

Graminia School Council Meeting
6:30pm Wednesday June 12, 2024, in the Graminia School Library

Attendees Angie Gehlert (Chair), Amber Darragh (Vice-Chair), Cassandra Graham (Interim Secretary), Treena Neumann (Principal), Christine Bileau (Incoming Principal), Erin Chessor (Vice-Principal), Aimee Hennig (Trustee), Sheila Avison, Lisa Dyjak, Jody Friesen, Kerri Golka, Amanda Hunter, Kate LaFavor, Anna Liska, Sarah Lassu, Mandy Lussier, Sam Mesh, Leslie Preece, Melanie Tonhauser, Angayla Waterman, Brandon Weber, Robyn Williams, Megan Woodman, Stephanie Worrell

1. Meeting Called to Order and Introductions

1.1. Meeting called to order by Angie Gehlert at 6:34pm.

2. Land Acknowledgement

2.1. Land acknowledgement read by Angie Gehlert.

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1. Sheila Avison made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Seconded by Angayla Waterman. Carried.

4. Adoption of May Meeting Minutes

4.1. May meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by Kerri Golka. Seconded by Melanie Tonhauser. Carried.

4.2. Introductions from all attendees.

5. Proposed Meeting Dates

5.1. Meeting dates for the 2024-25 School Council meetings were reviewed and discussed. The first meeting of the 2024 school year will be September 18. The school council is open to ideas for meeting presentations. If any stakeholder has an idea they would like presented or focused on at a school council meeting they are encouraged to share their ideas with any council member. Next year's school council meeting dates are as follows: September 18, October 9, November 6, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 16, May 14 and June 11.

6. Meet and Greet - Graminia's New Principal

6.1. Christine Bileau introduced herself and the incoming principal for the 2024-25 school year. Christine lives in Spruce Grove and is looking forward to working in the community which she lives. Christine has already met some Graminia community members when she attended the bike rodeo. Christine has also spent a day at the school meeting students and shadowing Ms. Neumann and Mrs. Chessor.

6.2. Christine Bileau has an inclusive view of education. She believes it is important to meet students at where they are at. Christine explained her open door policy with students and families and states she will also be open to email communication with parents if they prefer.

7. Trustee Report by Aimee Hennig

7.1. A stakeholder survey is in the works regarding a discussion at the last board meeting related to the possibility of running a bus from Graminia to Memorial Composite High School in Stony Plain. PSD is strongly considering running a bus from Graminia to Memorial. The survey requires disclosure of student ages and if parents are interested in transportation from Graminia to Memorial Composite High School. Last year there was enrolment of 27 students from Graminia to Memorial Composite High School and 37 students to John Maland in Devon. Therefore PSD is exploring the option of transportation to these schools, however, there needs to be enough students to fill the bus.

7.2. PSD website has a letter posted on their website about the new Spruce Grove Composite High School. The City of Spruce Grove has been pushed to get on board with the construction of a new high school. The City of Spruce Grove is concerned about Horizon Stage and how it will be funded as it is part of Spruce Grove Composite

High School. Aimee Hennig is urging stakeholders to continue to push for the building of a new Spruce Grove Composite High School.

- 7.3. School Board Trustees attended the Milestones and Merits awards night in which Parkland School Division's Board of Trustees and Executive Team honours the contributions of its staff.
- 7.4. Isabela Ramos from Graminia won the Edwin Parr award for new teachers.
- 7.5. Alberta school's cell phone policies are being evaluated. In Calgary a meeting was held with the minister of education. A survey regarding the use and accessibility of cell phones in schools was sent out. The survey was accessible via Facebook and other social media platforms. 70,000 stakeholders responded which was a substantial increase from any previous survey from the Alberta School Board. Typically surveys generate around 20,000 responses.
- 7.6. Aimee Hennig was thanked by Angie Gehlert for personally donating a bike to the Graminia School Bike Rodeo.
- 7.7. The Alberta government has announced full, planning or pre-planning funding for new schools as a grant. The grant was awarded to multiple schools needing rebuilding throughout the province. From the grant 37 schools were awarded design funding and only 8 were awarded new school builds. Spruce Grove Composite High School was not one of the schools awarded a new build. The design for Spruce Grove Composite High school includes a space for drama in the design, but not to the caliber of the current Horizon Stage. This is an ongoing point of contention between PSD and the City of Spruce Grove.

