

BENTLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 23, 2023 at 8:00pm Bentley School

Members in Attendance:

Shannon Landry, Nicole Jaggard, Ashley Bajema, Dale Grimsdale, Shannon Yurystowski, Trudy Bratland, Lane Moore, Tammy McDiarmid

1. **Call to Order** - PAC Chair, Ashley Bajema called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Minutes of the November 28, 2022 were tabled.
3. **Additions to the Agenda** - There were no additions made to the agenda.
4. **New Business**
 - 4.1. **Trustee Report** - The two new school board trustees have been touring schools and meeting students and staff. There is a district Parent Council Board Meeting on February 8 at 5pm. All board members are welcome to attend. There is also a virtual Parent Engagement Meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. All parents are welcome to attend. Stakeholder engagement reviews are taking place on Feb 7 with students and on February 14 with staff. The SRO's (Special Resource Officers) made a presentation at the last board meeting. Trustees appreciate the value this resource adds to our school communities. Trustees are also meeting with ATA representatives this week.
 - 4.2. **Administration Updates**
 - 4.2.1 **Inclement of Weather Policy** - A change needs to occur to the current [Inclement Weather Policy](#). Due to increasing inclement weather days Wolf Creek is not meeting current instructional hours. Wolf Creek is also one of the only school divisions in the province to close schools when buses do not run. Wolf Creek is looking for feedback on shifting to a model where schools remain open when buses are not running but emphasize that families and students should not feel obligated to send their children to school, and to

maintain safety as a priority. Parents Councils are asked to provide feedback on the proposed changes using this [google form link](#).

4.2.2 Bentley School Gives Back Campaign - Draws for the Families in Need raffle will take place on January 31 at 10 a.m. A total of \$2500 has been raised through the Raffle and Gifts for Grandparents Toonie Drive. A total of \$3500 was distributed in the form of gift cards and hot lunch to families in need in our school community this year.

4.2.3 Jocelyn Snow Memorial Hockey Game - Mark your calendar for the annual staff vs student hockey game on Feb 8, 2023 from 5 - 7 p.m. Donations are being accepted for the raffle table. Admission is free.

4.2.4 Jr/Sr High Options - A change to the Jr. High timetable enabled Jr. and Sr. High to combine options providing more choice for students in both divisions. Options now include: Woods 7 & 8, Woods 9 - 10, Foods 10, Foods 7 - 9, Guitar 7-10, Drama 7 - 10, Coding 7-10, Photography 7-10, Film Studies 7-9, Handicrafts 7-9, Fashion Studies 7-10, Leadership 7 - 10 and Weight Training 7-10.

4.3.5 Alberta Education, District Survey & Panther Polls - Watch for the Alberta Education, District Survey coming out soon. There has been a good response rate to the Panther Polls and it will continue to be used to gather feedback from parents and as a communication tool.

4.2.6. Sports and Clubs Updates - There are currently 8 basketball teams running. Jr./Sr. High curling is also up and running.

4.2.7 Preliminary Planning Update 2023/2024 School Year -

Bentley School is anticipating upwards of 440 kids next year. Two upcoming Gr. 9 classes will mean extra staff in the HS resulting in timetable and classroom changes for 2023-2024. Bentley School now has the highest incidence of special needs students in the district. The severe needs currently in Kindergarten will require more EA support next year as they move to Gr. 1. If enrollment numbers continue to climb to over 100 students in either Jr. or Sr. High, we could move from a 1J/1A school to a 2J/2A school. This would mean competing against large schools for our sports teams.

4.3 **Parent Council**

4.3.1 School Council Self-Directed Learning Modules are available to the school council from the Alberta Schools association for \$500. Discussion took place in regards to what to do with grant money that could be used for this. Parent Council also discussed the possibility of purchasing resources for parents or opening a resource section in our library specifically for parents. A decision needs to be made before the end of year. Tabled for next meeting.

4.3.2 Parent Council Board Meeting on February 8 at 5pm. Attendance requested. All board members are welcome.

4.3.3 Parent Engagement Meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm-Virtual. Attendance requested.

4.4 **Town Council Report**

The town's Santa Day event was successful. The Oxford space will be made into a small skating area for smaller children. The outdoor rink by the arena is intended for older children with sticks and pucks. A suggestion was made to the Town Council that they look

into purchasing nets for the larger outdoor rink as well as boards. The Town Council had an emergency meeting in regards to postal services and the grain elevator burning down. The town's budget was passed, maintaining the same level of service with no property tax increases for the 3rd year in a row.

5. Old Business

6. Round Table Reports

- 6.1. Chair - No business to discuss.
- 6.2. Vice Chair - No business to discuss.
- 6.3. Secretary - No business to discuss.
- 6.4. Directors - No business to discuss.

7. Next Scheduled Meeting - Monday, March 20th at 8pm.

8. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.