

# TCS School Council

Meeting: Thursday, April 14, 2022 10-11am  
In-Person TCS - **APPROVED**

Chair:  
Stephanie Dyck

Vice Chair:  
Sophie Kolterjahn –regrets  
(recorded message)

Secretary:  
Nicole Sharpe

## In Attendance

Parents: Arlene Reimer, Deonne McCausland, Cynthia Michie, Anna Girova, Bola Dada

Admin: Michelle Duimel, Tim McAlpine, Lesley Wenzel

Communication rep: Dawn Peart (regrets)

Board Representative: Mike Humphries

Teacher Representative: Vickie Tiessen (regrets)

PSD Representative: Debbie Laturus (recorded message)

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer – Stephanie Dyck and Pastor Tim
2. Motion to Approve Agenda
  - Motion made by Arlene Reimer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cynthia Michie
  - Motion carried
3. Motion to Approve TCS School Council Meeting Minutes of *Feb 3, 2022*
  - Motion made by Mike Humphries, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nicole Sharpe
  - Motion carried
4. Palliser Board Greetings and Update – Trustee Debbie Laturus (Vice Chair)
  - Stephanie read the update provided by Debbie reviewing
    - Off-campus programming
    - Wellness
    - Literacy
    - Numeracy
  - Contact information can be found on the Palliser School Division website, tab for trustees - [pallisersd.ab.ca](http://pallisersd.ab.ca)
  - See end of minutes for full update provided
5. Principal/Executive Director's Report– Michelle Duimel and Mike Humphries

## Notes:

- 2022-2023 school calendar is in for approval at Palliser
  - Expect it approved by May 1<sup>st</sup>

- Will be sent out in the weekly happenings and posted on the school website once available
- First day of school listed as Tuesday August 30, 2022
- Waiting for further information on approval of staggered entry
- Staff return August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- First all school chapel (K-9) is April 14, 2022 @ 2:15pm
  - TCS goal will be to have parents invited to chapel in May
  - Kindergarten pre-recorded, grade 5 presenting live
    - Link will hopefully be available to be sent for the K presentation
- As we gather data and collect information from the school community, accountability pillars survey has been completed through Alberta Ed (grade 4, 7, and all teaching staff)
  - Expecting results in May, hopefully in time for Spring Society Meeting
- Survey to be sent out at the end of April to everyone, by grade division – staff, students, parents (Our School Survey)
  - Standardized questions included on the survey
  - Questions also added by TCS for school based data – focus: how do we re-engage parents back here at the school and rebuild the community
  - Results from the survey will support school goal development
  - Request from admin:
    - Looking for ideas on how we can ask these questions of our parents,
    - What other questions would be good to ask our parents,
      - Does your schedule allow for some volunteering within a school day?
      - Topics of interest for Sid Koop (see Pastor Tim’s update below)
    - Ideas for re-engagement (shared by parents in attendance):
      - invite parents to come in for presentations, chapel, chapel style meeting for parents to connect, invitation to prayer group, movie nights, nickel carnival or other kindergarten events, leadership team is planning a grade 9 lock-in (community building event) and perhaps parents can volunteer, Jr. High traditions reintroduced w/ possible parent involvement, year end Cobs and Dogs
    - Please contact admin with any other ideas
  - Celebration- TCS recently hosted a Jr High open house, which was great to have families in the building again
    - Wondering if we should do something similar for elementary families?
- Supports in place for students grade 1-3 from Alberta Ed to support learning loss due to Covid-19 pandemic

- Resources have been provided through teachers who were available to do the additional assessments with students
- Grade 2-3: received \$17,000 to put targeted intervention in place for these students
- Grade 1 assessments took place in January which led to additional \$15,000
  - Teacher Maris Wilks has been supporting Monday-Thursday targeted intervention for grades 1-3 since November
  - Lauren Brown, Robin Humphries also providing targeted interventions
  - We have seen growth in the grade 1-3 students!
- Society Update: Mike Humphries
  - It is budget time
  - Update to come on changes to some board members
  - Working towards dealing w/ capacity issues in the school, including third floor – updates to occur at Spring Society Meeting June 2, 2022 in-person
  - Additional updates to come at that meeting

#### Parent Response/Questions

- Q: re: cultural influence / media / access of social media reaching our children
  - A: Pastor Tim recently sent out a parent resource regarding the medias progressive agenda which can support parents in having these conversations at home w/ their children. This resource will be re-shared with the school council meeting minutes.
  - Sid Koop is booked to come in to speak w/ Jr. High students – Topic “Breaking up with your phone”, working w/ teachers addressing biblical sexuality, and a parent night is booked (in-person) for April 20, 2022
- Q: if there is anything worldly / cultural that is required to be taught by curriculum, will admin notify parents of this and explain how they plan to approach it?
  - A: Yes, it will be taught through a biblical world view and parents can be informed about the curriculum requirements and how it will be taught at TCS
- Q: will the learning loss assessment funds continue?
  - A: At the present time, this funding is one time only
- Q: any plans for TCS to add grades 10-12?
  - A: TCS has updated the vision statement to not include grades 10-12 in the statement specifically; however it is still on the board’s radar and the board still holds this vision
  - Discussions are happening w/ partner schools (e.g. south unity Christian campus for high school is an idea)
  - Board discussions indicate that it would be a separate entity from TCS