8. Principal's Report by Treena Neumann

- 8.1. High school students will be coming to Graminia to promote the new Spruce Grove Composite High School to Graminia junior high school students.
- 8.2. Spring league basketball is in full force. Finals are on Monday June 24 at 1:00pm.
- 8.3. Track and field has ended and our athletes completed strong.
- 8.4. Golf had a great turn out despite it being held on a rainy day.
- 8.5. The spring concert on June 11 was amazing. All of the grade 1-6 students performed as well as the junior high band and the Hawk's Choir.
- 8.6. Provincial achievement tests are in full force. Grade nine students have started and continue through next week. The grade six students have started as well and have social and science tests next week.
- 8.7. K-6 year end field trips are on the school website calendar which is accessible to all parents.
- 8.8. There will not be any "welcome to my class cards" mailed home in June this year because students are disappointed when changes are made to the classes or teachers. Please check Power School in August after August 15 for your child's home room teachers. The teaching staff is consistent from last year.
- 8.9. The teacher list for the 2024-25 school year is finalized, but is subject to change.
- 8.10. The school office opens August 21.
- 8.11. August 26 is the supply drop off date. The school will be open for students to drop off supplies, see their classrooms and meet their teachers.
- 8.12. School Council and Administration 101 is a parent evening for parents who want to get involved with school council and is scheduled to be held September 5 at 6pm in the Graminia School Library.
- 8.13. September 12 is the Hawk's Hangout which is a cool scavenger hunt and includes a concession.

9. Spending List Approval and Vote

- 9.1. The following is the principal's list of requested school costs for the Graminia Foundation to cover:
- 9.2. \$2000 recess bins.

- 9.3. \$2000 for the subscription to RAZ kids in class and at home supplemental reading support for grades K-3.
- 9.4. \$3000 for the subscription to Mathletics in class and at home supplemental math support for grades 3-6.
- 9.5. \$3000 grade 7-9 health programming. \$1500 bussing for Skills Canada for grades 7-9 and \$1500 Heroes Program self esteem social and emotional health program for grades 7-9.
- 9.6. \$3500 for Sound School (A brief presentation was made by Ms. Ramos about Sound School) The programming cost is \$1700 and the bussing cost is \$1365
- 9.7. \$500 rainbow crosswalk
- 9.8. \$6000 teacher wish list (This is a fund for teachers would put in an application throughout the year to access the funds for things they would like)
- 9.9. \$3000 wheelchair rental and sledge hockey rental for adapted PE for grades 6-9
- 9.10. \$1500 Graminia Rink outdoor education equipment
- 9.11. \$24500 is the total requested funds
- 9.12. After the items that were the top of the requested school costs, Ms. Neumann listed other opportunities for support: \$9000 for the music program, \$6000 for new risers and \$3000 for an in school rock workshop
- 9.13. \$6000 to cover two new FM systems similar to what was funded last year. These systems are portable, durable, and easily connect directly to hearing aids, computers, and speakers. This benefits all students in the class. The current equipment is aging and needs repairs/replacement and is proprietary.
- 9.14. Consider a new scoreboard which will cost \$15000.
- 9.15. Votes from the school council meeting attendees for coverage from the Graminia Foundation to cover the requested spending list are as follows:
- 9.16. \$2000 recess bins. Majority rule.
- 9.17. \$2000 for RAZ kids in class and at home supplemental reading support for grades K-3. Majority rule.
- 9.18. \$3000 for Mathletics in class and at home supplemental math support for grades 3-6. Majority rule.
- 9.19. \$3000 grade 7-9 health programming. \$1500 Bussing for Skills Canada for grades 7-9 and \$1500 Heroes Program self esteem social and emotional health program for grades 7-9. Majority rule.
- 9.20. \$3500 for Sound School. The programming cost is \$1700 and the bussing cost is \$1365. Majority rule.
- 9.21. \$500 rainbow crosswalk. Majority rule.
- 9.22. \$6000 teacher wish list. Majority rule.
- 9.23. \$3000 wheelchair rental and sledge hockey rental for adapted PE for grades 6-9. Majority rule.
- 9.24. \$1500 graminia rink outdoor education equipment. Majority rule.
- 9.25. \$24500 to fund the principal's requests in all categories. All funds were approved by the majority of Graminia School Council meeting attendees to be brought forward to the Graminia School Foundation for approval.
- 9.26. It was decided that the other opportunities for support previously listed including \$9000 for the music program, \$6000 for new risers, \$3000 for an in school rock workshop, \$6000 for two new FM systems and \$15000 for a new scoreboard will be discussed at a meeting to be determined sometime during the 2024-25 school year.

10. Adjournment

- 10.1. Amber Darragh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Brandon Weber seconded. Carried.

Next council meeting date: September 18, 2024 in the Graminia School Library

If you have questions or thoughts or concerns that you believe should be addressed by the school council please speak to Angie Gehlert, Amber Darragh, or Christine Bileau.