

Parent Advisory Council: Meeting Minutes

Monday, Sept. 25, 2023

Location: Bentley High School

Members in Attendance:

Ashley Bajema, Michelle Lundy, Nicole Jaggard, Ashley Fraser, Susanne Mueller, Shantel Buit, Shannon Yurystowski, Adina Armstrong, Dale Grimsdale, Tammy McDiarmid, Marsha Lush, Stephen Lush, Trudy Bratland, Char Hughes, Shelby Lethbridge, Darci Cole, Donna Rand, Chris Rand, Angela Hall

1. Call to Order: *PAC Chair*, Ashley Bajema, called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Nicole Jaggard and seconded by Darci Cole.

3. Trustee Report - Trudy Bratland

- We will be starting to meet as a Zone later this month and will be preparing to meet with our Auditors early in October. As we have a new Minister of Education, an invitation to meet with us has been sent to him as well as the shadow Minister of Education for the opposition. The Minister will meet with us virtually on October 10 for approximately half an hour. We have prepared a "take away" document for him and the topics include the replacement of Iron Ridge Elementary Campus, transportation requirements and issues, funding for needs that have previously been funded by the Health ministry - School Social workers - and mental health needs in addition to the decrease in funding for our students.
- Both School Board Associations will have their Fall General Meetings soon and we will participate. We held our first Board meeting on September 21 and we allocated more teacher and EA FTE to meet the needs of the Division now that school has started.
- An increase of 100 students or more are registered in Wolf Creek. A number of locations have indicated that kindergarten registrations are down this fall.
- I attended the Rimbey High School Graduation on September 23rd. There were 58 Graduates at the afternoon celebration.
- The BGC Wolf Creek had their "Grand Opening" in Bentley on September 27th and I was fortunate to attend it.
- The Annual Board/Parent Council meeting will be held on November 30 from 5 - 8:30 and the second one will be held on April 11, 2024. More information to follow.
- We attended the Zone 4 meeting hosted at Wolf Creek either in person or Virtually - I attended Virtually from Edmonton as I was there for the Lieutenant Governor's Awards where nine students from across Alberta were recognized by the LG for showing

tremendous growth in developing skills to better themselves by demonstrating positive traits.

- I have attended five Parent Council AGM's, this being the 6th and will have to miss the meeting in Bluffton due to another commitment.
- We met on October 2nd for our pre-audit meeting and on October 10 met virtually with the Minister of Education to discuss issues in our jurisdiction. Our Chair and Superintendent will be meeting with the Minister on October 12 along with the Chairs and Superintendents from the other School Jurisdictions.
- Our next Board meeting is on October 26 - a week later than usual as we will be attending the PSBAA Fall General meeting from the 18th to 20th.
- Remember that all of our Agendas, Minutes, Policies and much more information is available on the Wolf Creek website.
- Thanks for all that you do - it is most appreciated.

4. Officers' Election

- We are actively looking for new members to fill some positions on the Board
- Ashley Bajema expressed her desire to step down as Chair and move to Vice Chair. Darci Cole nominated Ashley Bajema for the position of Vice Chair. Ashley accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. **Ashley Bajema was declared Vice Chair - elected by acclamation.**
- Ashley Bajema nominated Shantel Buit for the position of Chair. Shantel accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. **Shantel Buit was declared President - elected by acclamation.**
- Darci Cole expressed her desire to step down as Secretary. Darci Cole nominated Shelby Lethbridge for the position of Secretary. Shelby accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. **Shelby Lethbridge was declared Secretary - elected by acclamation.**

Director Nominations:

- Karen Jaffray removed from the list of Directors
- Susanne Mueller was self-nominated as a Director. Elected by acclamation.
- Michelle Luntz was self-nominated as a Director. Elected by acclamation.
- Nicole Jaggard will stay on as a Director.
- Shannon Yurystowski will stay on as a Director.

5. Administration Updates – Elementary & High School

- We went through class demographics and sizes
- 436 total students (459 with pre-K)
- Operational Budget - \$207,002 (goes towards admin assistants, school supplies, photocopying, etc.)
- Teacher Allocation - \$2,357,400
- Staff Update - This school year, 3 teachers returned from maternity leaves, 2 teachers went on leave and 4 new teachers came in this year
- Educational Assistant Allocation - \$727,500 (with more FTE being requested)
- Student demographics:
 - 55 coded students
 - 48 non-coded students (teacher identified)
 - 32 English as an Additional Language (EAL) students
 - 135 total students (29% of student population)
 - In the division, we have a very large population of high needs students in comparison to other schools in the division
- This school year, admin has already confiscated ~7 vapes in the High School building.
- Our School Open House will be held on Wednesday, September 27th from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm. We will have an optional Scavenger Hunt Bingo for parents and families to partake in that evening.
- A book recommended by Mr. Moore is *The Gift of Failure*. The author, Jessica Lahey, has short video clips on her Instagram page, which will be shared with parents.
- The draft K-6 Social Studies curriculum is being reviewed again. Parent engagement with the survey is encouraged. Watch for a link coming to parents soon.
- We had a great turnout for the Terry Fox Run, and our turkey curl will be happening soon for some of the top fundraisers (approximately \$4,700 was raised this year).

School Events, Sports & Clubs

- The Senior High golf team has just wrapped up. Two Senior High players narrowly lost out on a provincial spot. The Junior High golf team will be playing in the next week or so.
- There are 8 volleyball teams this year.
- Wacey Smith finished very well in his past few runs.

6. Town Council Report - Dale Grimsdale

- The Town had some trees planted near the entrance to the town
- For the area to the South of town, Town Council is looking at an area structure plan for annexation. The County of Lacombe still needs to sign-off before the process is set further into motion.
- The Oxford Park survey is now closed and Town Council members are currently analyzing the data. They are hopeful that a general plan/direction for the former Oxford Park space will be identified near the end of 2023.
- The Town is hosting their “Good Neighbour Day,” from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm. They will also have a “Touch the Truck” opportunity for kids.

- The old gas station lot is currently being reclaimed and the soil tested.

7. Questions, Comments, Concerns

- Q: Is there a possibility of having a Grade 8 grad for students moving from Junior to Senior High?
A: Because we are designated a K-12 school, we have never done a separate grad for students moving across the road. With our Options' classes, students in Grade 7 and 8 are already across the street for certain classes. The idea will be brought forth to staff to see how it is received.

8. Next Scheduled Meetings

- Monday, November 27, 2023 at 8:00 pm
- Monday, January 29, 2024 at 8:00 pm
- Monday, March 18, 2024 at 8:00 pm
- Monday, May 13, 2024 at 8:00 pm

9. Meeting Adjourned

- Meeting adjourned 9:09 pm