

**2024/2025 Parkdale School
Parkdale School Council Establishment Meeting
September 18, 2024**

1. Call to Order: 6:36pm.
2. Review and Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to Approve: Alanda
 - b. Seconded: Christy
3. Principal's Report:
 - a. A School Council's purpose is to advise the school.
 - b. Review of class sizes. We are fairly stable with enrollment.
 - c. Review of staffing. Introduction of new staff and review of roles. Reviewed the hiring of new Jordan's Principle EAs. All classrooms have an EA. Introduction of office staff, highlighting new staff members.
 - d. Presentation of school budget. Breakdown of staffing salary and benefits, and school-based funds. Christy mentioned that she likes seeing the majority of the budget being spent on staffing.
 - e. Review of Alberta Education Assurance Measure results. Highlighted that few parents completed the survey, a few staff members, and 109 students. Without the parent viewpoint, we're missing a lot of the information. This is an area of growth for us. Many areas showed small decreases. A big area of concern is parent involvement. This will be an area of focus this year. From a teacher perspective, we are trying to offer opportunities to our students but we are limited in our ability to offer rich experiences. From a student perspective, they are disappointed by limited options and frequency. Alanda asked a question about what "at risk" means. Mr. Daly answered that this means students being able to access supports when they need them. The group discussed that this is compounded by attendance issues and parental involvement. The group discussed the flaws in the government language of the survey. Mr. Daly is hoping to do some student focus groups to get more information about the questions.
 - f. Mr. Daly reviewed our Learning Success Story. We will focus on reading, writing, numeracy, sense of belonging, and Indigenous support. Each teacher set a goal around these different priorities. Mr. Daly reviewed the different goals, measures, and assessments. This plan means no students will be left long without us knowing how they are doing. With the sense of belonging goal, we looked into how our students did after they left Parkdale to go to high school. We have learned that our students are lacking in executive functioning skills. Mr. Daly spoke about how we are targeting this sense of belonging through cross-graded Houses to build connections. We are implementing a homework plan this year as well to build responsibility, independence, and accountability. The first week, we had about 12 students. The group discussed that learning how to study is a skill in itself. Mr. White discussed supporting a bridge to high school and lifelong learning. This homework plan also has an added aspect of parental involvement. Mr. Daly discussed morning meetings, and how this is a practice we are

implementing from Kindergarten - grade 8. The purpose is learning names, community, and connection. We have established soft entry with PE time, breakfast, and library. All these efforts are to build wahkotowin. We are going to do assessments to assess gaps in executive functioning. A group of teachers have stepped up to organize Indigenous education, and have organized Orange Shirt Day and a community feast in June. We have monthly assemblies to focus on the seven grandfather teachings. One area we also need to work on is parental involvement. There's a dream of bringing in breakfast and inviting families, with an idea of a coffee room to bring parents into the building.

- g. Discussion around parental involvement. Our goal is to get people in the building. We want to show people that they can be involved no matter what time they have. Discussion around a new playground so it can be safe. Mr. Daly is going to put together a proposal.
- h. Overview of opportunities for students: Hockey Program, CTF Options at Queen E., highlighting important dates, such as Quarter End, Parent Teacher Conferences.
- i. Next Establishment Meeting: October 9th.
 - i. Suggestion to add School Council date to social media and website.
 - ii. Suggestion to connect to School Council Instagram.
- j. Invitation to Trustee Johnson to share any information or remarks. Trustee Johnson explained the role of school trustee and how it is focused on governance. Trustee Johnson shared what the trustees have been learning about reconciliation by reading *21 Things You Didn't Know About the Indian Act*.
- k. Other business:
 - i. Can we add monthly dress up days to support Houses? Answer: Yes!
- l. Meeting adjourned: 7:47pm.