



SEVEN PERSONS SCHOOL

School Council Meeting Agenda November 12, 2025

School Council Purpose “ To Enhance Student Learning”

Item	Topic	Discussion	Time (min)	Person
1.0	Call to Order: 1830hrs		1	Danielle
		Graeme Denis, Kristine Vizza, Danielle Pluth, Catherine Dennison, Hilary Blanchette, Catherine Usher, Caylie Duchscherer, Amy Deck, Marci Sweet, Julie Waye, Krista Lawson		
2.0	Review and Approval of September Minutes:		1	
		Julie approves		
3.0	Review of Agenda		1	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add Student Council 		
4.0	Report Updates			
4.1	Chair/ Vice Chair	<p>Introductions</p> <p>Encouragements</p> <p>-Thank you to all staff for a seamless return to school!</p> <p>-Thank you for all the efforts for Halloween celebrations!</p> <p>-Thank you Mrs. Copeland for coaching A girls and Mrs. Shigehiro for coaching the B girls along with Jerod Pluth for coaching A boys and Breanne Cramer for coaching B boys!</p> <p>-Thank you Mrs. Molin and Mrs. Drew for a fantastic Remembrance Day service.</p>	2	Danielle
4.1	Teacher report	<p>Caylie-Kids have transitioned back nicely, good to be back. Christmas concert prep started today Auditions for roles in Academy play underway</p> <p>Amy-PAT prep started Writing short stories, developing independence in writing Transition coming back but kids handled it well.</p> <p>Teacher requests: Mrs. Shigehiro asked we mention student council elections are happening (VP and President) SC monthly bingo - asked to borrow the bingo sliders (these belong to the hall) Need roughly 275. This will be brought to the Parent Assoc. meeting</p> <p>Spirit week next week (Nov 17-21)- PJ, country, pink, anything but a cup or a backpack, twin day Clothing drive, more info to come home Dance wanted by SC - idea to split elementary and junior high. Student council could help run things Amy-Request for reimbursement for Gagaball pit - bring to Parent Association meeting</p> <p><u>Thank you to HydraCo, Timbermart and Mr. Janzer for their time and donations to keep the cost down.</u></p>	10	Caylie and Amy

4.2	Principal/Vice Principal	School Admin Report 1. PAT results - again, SPS is performing well above the Provincial average. 2. Christmas Concert - Thursday, Dec. 18 - students with specific parts practicing throughout the week. Grade 4-6 rehearsals M,W,F/ Grades 2-3 rehearsals T,TR - both groups - 11:30-12:10 3. The next round of options starts this week to the middle of January. 4. A Volleyball teams compete in Zones Playoffs this weekend. SPS hosts the Boys tournament. 5. Change of dates for report cards. a. Go Home on Friday, Nov. 28 i. Grade 4-9 - report cards will be available online through PowerSchool. No printed report cards will be going home, only for Grades K-3 b. Parent Teacher Interviews - Dec. 3 & 4 - 3:30-6:30 c. Book Fair will be in the Spring this year 6. Grade 4-9 Ski Trip - booked for Thursday, February 26, 2026	10	Catherine
4.3	Trustee	Prairie Rose School Updates See attached below	5	Graeme
5.0	Old Business			
5.1	Facebook Post	Discussion regarding decision not to post to Parent Council Facebook page. This will need to be addressed when we update our bylaws as there is no mention of social media in the current one.	2	Danielle
6.0	New Business			
6.1	Executive	Secretary needed for Parent Council/Parent Association -How can we get the word out? -Will mention again in newsletter	2	Danielle
6.2	Procedures	Committee needed to explore and bring forward amendments for: -Bylaws from 2004 to include: -PC SPC Facebook -Virtual Meetings and Virtual decision making between meetings Bylaws: https://sevenpersons.myprps.com/documents/849912f4-1621-49a4-98ce-fc70fbd76264/SPS%20School%20Council%20Bylaws.pdf Action: Julie to reach out to ASCA - Alberta School Council's Association to get information regarding help to review bylaws Julie - contact Tanis at board office to get the names of chairs at each school in PRRD to see if they have recently reviewed their bylaws. We will have more information to come on this review and will be looking for active participation from any and all members to ensure that our bylaws are correctly updated.	5	Danielle
6.3	Event	Christmas Market Dec 5 - Committee Document has been sent out to start procedures	5	Danielle
6.4	Event	Christmas Event -Christmas Concert Dec 18	2	Danielle

