however, we have not seen a report from the Task Force yet.

Please note the Family Rate is 2 1/2 times the individual rate.

More detailed info can be found at:

- 1) [PSD70.ab.ca](https://psd70.ab.ca)
- 2) Board
- 3) Board Meetings
- 4) 2020-2021
- 5) March 11 - Special Board Meeting
- 6) Agenda and Minutes

March/ 2021 Principal's Report March School Council

It seems that Spring has arrived, so students and staff are enjoying the sunshine! Please note:

1. One more student is joining us at school in April, so we will only have 5 students online.
2. Registration for next year is our focus at present. We presently only have 69 students registered. We have 32 to complete. Our goal is to reach 100.
3. We continue to encourage registration for Preschool and Kindergarten. Presently our Kindergarten has 8 students, but projected to be 10. Preschool has only 4 so far. The good news is that we have had three NEW families move to the area.
4. We had a successful Fun Day last Friday PM. Students had a great time moving around to stations in their cohorts.
5. Fran is completing an application for Trickster Theatre for next year. If we are successful a week long play production will be hosted in April, 2022.
6. Thought Exchange has closed but the information has not yet been released for review.
7. It is the time for Alberta Education Parent and Student Surveys. Students will complete their surveys at school after Spring Break. Parents will receive their codes in the mail and we will encourage participation through the school newsletter and messenger.
8. Report cards will be online on March 23rd. Successful Parent-Teacher- interviews were held in February, with the majority of them online.
9. We will be promoting the Spring Flower fundraiser shortly. We plan to use the funds to add to the mini BB court with the purchase of two smaller hoops.
10. One piece in our playground has been noted for removal. This will be discussed in the Friends of Tomahawk meeting.
11. Our Nutrition Nook continues to be very successful. We are providing milk to all students on Tuesday and Friday at lunchtime, and milk and healthy snacks are available every day. We now have sandwiches and wraps as well.
12. Hot lunch continues to be very popular. We are able to provide funds for students who may not be able to afford hot lunch on a regular basis.
13. Our small snowshoes were delivered. I will be requesting payment for this final bill. The snowshoes are excellent quality and we had a lot of fun using them briefly before the snow melted. We look forward to many years of enjoyment from this purchase.
14. We continue to maintain all COVID protocols. New masks were given to all students recently, and we provide unlimited paper masks. Cohorting is enforced and we have had no new Covid cases reported. With the rise in variant cases in the province we are being very careful to monitor all reported student absences due to illness.

We are all looking forward to a refreshing Spring Break. Thank you.

Fran Bell

Principal

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Friends of Tomahawk School Society
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1. Meeting Called to Order - 7:57pm
2. Additions to Agenda - none
3. Approval of Agenda – approved by Amber, seconded by Maria
4. Reading of Minutes from January 22, 2021
5. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2021- approved by Maria, seconded by Kerry
6. Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2020 – approved by Maria, seconded by Amber
7. Action Items from January 22, 2021
8. Chair’s Report - none
9. Treasure’s Report – see attachment. Maria motioned to have the report as read. Natacha 2nded it.
10. Fund Requests
 - a. none
11. Committee Reports
 - a. Hot Lunch – Good news: 82 orders of French toast and about 80 orders for subs. It was a frustrating month in terms of late forms coming in. Moving forward, no late forms will be accepted.
 - b. Breakfast Program – N/A
12. New Business
 - a. Broken Playground Equipment – Fran received an email form facilities stating that a piece of the playground equipment needs to be removed. It is a wooden structure and is outdated but it will not be replaced until we can find something to replace it. This nugget of information is presented for us to start thinking about.
 - b.
 - c.
13. On the Horizon:
14. Next Meeting Date and Time – April 22, 2021 @ 7pm
15. Adjournment: 8:22pm