

# School Council Meeting

September 15, 2025 at 4:00 pm

PNCS School Library

1. Call to order

Lisa Lawrence called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm

2. Welcome and Introductions/Roll Call

Those in attendance are Diana Hunt, Lisa Lawrence, Rob Weiss, David Truckey, Sherry Allen, Keeara King, Jessica Veenstra, Caylene Royea, Leah Breckenridge

3. Review the Agenda

Jessica Seatter moved to approve the agenda. Caylene Royea seconded. Carried

4. Approval of the Minutes as presented (or amended)

Lisa read the minutes from June 12, 2025. Kearra moved to approve the minutes as read. Caylene seconded. Carried

5. Review of the PNCS Operating Procedures (any ammendments?)

Lisa introduced the approved Operating Procedures. She also read through the Goals of the School Council and briefly mentioned the specific responsibilities and roles that each executive carries. To avoid the obscurity of these procedures in the past, she has forwarded a duotang of these procedures to the Chair, the Vice Chair, and to Jan Borst to have a working copy of it in the School Office.

6. Elections

Rob asked for nominations for each of the following positions:

- a. Chair – Jessica Seatter nominated and approved
- b. Vice – Chair – Keeara King nominated and approved
- c. Secretary – Lisa Lawrence nominated Jessica Veenstra. Jessica declined. Stephanie Bellows was also nominated but was unable to be reached. A consensus was made to table the election of a secretary to the next School Council Meeting.
- d. SC Representative for K-3: Angela Boelman was nominated and approved
- e. SC Representative for Grades 4-6: Diana Hunt was nominated and approved
- f. SC Representativie for Grades 7-9: Lisa Lawrence was nominated and approved

7. Administrative Report – Rob Weiss

The full Administrative Report is attached.

Highlights from the report:

a) Sports Update

- 4 Jr. High volleyball teams went to the Saville Center Tournament yesterday
- Pep rally was huge success

b) Library Update

- There is a parent of a PN-Prep student who volunteered to help with the library on Monday and Wednesday mornings while her son is in class. Mrs. Ward will be reading books to the classes during their library time.
- An anonymous donor has chosen to donate \$1000 each year for the next 3-4 years to purchase new books for the library
- Discussion about the effectiveness of the Scholastic Book Fair was had. Ideas were shared about continuing to have a fundraiser for the library, in conjunction with our Open House in the Spring, where students can still go and purchase some good reads/fun items.
- Jessica promoted looking into the Yellowhead Regional Library for some support and suggested forming a Library Committee made up of 4 parents who will oversee the health of the PNCS library. This was approved by consensus and Jessica will be in contact with Rob about the goals of this group and how to communicate it to our school community.

c) Staffing Update

There has been some shuffling of EAs at our school and currently:

- Carmen Owasiw is in Gr. 1
- Amber Buniak is in Gr. 4/5
- Sofia Sheridan is in Kindergarten and Jr. High
- There will be a new hire coming in soon for the Gr. 5/6 class

d) Student Enrollment

- There were 171 students at the end of last school year and at the beginning of this school year, we now have 186.

e) Staff Board

- As per a request at the last School Council Meeting, Rob announced that there will be a "Staff Board" on visual display on the Viewsonic when you enter the school.

f) Drumheller

- A considerate letter was sent home communicating that there will be no Drumheller trip this year addressing parent reactions as it has been a tradition of our school for many years.

g) Mural in the Skate Shack

- A discussion has been had between Rob and Carling Montgomery about a potential mural in the skate shack. Jessica will contact Carling for further planning.

h) Skate Shack Clean-up

- Rob will be in contact with Lisa, and potentially a couple other parents, about a date to clean out any old or unused equipment and prepare the way for a clean and refreshing experience!

i) Volunteers in Classrooms

- Rob has communicated with teachers that parents would like more parental involvement opportunities and he is leaving it up to the teachers and parents to reach out to each other.

#### 8. Trustee Report – Sherry Allen

The full Trustee Report is attached.

Highlights from the Report affecting our school:

- a) The Alberta Government has mandated an opt in requirement for the planned instruction time of Human Sexuality topics. This was included in our registration forms for the year
- b) The Alberta Government has mandated that a teacher must report to admin and parents if a student requests to be identified by a different pronoun. This applies only if a direct request is made to a teacher. Admin will make sure that conversations students may need to have with parents are made in safety.
- c) Proof of gender identity at birth for girls playing on sports teams is only required if someone makes a request. (For example, a parent or a coach)
- d) Pembina Hills received an additional \$185,000 in grant money from Alberta Education that will go towards additional EAs and classroom supports.