		Need a couple of parent volunteers for the day of to assist Working on costumes		
6.5	Event	Grade 5&6 triple ball volleyball tournament put on through Elementary Athletic Association There are more opportunities for other sports through this association. All local events. There is a fee of \$1.50 for each student in the grade to be a part of the association. Right now they are allowing us to just pay for the students participating in the tournament. Currently just going to this vball tournament, but possibly look at future activities.		Danielle
6.6		Student Council Idea was presented to have a representative from student council attend the Parent Council meeting and present what they are working on. Either a video or in person.		Catherine Dennison
	Upcoming			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance? 		
7.0	Meeting Adjourned	1930hrs Next Meeting- January 14th, 2025 at 6:30pm	1	Danielle

Board Highlights Sept 2025

Executive Report

- **Additional Grant Funding**

The division received adjustments to its 2025/26 funding profile to reflect the transfer of Akram Jomaa and Omar Bin Al Khattab schools to the division. This includes an increase of \$667,374 in System Administration Grant funding and \$392,070 in Teacher Salary Settlement Grant funding, bringing the allocations to \$3,223,806 and \$1,280,520 respectively.

- **Dual Credit Grant Awards**

- Start-Up Grant: Prairie Rose has been awarded \$50,000 to launch an Aircraft Maintenance Engineering dual credit program in partnership with SAIT.
- Enhancement Grant: The division also received \$88,000 to expand apprenticeship pathways in the trades, including Automotive Service Technician, Carpenter, Electrician, Pipe Trades, Welder, and Power Engineering (in partnership with Medicine Hat College).

- **Ag Pro Series Expansion:** The Ag Pro Series, a hands-on agricultural education program, will expand to Schuler and Foremost schools, joining Irvine, Senator Gershaw, and Seven Persons in offering the elective courses. Students will explore areas such as beef, crops, machinery, and beekeeping through field trips, industry connections, and project-based learning.

- **Prairie Rose Honey Program:** Bee colonies established last spring produced a successful harvest of natural honey over the summer. Students will now take over hive care, with honey sales supporting program growth. The public can purchase one-pound jars of raw honey through [School Cash Online](#), with pick-up at the Division Office in Dunmore.
- **Oyen Value Scoping Approval:** Prairie Rose received news that the value scoping request, as part of the division's Capital Plan submission, has been approved for Oyen schools. The value scoping process will include a comprehensive review of both Oyen Public School and South Central High School to determine what type of modernization or new facility would best suit the current and future needs of students in the region.

Financial Resolution

Trustees approved the renewal of the annual ATB borrowing resolution, a precautionary measure providing up to \$750,000 in short-term borrowing authority. While this option has never been used, it is renewed annually to ensure financial preparedness.

Board Policy and Procedure Updates

- Trustees reviewed and approved Board Policies 1–25 following a thorough review by the board policy committee. Updates ensure compliance with ministerial orders and streamline processes. Final formatted versions will be posted on the division website.
- Administrative procedures were updated for compliance with recent ministerial orders. Key areas include:
 - At-Home Learning
 - Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, and Human Sexuality Topics
 - Selection and Review of Learning Materials
 - Challenged Learning Materials
 - Extra-Curricular Activities

Commendations

The Board recognized the following contributions across the division:

- **Prairie Rose Honey:** Thanks to *Sheldon Hill* and *Stella Sehn* for their leadership and support in growing the program and providing trustees with a summer tour.
- **South Central High School:** Appreciation to maintenance staff for doing an incredible job of the washroom upgrades over the summer.
- **Rodeo Academy:** Recognition to teacher *Brittany Komistek* for her exceptional mentorship and support of an out-of-province student, going above and beyond her role as teacher and program leader of the Foremost Rodeo Academy.

