

TCS School Council

Meeting: Thursday, February 2nd, 2023, 2:00pm

Location: TCS Learning Commons

Chair:
Stephanie Dyck

Vice Chair:
Sophie Kolterjahn

Secretary:
Nicole Sharpe (absent)

In Attendance

Parents: Diana Thomas, Jessi Krahn, Tara Slavich, Niki Goertz

Admin: Michelle Duimel, Audra Chase

Society Board: Mike Humphries

Discipleship Team: Tim McAlpine

Teacher Representative: Jennifer Munton

Communications: Lara Kozan

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer – Stephanie Dyck and Pastor Tim
2. Motion to Approve Agenda
 - Motion made by Audra Chase, 2nd Jessi Krahn
 - Motion carried
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3. Motion to Approve TCS School Council Meeting Minutes of *November 24th, 2022*
 - Motion made by Sophie Kolterjahn, 2nd Jessi Krahn
 - Motion carried
4. Greetings from the Palliser School Board Trustee Debbie Laturus

Debbie Laturus was not able to attend the meeting: Debbie's full February report is posted on the School Council page of the TCS Website

Highlights:

- International Student Program update – a very successful year with the program and applications to host international students have begun for next year. If you are interested in becoming a host family, please contact Michelle Duimel.
- 2021/22 Palliser Annual Education Results Report – results achieved from implementing the school plan. Board of trustees posted this approved report on the Palliser website.

5. Principal/Executive Director's Report– Michelle Duimel and Mike Humphries

- Proposed TCS 2023/2024 School Calendar – this is based on the approved calendar by Palliser. 960-965 required instructional hours as mandated by Alberta Education. Highlighted key dates:
 - First day of school – September 5th, 2023. Staff begin the week of August 28th, 2023.
 - Truth & Reconciliation Day - falls on a weekend, no day off for students in lieu.
 - Winter break - November 13th-17th, 2023
 - Christmas break - December 25th-January 5th, 2023
 - February Family Day and week off school: February 19th-February 23rd, 2024
 - Easter break March 25th - April 5th, 2024
 - Last day of classes for students is June 26th, 2024
 - With the layered-in days off, PD days, etc. we are within the required range for instructional hours. (Estimates: JH: 963 hours / Elem 964 hours)
- Christmas Concert feedback requested by Mike Humphries:
 - Logistical feedback – was nice to have two shows, allowed more opportunities for students to get involved, as well as the ticket process was great. Quality of the sound was a bit weak at times. Lighting was exceptional. Video recording was appreciated.
 - All parents commented how wonderful it was to be back together again in person.
- Parent Speaker Night – Pastor Tim
 - Sid Koop's most recent speaker night was on Creating Connections with our kids. What most contributes to your vision for your child's future? Our expectations and our beliefs play the biggest part on their lives. Initiate action with the kids, imagine the best and not the worst and inspire them with the "big picture".
 - Feedback from parents requesting to record and/or Zoom link any future talks.
 - We are hoping to have Sid Koop back again before the end of the year for another parent speaker night.
- Family Events feedback requested by Lara Kozan:
 - 100 people attended the last TCS movie night, big success!
 - Looking at getting ice rink back.
 - Lara is open to suggestions for future family events. Some suggestions were a family dance, mini golf, etc.
- Board updates – Mike Humphries:
 - Budget season is approaching
 - Board retreat was on January 21st; focused on governance and strategic planning.
 - Continuing to work through our expansion and renovation project – looking to enhance the front entrance, expansion will be on the side of

the JH building. Design and concept are in place, should have working drawings for tendering by early June. Desire is to break ground in the summer of 2023 and ideally to be in the expanded part of the building by Sept 2024.

- Question: any updates on the potential high school? Survey did show that there is a lot of interest in a Christian high school. We continue to look for land and to work on crafting an agreement between TCS and GCA.
- Walk-A-Thon will be back on the table for this year. Funds raised will likely go toward playground upgrades.
- Learning Opportunities for parents presented by Palliser – Stephanie Dyck
 - Zoom Sessions – register online via the link on the website: www.sapdc.ca/prgram
 - i. Power of Parents (4-part series)
 - ii. Executive functioning for Parents of Students with ADHD
 - Feedback from Teacher Representative Jennifer Munton is that these series are very good and often well attended by teachers themselves.

6. Old Business:

- Recess Committee (mentioned above, as relates to Walk-A-Thon)

7. New Business:

- Speaker Series – Pastor Tim (covered above)
- Teaching & Learning at TCS – Jennifer Munton
 - Kindergarten Kids – excited about jumping into reading with their decodable books; exciting Space unit
 - Grade 1 – Field trip to the zoo with many parent volunteers
 - Grade 2 – Preparing Chapel presentation Jesus Holds All Things, with their grade 7 buddies. Also looking at the communities across Canada.
 - Grade 3 – In Health they are focusing on friendships. Still are some gaps in the socio-emotional relationships due to COVID.
 - Grade 4 – working on multi-digit multiplication. Also focused on narrative writing. Habitat for Humanity has a writing challenge for the importance of home.
 - Grade 5 – learning about electricity and science. Brought a Van de Graff in for the students to experiment with static electricity.
 - Grade 6 – Edmonton trip!
 - Grade 7 – Learning about Canada's British origins. Writing essays. Self-directing scenes for the Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.
 - Grade 8 – Just finished a project on integers where they played 9 holes of golf within the school. Researched into sicknesses that have impacted their families.
 - Grade 9 – Excited and nervous to explore high school options. They have toured Centennial.
- School Council Executive
 - Palliser Council of School Councils – Stephanie Dyck (not covered due to time)

- ASCE Grant – Stephanie Dyck & Sophie Kolterjahn
 - Needs to be used towards ways of improving the knowledge and education of parents.
 - Stephanie to research whether we could utilize funds from the ASCE grant towards the learning opportunities mentioned above as offered by Palliser. Currently those sessions are \$25/person.
- Volunteer Committee Reports:
 - TCS Banking – Stephanie Dyck for Arlene Reimer
 - Student banking continues to run!
 - Lost and Found – Jessi Krahn
 - Please label all your clothing. Lots of clothing being left outside.
 - Volunteer Request: assist with putting out the clothes at the end of the month for one week before clothing is donated. Please contact the office or Jessi.
 - Excellent feedback on the new system of organizing the lost and found items. Teachers and students alike have found it much easier to find their belongings.
 - Staff Appreciation – Stephanie Dyck
 - Committee plans to put on 4 events this year, 2 events have already occurred. Recently did a tropical taco event with positive feedback from the staff.
 - Contact Stephanie at schoolcouncil@tcskids.com to get involved!
 - Blessings Initiative – Audra Chase
 - Have received some meals from some families. A few meals now in the freezer for families in need or experiencing some difficulty.
 - Ideally would like to have some meals on hand to bless families when emergencies / needs come up. Meals are kept in the Junior High kitchen when needed.
 - If you are preparing something that freezes well, and would like to bless a family, please deliver it to the school in a container that does not have to be returned.
 - Please contact Audra if you have any questions or would like to help out
- Question: would it be possible to investigate placing air purifier units in each classroom? Something to consider!

8. Motion to Adjourn TCS School Council Meeting *February 2nd, 2023*

- Motion made by Audra Chase, 2nd Jennifer Munton
- Motion carried

9. Closing Prayer – Mike Humphries (omitted due to time)