

Parent Advisory Council: Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 29, 2024

Location: Bentley High School

Members in Attendance:

Stephen Lush, Marsha Lush, Trudy Bratland, Ashley Bajema, Darci Cole, Holly Grimsdale, Dale Grimsdale, Adina Armstrong, Tammy McDiarmid, Shannon Yurystowski, Shantel Buit, Susanne Mueller, Karla Wyld, Michelle Lundy, Colleen Garries

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

2. Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Ashley Bajema and seconded by Darci Cole.

3. Trustee Report – Trudy Bratland

- Our December Board meeting was held on the 21st and we had a reasonably full agenda, including confirming our Audit Committee and Special meeting minutes - the special meeting being the passing of the 2022- 23 Audit so that it could be forwarded to Alberta Education on time. We approved the Joint Use and Planning Agreement with the Town of Ponoka, STAR Catholic and Wolf Creek, reviewed the adjusted budget for this school year (registration numbers have been confirmed), and reviewed the School Calendars.
- Prior to the business part of the meeting, we were given the AERR Data review by Mr. Newman, highlighting the positive and negative aspects of the data collected over the year.
- Early in December, some Board members made candy bags to give to each staff person in the Division, and then delivered them to the various sites. We were invited to and some of us attended the Division Office Christmas lunch. I was invited to and attended the Crestomere Christmas concert, attended the ASBA Orientation and Board meeting, attended ACE Plan presentations, the Board/School Meeting in Ponoka, and three Parent Council Meetings.
- January is getting busy and we will have an Advocacy Planning meeting, Board meeting on the 18th, Zone 4 meeting and Parent Council meetings. I will also attend the Wisdom and Guidance Committee and TEBA meetings on the 24 and two ASBA Zoom meetings.
- So far, in February there will be Stakeholder meetings - students, staff and parents. The Board meeting will be held on the 15th, ASBA Zone 4 and ASBA will have meetings and Teacher's Convention will be held.
- January 18 update - the Board meeting today's agenda included supporting the Town of Eckville's request for support regarding Highway 11. We had a presentation about "Rock the Diploma" and the success it has had over the years. The Parent Engagement

session in Ponoka was on February 6th and the Student engagement is on February 27th. We have set dates for meetings of the Advocacy and Salary & Wage Review Committees.

- On January 24 it was my turn to attend the Wisdom and Guidance Committee meeting. It was very well attended and the talking circle discussion lasted a long time - it was the first meeting of the year and many folks introduced themselves. I left the meeting to attend a virtual TEBA meeting and returned before the W & G meeting concluded.

4. Administration Updates – Elementary & High School

- Stephen Lush has temporarily stepped into the Principal position and Nikki Allen has temporarily stepped into the position of Assistant Principal, for the remainder of the year.
- We have a new School Social Worker who is covering Kady's maternity leave. Kady will be missed by staff and students alike while on her maternity leave
- Jamie Williamson, from head office, spent some time in our school this past week. She was in different classrooms, assessing areas of need within the student population.
- Admin has requested more EA support to help with some hot spots in our school.
- *Arts Alive* was hosted in the High School on Friday, January 26. There was a great display of talent, performance and art. This event was put on to raise money for the Junior High Quebec trip.
- Author, Jaleesa Grzech, was in this week to share her books and talk with students about emotions and mental health. Parents were invited to attend this event which was funded through the Parent Advisory Council engagement grant.
- *Artist in Residency* is in this week to work with the class on an indigenous-themed print-making
- Ski Club has been rescheduled for March 1st. Our first ski date was canceled due to the cold.
- Base Calendar was shown to the PAC - all in favour of proposed dates

5. Town Council Report - Dale Grimsdale

- Unfortunately the Monkey Top Saloon burned down this month.

6. 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

7. Meeting Adjourned

- Meeting adjourned 9:09 pm