

DDS Home and School Council Minutes
Tuesday February 28, 2023 – DDS Computer Lab & Virtual

Attendance – In Person: Julie Milne, Shantel Mohrmann, Crystal McGregor (Principal), Mike Oliver (Trustee), Jenae Emond, Steph Winch, Mandy Zeinstra **Virtual:** Roxane Drake, Laurell Greene, Alicia Bourque, Michelle Marti

1) Called to Order @ 3:52pm

2) Agenda – Approved by Laurell – No Changes

3) Previous Minutes – Approved by Mandy

4) Business Arising: None

5) Field Trips (Julie Milne & Shantel Mohrmann)

Traxx came back with a quote of \$3500 for a coach & driver, it does not include hotel or food for the driver. We do have access to a Palliser bus, however they have not confirmed a driver for the trip. Does anyone know someone who'd be qualified to drive and willing to be there for 2 days? Grades 5 & 6 will have a cake auction on the evening of Student Led Conferences as a fundraiser to help cover extra costs of this trip. Trip is for Thursday April 27, overnight to Friday April 28. ***A driver has since been confirmed for the trip through Palliser**

6) Principals Report (Crystal McGregor) :

- Mrs Bowden has been hired for numeracy & literacy work with the students. Palliser has hired a new Making Connections worker – Miss Nicole. She'll be at DDS on Tuesdays. We have 2 University practicum students, one will be in grade 5 with Ms Mohrmann and one in grade 6 with Ms Milne.
- There will be a cake auction in the gym the evening of Student Led Conferences – it will be open to the public. It's part of the grade 5 & 6 fundraiser for their Drumheller trip.
- We've received 2 donations from the AG Society - \$1000 towards winter clothing and \$2500 towards the outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom has run out of funds. Funds that come in from this point will be used for tables and/or stools. The school is hoping to have a grand opening in May with a family dance (hoping for the Thursday before May long weekend)
- Assurance Surveys were just recently mailed out. Please make sure you fill them out. DDS ranked "very high" in most categories on our last results.
- LED sign update – we will need a new laptop and software which if we go with the original company, it would be \$3300. Signs generally last only 10 years so Crystal will quote out another company and new sign as the customer service and overall experience with the original sign was not pleasant. Tabled until another quote comes in.
- Sound system – 3 companies came to quote out the sound system and we've only received 1 quote so far and it came in just under \$35,000. Crystal has reached out to Norton, who installed the one we currently have, to quote it out as he is now an independent contractor.

7) Trustee's Report (Mike Oliver): See attached

8) Hot Lunch Report (Laurell Greene):

We have 3 hot lunches this month and things are running smoothly. Always looking for any help with purchasing groceries, preparing and clean up.

9) Treasurer's Report (Mandy Zeinstra):

We have \$762.73 in the account with a cheque outstanding to Laurell for February's lunches.

10) Betterment Report:

Thank you to the staff and parents who worked the casino at the end of February. There has been no changes to our accounts from last month. \$41,149.97 in general and \$2782.37 in casino.

11) New Business

We lost connection with the school so we did not discuss field trip funds, ukuleles or classroom carpets. That will be added to March's meeting.

12) Around the Table:

13) Next meeting: Monday March 20 @ 3:45pm

14) Adjourned: @ 4:40pm

DDS School Council
Feb 28/2023
Trustee report
Michael Oliver

Technology Accountability Report: Simon Sorensen

The migration to Cloud Computing and the digitization of content in both education and operations continues.

Technology Services has been working with schools that want to engage their community in providing technology at a 1:1 ratio (i.e. 1:1 initiative pilot project at R.I. Baker which outfitted a classroom with devices that were always on hand for students. Teacher found it invaluable to always have devices on hand. Student response was also favourable.

Migration to Chrome devices from Windows for Staff continues.

A pilot at Coalhurst High School was undertaken where computers and software are accessible through the cloud which mitigates ChromeOS not supporting certain software.

ViewSonic ViewBoards have been installed in 5 schools and Central office as a test replacement of Epson projectors. ViewBoards will allow Palliser to extend the life of classroom displays by at least 5 years with no material replacement costs (bulbs, interactive pens, etc).

Edsemli replaced the former SIS, PowerSchool, in August 2022. There were numerous challenges faced in getting the service functional for schools. Issues included the integration of third party applications such as Dossier and School Messenger, student record synchronization with PASI, and enrollments and registration form issues. Through the diligent efforts of key individuals, Edsembli is now functional.

Edsby, the new Learning Management System, is now in place and we are finalizing the integrations between it and Edsembli. It has been rolled out to K-12.

The installation of VoIP phone systems in Palliser-owned buildings is complete, resulting in workflow and efficiencies as a result of this upgrade. Technology Services is working with Facilities Management to integrate the new phone systems with the PA systems (four schools complete and one in the works). This much-needed modernization has upgraded outdated equipment and further increased cost savings for the Division.

Palliser has undergone significant improvements to its cyber security practices.

To comply with Cyber Insurance requirements, Palliser has purchased an endpoint security solution (EDR) called Carbon Black that continuously monitors end-user devices to detect and respond to cyber threats like ransomware and malware. This software is currently protecting all Windows and MacOS devices in the Division.

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) has been implemented for all privileged access to Palliser's server environment and all Palliser staff Google accounts. All access to sensitive areas of the network infrastructure are now protected. This extra step in authentication is a huge step in hardening Palliser's network from would-be attackers.

Elementary Ski Trips:

Administration is working with elementary schools to consider ski trips for grades 4-6 due to the limitations for grades 1-3 on ski trips (limitations on the ski hill, increased insurance, increased incidents of injury).

Administrative Procedure 260 is being discussed with administrators and athletic directors to ensure procedures are clearly understood and followed. Due diligence must occur.

Inclement Weather (Bus Cancellations)

A discussion about the process for bus cancellations in inclement weather. A suggestion was made that the Administrative Procedures (APs) and information posted on the division website should reference bus cancellations at an ambient temperature of -35, not -40. The division Occupational Health and Safety Handbook states that drivers have the right to not run their bus routes if they deem conditions unsafe. Discussion also took place regarding the time in the morning that cancellations are made. The Board has directed Administration to edit the website and APs to reflect this discussion.
