

**Parent Advisory Council Minutes  
Laidlaw School**

November 6th, 2024

7:01 Start

Attendance: Heather Eby, Jill Correia, Ruth Abreu, Meaghan Jensen, Tracy Enns, Laura Speziali, Laura Heshka, Thomas Remple-Ong, Lindsay Penman

Executive Positions: Chair – Jill Correia, Vice Chair – Lindsay Egan, Secretary – Meaghan Jensen & Lindsay Penman, Treasurer – Tracy Enns, Social Media – Samantha Turple, Fundraising Coordinator – Laura Speziali & Christine Louizos & Ruth Abreu, Fun Lunch Coordinator – Ashley Abbott & Laura Heshka

**Vacant Positions: Treasurer (2)**

1. Principal's Report – Heather Eby

Discussion/Action Below:

a. School Update:

i. 275 Students

ii. School Improvement Projects:

1. New tables for Kinder classrooms – desks were taken to middle years classrooms due to increasing enrollment

2. New student storage shelving unit for 5/6 Chin.

3. Storyboard stations are being installed along the trail before the snow hits

4. Quotes are being gathered for the dry riverbed to get new stones

b. October Highlights:

i. Our first picture day with Edge Imaging on Oct.11<sup>th</sup> was a success. A bit of a surprise to have class photos done in the spring...we will see how this goes and re-evaluate for next year.

ii. Classroom Profile meetings with teachers and their SST links (and myself) allow teachers to share the strengths and stretches of their students so we are best able to support them.

iii. We've had three Fire Drills already. We are required to do one/month (or 10 in a year).

iv. Scholastic Book Fair was a big hit this year bringing in record numbers to supplement our library budget and collection.

v. Our annual Book Character Pumpkin contest was outstanding. This fundraiser for Manitoba Harvest filled three large bins of food for the organization.

vi. This year, we had to have two evening Tri-conferences instead one evening and a morning. There was good attendance, just a reminder to

families to bring their students as they are part of the conference and sharing their goals.

- vii. Groove-a-thon was another fun event for everyone. A big thank you to PAC and the committee for all the hard work to organize this event.
- viii. Field trips and the Halloween parade topped off our last week of October!

c. School Plan Areas of Focus DRAFT for 2024/2025:

New divisional school plan templates with deeper dive into school data...

- **Literacy:** How can we create the conditions where all students are experiencing success through a comprehensive literacy approach, in order to develop their reading and writing skills?
- **Inquiry (Engagement):** How do we ensure all students are experiencing inquiry learning opportunities to develop their critical thinking, along with their knowledge and understanding across the curricular subject areas?

d. Teacher Professional Development:

- i. October 7<sup>th</sup> PD was online training for teachers in the area of Cyber security and our divisional Code of conduct.
- ii. MTS PD day on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> had our teachers attending subject specific professional learning with teachers across the province. We shared highlights of our learning at our staff meeting today.
- iii. We had Valdine Bjornson in for a half day to continue her work supporting our teachers with their understanding of teaching reading to all students, along with supporting those with reading difficulties.
- iv. We have two Professional learning teams this year supported by the Pembina Trails joint PD fund in the focus areas of literacy and inquiry.
- v. November 29<sup>th</sup> – Treaty training education for all staff in Pembina Trails as mandated by the government department of Manitoba Education.
- vi. Professional Growth Plan meetings scheduled with me throughout this month. These are individualized goals set by teachers to improve their practice over the course of the school year.

e. November News

- i. Picture Retakes Nov 6
- ii. Remembrance day assembly on Friday Nov 8 at 10:45

2. Treasurer's Report – Tracy Enns

- a. \$49,904 in PAC Chequing account (this fund can be used for school initiatives funded by PAC such as BBQ, Staff Appreciation, Grade 8 Graduation)
- b. \$25,863 in Lunch Supervision Program account (this fund pays the Lunch Supervisors)

- c. \$7,677 in PTESF (general)
  - d. \$38,714 in PTESF (grounds)
- 3. Fundraising – Laura Speziali
  - a. Fundraising efforts currently going towards buying LOFTS for classrooms. Need approx. 8 total. Cost is \$2,152.16 + \$1,200 install per. Discussion around buying all at once.
  - b. Show & Save books not available this year. Bake sale will proceed at the Winter concert on December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. Grade 8 Grad – Ashley Abbott
  - a. Booster Juice & Popcorn fundraiser brought in \$244.00
  - b. BP Gift card fundraiser to be done before the holidays
- 5. Laidlaw Gear will be delivered before the holidays
- 6. Misc/Questions/Concerns:
  - a. Tree Relief program is closed for this year but name has been placed on the list for next year (trees for trail)
  - b. March 7<sup>th</sup> will be the grade 7/8 outdoor activity day & ski trip
  - c. Confirmed that BBQ date will be June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025. More details to be discussed at next meeting
  - d. Issue with Drainage at the pond area. Quote for Limestone (drainage rocks) and river rocks came in at \$20,000.00
- 7. Meeting adjourned 8:15pm. Next meeting Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.