

**Parent Advisory Council Minutes**  
**Laidlaw School**  
October 9th, 2024  
7:02 Start

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

Executive Positions: Chair – Jill Correia, Vice Chair – Lindsay Egan, Secretary – Meaghan Jensen, 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), Secretary (1)**

1. Principal's Report – Heather Eby

Discussion/Action Below:

a. School Update:

- i. 278 Students (down from 291 in June and 27+ new registrations for 24/25 school year)
- ii. Class sizes range from 20-28 students (17 in kindergarten)
- iii. Summer projects completed:
  1. Front handrails that were rusting were fixed and painted
  2. Bulletin Boards painted black to create calm and modern classrooms
  3. FOB installed at the south entrance/daycare doors
  4. New gr.5/6 classroom had computer counter removed.
  5. Brand new gym floor refinished, new lines painted and walls painted.
  6. Trail was completed!! Storyboard sign posts still remain to be installed, along with trees.
  7. Air conditioning was fixed for the library and band room.
  8. Gutters were cleaned and painted
- iv. Staffing Updates (5 new teachers and 2 returning)
  1. Briar Hildebrand – 1.0 Permanent gr. 7/8
  2. Niamh Skelton – 1.0 Permanent gr. 7/8
  3. Christine Young – 1.0 Permanent gr. 3/4
  4. Christie Petersen – 1.0 Permanent SST & 1/2AP (one day/cycle)
  5. Lori Pasosky – 0.667 Term SST (Ms. Tomczyk's part time leave)
  6. Mike Stupak – Return from Paternity Leave
  7. Gosha Tomczyk – Return to EAL & SST (0.5 Permanent)
  8. Justin Chin gr. 5/6 (permanent) and Jayden Pollock gr.7/8 (term) (swap)

9. Maria Marasco – added 0.25 EAL and 3/4FCC to her portfolio (0.75)

b. April/May Highlights:

- i. Meet the Teacher on the evening before the first day of school was received very well. Teachers and parents loved the opportunity for students to see their classrooms, drop off their supplies and ease some “first day jitters and anxiety”.
- ii. Welcome Back assembly with K-8 on Friday, Sept.6<sup>th</sup> to “ring in the new school year” with the youngest and oldest students doing it together.
- iii. Divisional cross country running introduced new athletic divisions with grade 4-5 and 6-8. Students performed really well! Only 2 meets with 4-8 and a final championship for 6-8 only.
- iv. Terry Fox Walk was on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>, short route for K-2 and longer route 3-8.
- v. Strong Beginnings was Sept.19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> to start off the school year connecting with students one on one and doing some preliminary assessments of their student’s strengths and stretches in literacy and numeracy.
- vi. Truth and Reconciliation Day was a huge success with some great footage of our students along the path with their orange hearts. We have a new school photo on order!
- vii. FLEX TIME continues to be a positive program that targets the Manitoba Education Global Competences, Student Engagement, Belonging and School Community. Other Pembina Trails schools are now following our lead!!
- viii. New Mobile Device Policy seems to be followed successfully by our middle years students and staff. Phone lockers were purchased for our gr.7/8 classes. Thank you PAC!

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. October News:

- i. Classroom profile meetings to plan for students strengths and stretches
- ii. EAL support and planning for stage 1 learners
- iii. Literacy intervention and support planning in progress
- iv. Lots of PD for staff this month (online trainings, MTS PD Day)
- v. October 22 & 24 are Parent Teacher conferences & Book Fair!

- vi. Volleyball Begins
- vii. Oct 24<sup>th</sup> is our annual Groove-a-thon!

2. Treasurer’s Report – Tracy Enns

- a. \$45,881.00 in PAC Chequing account (this fund can be used for school initiatives funded by PAC such as BBQ, Staff Appreciation, Grade 8 Graduation)
- b. \$25,018 in Lunch Supervision Program account (this fund pays the Lunch Supervisors)
- c. \$2,147 in PTESF (general)
- d. \$38,714 in PTESF (grounds)
- e. 2023/2024 Laidlaw PAC results:

| <b>2023-24 Laidlaw PAC Results</b> |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Cash inflows:</b>               |             |
| Fun Lunches                        | \$ 12,750   |
| Groove a thon                      | 10,195      |
| BBQ                                | 1,225       |
| Show and Save                      | 950         |
| Bake Sale                          | 885         |
| Pembina Trails Grant               | 375         |
| <b>Cash outflows:</b>              |             |
| AV system                          | \$ (18,758) |
| Desks                              | (15,573)    |
| Grade 8 Farewell                   | (1,530)     |
| Soccer Nets                        | (1,172)     |
| Staff Appreciation                 | (607)       |
| Pancake Breakfast                  | (394)       |
| Art Prints                         | (385)       |
| Microwaves                         | (154)       |
| Cornhole Game                      | (150)       |
|                                    | \$ (12,343) |
| <b>Lunch Program</b>               |             |
| Supervision Fees                   | \$ 43,904   |
| Less: Wages                        | (34,521)    |
| Less: Microwaves                   | (925)       |
| Less: Playground Equipment         | (260)       |
| Less: Misc                         | (280)       |
|                                    | \$ 7,918    |

3. Fun Lunch –

- a. New platform Munch a Lunch is going smoothly and more user friendly than previous website.
- b. Some complaints received from parents about too many Fun Lunches. Consensus made to continue without change for the time being.

4. Lunch Program -

- a. Program running smoothly

5. Fundraising – Laura Speziali
  - a. Current Farm to School Fundraiser raised ~\$800.00 (67 bags). Agreed to do this fundraiser next year (bring up at last meeting as need to book spot during the summer)
  - b. Show & Save books will be sold at a table at the holiday concert this year. Further discussion to be had about possible Bake sale at the same time.
  - c. Mrs. Eby proposed moving Groove-a-thon to spring next year (possibly week before spring break) due to multiple events in October.
6. Grade 8 Grad – Ashley Abbott
  - a. Price per head last year was \$45.00. Will have to price out for this year.
  - b. 6 parents on committee
  - c. First fundraiser will be Kernel Bags & Booster Juice on Halloween day (will go on munch a lunch website)
  - d. Possible BP gift cards fundraiser for later this year
7. Laidlaw Gear:
  - Ordering is live until October 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Will ship out before Christmas
  - Email to be sent out regarding people sending in used laidlaw gear that has been outgrown to be reused by a new family
8. Questions/Concerns:
  - a. Ashley Abbott to inquire with the city about the city tree relief program re: new trees for our trail
  - b. Concern brought up about communication of sporting events (eg. Not all parents were aware of Cross Country sign up)
9. Meeting adjourned 8:35pm.