David addressed the potential strike and offered concern for the situation parents may find themselves in. Victoria Kane is our Division's representative on TEBA and has the most direct involvement with the ongoing deliberations.

#### 9. Fundraising Report

Lisa gave a quick update including that the Little Caesar's fundraiser will be on in October. The rink account currently has \$3000 and no specific update was shared concerning the General and Casino accounts.

#### 10. Next School Council Meeting

Will be on November 3 at 10:00 am. Parents will be able to join through a google meet if not able to attend in person.

#### 11. Adjourn

Rob moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 pm. Lisa seconded. Carried

### **Principals Report - September 15th**

- Sports update
  - Teams at the U of A on Sunday
  - Junior High Volleyball - Pep Rally Sept. 10th
  - September 16th - Phys. Ed. Meeting
- Library update
  - Parent Volunteer - Monday and Wednesday mornings
  - Book fair / Scholastic
  - Books in the library
    - Parent committee for book suggestions?
- Staffing update
  - New hires
    - Other changes in positions
    - One new hire still for Grade 5/6
- CTF
  - CTF courses this year
  - Panther Pride, Outdoor Pursuits, Art, Winter Adventures, Agriculture, Game On
- Student enrollment
  - 171 end of the school year 2025
  - 186 beginning of the 2025/2026 school year
  - Opening Day enrollments
- Staff board
  - Will add to our Viewsonic at the front
- Parent council meetings for the year
  - Do we set these tonight?
- Drumheller
  - Letter was sent home
- Concession numbers - soccer DATE ? October 2nd?
- Terry Fox Run -
  - September 25th - all PHSD
    - 2:30 ish
- Fire Drill, Lockdown
  - Fire Drill - September 18th @ 10am
  - Lockdown - October 2nd @ 10am
- Mural in the skate shack?
  - Paint it on something and bring it in and hang up? Winter Art
  - Stage mural?
- Skate shack clean up
  - Date ?
- Volunteers in classrooms
  - I have encouraged teachers to communicate this

## Report to Pembina North Community School Council

September 2025

It is nice to be back at this table with you all to start the new school year. This group does amazing work and I hope I am here to see what exciting things you do for students and the school this year.

The board had a hiatus for most of July and August but we did all take turns representing Pembina Hills at numerous community parades during that time. Unfortunately we didn't make it to all of them.

I'm sure top of everyone's mind is the impending teacher strike. As it is a listen and watch situation that school divisions have no control over I don't have anything to report. Like you we are waiting and hoping with fingers crossed that an agreement can be reached. Sr Administration will share any pertinent information they have through all the communication channels they have.

As we made our way into summer there were 2 division wide student events that went very well. At the end of June there was the 1<sup>st</sup> ever 3 day land based learning camp for Indigenous students. Held at Metis Crossing and facilitated by our partnership with Rupertsland. It was an incredible event, there was a slide show on the website worth checking out if it is still posted.

There was also the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual week long Career Camp. This was a day camp and students had opportunity to learn about numerous career options and even try their hand at some.

If you have already had a chance to complete your start of the year forms then you know about the opt in requirement, mandated by the Alberta Government, for Human Sexuality topics. Please be aware that it applies to planned instruction only and does not include incidental conversations that might come up as a result of something brought forward by a student.

The Alberta Government has also mandated that a teacher must report if a student requests to be identified by a different pronoun. This applies only if a direct request is made to a teacher. Administration will ensure that conversations students may need to have with parents are made in safety.

You may have also heard about proof of gender identity at birth for girls playing on sports teams. This will only be required if someone makes a request, for example another parent or coach.

There is more specific information on all these matters on the website.

Pembina Hills recently received an additional \$185,00 in grant money from Alberta Education. It will be put into the Student Services budget to be used for additional E.A.s and other classroom supports.

Education services is working with Norquest College and McEwan University to get a Policing course in place to offer students. Another opportunity for dual credit.

I think that is everything but please don't hesitate to ask if there is something I missed.

Respectfully Submitted

Trustee Sherry Allen