- Conversation is ongoing

## 6. Old Business

### Notes:

- Sid Koop Teaching Series for Parents – Pastor Tim
  - Scheduled April 20, 2022 in person at school, 7:00pm
  - Sid is a partner in the Coalition for Youth Ministry Excellence
  - Goal is to partner with parents
  - Intent is to have Sid return fairly regularly (once every 1-2 months)
  - Sid has a team available to speak to different parenting topics

### Questions:

- Q: How do we as parents support conversations with our children around cultural topics related to gender / sexuality?
  - Pastor Tim recommended the website Mama Bear Apologetics – website resource to support parents in having conversations with their children about sexuality

## 7. New Business:

### School Council Executive Update – Sophie Kolterjahn (recorded)

- Speaker Series
  - In an effort to utilize the ASCE Grant
  - Sophie summarized Sid Koop's speaker series that will be offered re: navigating the digital age
  - Exploring other topics relevant to our earlier grades – accessing our internal resources Chanae Smith for guidance on what is currently observed as needs in our younger students
- Needs Assessment
  - Summarized best practice for school council executive– executive self-evaluation currently taking place (Stephanie, Sophie, Nicole completing individually and together)
  - Looking at gaps / needs for 2022-2023 to support admin and school body
- Executive Positions / Intentions
  - Stephanie Dyck will continue as Chair
  - Nicole Sharpe will continue as secretary
  - Sophie will be stepping back from the Vice Chair position due to increased work accountabilities – *Thank you Sophie for your great work this school year!*
  - Sophie has kindly offered to cover the vice chair position at limited capacity if there are no other volunteers

- Stephanie will post a description of the Vice Chair role, please contact us if you are interested in joining the school council executive team

#### Committee Reports and Volunteer Opportunities:

- TCS Banking – Arlene Reimer
  - Summary of program provided
  - Program provides students with knowledge in financial education, making deposits
  - Christian Credit Union (CCU) encourages deposits determined by grade # each year, with interest and bonuses available up to age 19
  - Debit card made available in grade 7 with parent controls on limits for spending and withdrawals
  - Update: Since September, 13 new students signed up, 3 old accounts continued, average of \$274 per month put in to those 16 accounts
  - Statements provided in the mail
  - CCU is open to students having a savings account which would allow money to moved between accounts
  - If parents have an account with CCU they can arrange for direct deposit in to their child's account
- Lost and Found – Stephanie Dyck
  - Always looking for volunteers.
  - Place items outside 1x per month to be collected
  - Weekly tidy of items inside the building
  - Rotating schedule between volunteers.
  - Contact information is on the school council bulletin board
- Staff Appreciation – Deonne McCausland
  - Staff appreciation week was Feb 28-Mar 4
    - Decorated staff room, candy bar, coffee & donuts, notes of appreciation, Village Ice Cream
  - Committee will be scheduling a time to meet and brainstorm year end celebration of staff and teachers. Please contact if you would like to volunteer.

#### 8. Motion to Adjourn TCS School Council Meeting *April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

- Motion made by Tim McAlpine, 2nd by Bola
- Motion carried

#### 9. Closing Prayer – Mike Humphries

Palliser Board Update provided by Debbie Laturnus

## April Board Meeting

### Off-Campus Programming

Palliser School Division offers collaborative learning opportunities and partnerships between school and community partners. Opportunities include Work Experience, RAP, Green Certificate, Exploratories and Dual Credit with post secondary partners including University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College, SAIT, NAIT, Ambrose University, Prairie College, Olds College, and the University of Calgary. Five schools are piloting a Transition to Life (Post Secondary) Course, two schools are piloting a culinary course and FarmEd offers an immersive, place-based education centred on Agricultural practices and “farm to table”. The Trades and Vocational Education Committee (TAVE) is co-chaired by our division and developed the strategic framework aimed at building students’ trades, apprenticeships, and vocational education knowledge and experiences.

### Wellness

The Wellness goal of the division focuses on students becoming literate in mental health, gaining knowledge that will provide them confidence in their pursuit of living a healthy life. In the past year, there has been an increase in Family School Liaison Counselors (FSLC) team support. The Coordinator of Counseling, along with the team of FSLCs, provide one to one and group counseling to students in anxiety, trauma, grief and a multitude of other areas. The team supports schools through responding to crises and the Making Connections Worker are liaisons between families, schools and community. In the past year, there were over 748 classroom presentations related to wellness.

### Literacy

The division-wide literacy team carries out the Literacy Framework which emphasizes the key areas of Oral Language and Vocabulary, Disciplinary Literacy, Balanced Literacy, and Digital Literacy across grade levels and subjects. Experts in these areas have supported leaders in developing professional learning and aligning school-wide approaches to literacy. This year, staff attended over 40 division-wide professional learning opportunities related to literacy. Emphasis has been placed on strategies to further support staff with implementing changes in the K-3 English Language Arts curriculum.

## Numeracy

A numeracy team has been established to engage leaders, teachers, students and community to further the division's numeracy framework. Focus will continue on key areas of elementary numeracy: number sense and fluency, mathematical reasoning, visual mathematics, problem solving, and rich tasks. An online platform will allow staff to share resources, plans and projects across the division.