Executive Report

With labour action continuing across the province, all Prairie Rose support staff remain on duty. Educational assistants and school-based staff are completing training, professional learning, and school improvement projects. Bus drivers are also engaged in driver safety refreshers, first aid updates, and bus maintenance checks.

Enrollment Update

Chief Financial Officer Ryan Boser reported that Prairie Rose continues to see steady enrollment growth, marking the sixth straight year of increases. As of September 29, the division serves 5,158 students from kindergarten to grade 12, an increase of 128 full time equivalent students from last year. This represents a 2.5 percent overall rise and more than 12 percent growth since 2018.

About 93 percent of Prairie Rose students live within the division's boundaries. The number of students choosing Prairie Rose schools from outside the division now nearly equals those who leave for other systems, showing the strong appeal of Prairie Rose's specialized programs. Over the past decade, the number of local students attending other divisions has dropped by more than 60 percent.

Even with this growth, class sizes remain small and consistent with Alberta Commission on Learning guidelines. Division averages consist of the following:

- Primary (grades 1-3) 14.6
- Elementary (grades 4-6) 15.2
- Junior (grades 7-9) 17.8
- Senior (grades 10-12) 18.4

These numbers reflect Prairie Rose's ongoing commitment to maintaining personal, student focused learning environments.

Prairie Rose Division Complexity

Director of Student Experiences Lisa Lindsay shared a report outlining the support Prairie Rose has put in place for students with complex needs. Funding in this area has grown substantially, rising to 3.34 million dollars this year, an increase of more than 1.3 million compared to 2023 to 2024.

This investment supports a team of over 130 educational assistants, along with learning support teachers, wellness counsellors, psychologists, and therapy staff who work directly with students in classrooms. New partnerships have also doubled occupational therapy access, helping to meet the needs of students with low vision, hearing challenges, and other specialized supports.

Prairie Rose continues to explore creative approaches that build confidence and emotional regulation, including hippotherapy, the Prairie Rose Honey program, canine support teams, and the Back on Track restorative program. Two major initiatives are also underway, with the CASA Classroom opening in February 2025 and a Behaviour Support Program planned for 2026.

Yuill School of Agriculture Groundbreaking

Prairie Rose Public Schools held a groundbreaking event (October 14 @ 2 PM) to announce the creation of the Yuill School of Agriculture, a new learning opportunity made possible through the generosity of the Yuill Family Foundation, the Government of Alberta, and in partnership with Neubauer Farms. Set to open in 2027, the Yuill School of Agriculture will provide students with hands-on, real world learning experiences that connect classroom education to careers in agriculture, business, and technology.

Out of Country Field Trip Approvals

1. **South Alberta Flight Academy – Texas Flight Training**

Students will head to Texas in February 2026 for advanced flight training. The trip will include simulator work, aircraft maintenance demonstrations, and flying time at a professional aviation facility. Participants will also visit the historic NASA Johnson Space Center and local aviation museums.

2. **Eagle Butte High School – Greece and Italy Adventure**

Set for April 2–11, 2026, this 10-day trip will take students through Athens, Santorini, and Mykonos, before crossing into Rome. The group will tour the Acropolis, ancient marketplaces, and historic cathedrals, as well as enjoy cultural experiences such as traditional Greek dining and a cruise through the Aegean Sea.

3. **Foremost School – Discovering Italy**

Students will explore Venice, Florence, Pisa, and Rome from May 19–28, 2026. The trip includes gondola rides through Venice’s canals, visits to the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum, and time in Tuscany’s countryside. It’s designed to immerse students in art, culture, and history while strengthening friendships and independence.

Commendations

The Board thanked outgoing trustees Cathy Hogg and Shauna Vanderspruit for their combined 16 years of dedicated service to Prairie Rose. Both have been strong advocates for students, always considering how each decision would benefit children and families across the division. Cathy Hogg served as trustee for Ward 2, representing Schuler, Irvine, and Cypress County from 2013 to 2025, while Shauna Vanderspruit represented Ward 3, serving the communities of Redcliff and Dunmore since 2021.