

Carmangay + Barons School Council Meeting Minutes - September 23, 2025

Parents in Attendance:

- Mr + Mrs Wall (Angela; Amy)
- Mrs Banman (Judy, Amy, and Katie; Elena and Abigail)
- Mr + Mrs Neufeld (Nelly; Adam)
- Mr + Mrs Reimer (Benny; Justina and Henry)
- Mr + Mrs Neufeld (Agatha and Trudy; Willy)
- Mr + Mrs Friesen (George; Nathan)
- Mr + Mrs Fehr (Nancy, Mina, and Maria; Sara and Greta)
- Mrs Thiessen (Willy, Martin, Henry)
- Mrs Wiebe (Abraham, Esther, Ruben)

1. Introductions/Welcome/Prayer

- Mike Rosentreter
- Keith Harrison
- Kirsty Hansen
- Christine Johnson
- Jen Neufeld
- Dan Doerksen

2. Trustee Report

- ...no one showed up?!

3. Barons Teacher Report

- Mennonite Heritage Week
 - Celebrated by making art work
 - Watched a presentation in the gym
- Farm Safety Presentation
 - Talked about quad and farm safety
- Running Meet at SABC
 - 33 Kids on run
 - Practiced 6 times

4. Carmangay Teacher Report

- Legacy + Pavan Parks Fieldtrip
 - It rained all morning but students chose a good attitude and tried out a variety of activities
 - Rain stopped for the afternoon and we enjoyed the nature in Pavan park while hiking and doing a scavenger hunt
- Healthy Snacks and Monday Activity
 - Each classroom has a bowl filled with fruit and granola bars that students can eat from all day when they are hungry; we want to encourage healthy snack choices throughout the day
 - Monday mornings Mr Harrison leads a 10 minute physical activity to get students minds and bodies ready for a week of learning
- Mennonite Heritage Week

- Bible + History Lesson with Mr Doerksen
- History Presentation from Kennert Giesbrecht
- Miss Story - Mennonite Minute Project with Jr High Students
 - Connected different areas and subjects to Mennonite Culture and Heritage
- Ms Hansen - Our Stories, Woven Together: Mennonite Heritage Quilt (Whole School)
 - Students and Mennonite staff created quilt squares showcasing Mennonite heritage, faith, and culture
 - Put together like a quilt and added a border of words in High German
- Welcome Back BBQ
 - Last week Thursday
 - We served hot dogs and hamburgers and showed off our school and Mennonite Heritage Week projects
 - We had a good turn out and it was great to see everyone!

5. Carmangay Principal Report

- Staff Intros + Pictures
- Central Office In Carmangay
 - Last year, almost everyone from head office came out to visit us
 - This year, we are going to invite head office staff back and get them involved in activities
 - Head office got a grant and will use some money to help us update our shop and build a storage shed; we will have room for some new tools
- School Fee Change
 - Increased German from \$10 to \$15; we had extra for a few years so lowered, but now we used that money for German resources so we put it back up to \$15
 - We are looking at splitting up the options money to make it more clear for next year
- Library Books
 - “Book Ban” was confusing and made a lot of people angry. They changed the order and clarifies
 - This NEVER applied to us, as we don’t have materials like that in our library ever
 - Our libraries are always open for parents to look at; this includes classroom libraries
 - If you want more info on the order or what it means, you can ask!
- Potential Teacher Strike
 - We have some information, but a lot is not known yet and won’t be known for a while
 - If it happen, it will be Monday October 6
 - In the days prior (72 hrs) we will be given more info from Palliser that we will share with you
 - Schools will be CLOSED, but support staff may be there
 - There are 50,000 teachers in Alberta, so us 12 didn’t really have a say in this... we must do what Alberta does; we are getting our jets taken away
 - We will be closed until the people at the table make a deal
 - Central table decides the topics and what we bargain for, not us
 - We don’t see a lot of the issues in our schools but they are out there

- This is not to punish students; students will not be held back from graduating
- We don't think they will add days/hours, but they could
- Gave some details on what we are bargaining for and why
- Keith gave thanks for prayers for his wife; her recovery is slow and painful but she is doing well. Thanks parents for understanding when he has to be away

6. Barons Principal Report

- Mike introduced himself and gave a bit of his background
- Staff introductions
- School Fees
 - Same as last year; thanks for getting them in!
 - All money is used for students; everything goes back to the kids!
- Report Cards
 - We are used to 3 a year, but we will now be doing 2
 - We are used to having a report card in 5 weeks from now, and we don't haven't been with the kids long enough to have good information
 - We will have PTI Oct 30 and in March; Report cards in January and June
 - You are welcome to check on your child's progress at anytime
 - Parents are also welcome to come into the school anytime; we want you to know and see all the wonderful things we are doing
- Improvements
 - Barons School has had the least updates in all of Palliser
 - Will fix:
 - Outdoor lights
 - Lines in parking lot so kids can use an area of it
 - Adding some ceiling fans upstairs to get better air flow
 - Will look into getting some portable air conditioners in the spring
 - Looking at getting more German Vocab words posted around the school
 - Will have things labeled in English and German to help students learn
- Catechism
 - We do these everytime we have German class
 - This is done in Hi German currently, but lots of kids don't understand what they are saying. Can we also do it in Low German?
 - We know they need to say it in Hi at certain events, but if we also teach them in Low German, then they can also understand what they are saying, and not just repeating
- Looking at getting bibles for students to follow along with during Bible class; looking at getting them for the % classes so students can use them. They will stay at the school to be used by the oldest kids in future years too

7. Questions/comments/feedback

- None!

Next meeting - Tuesday November 25 @ 7PM