

Parent Advisory Council: Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 27, 2025

Location: Bentley High School

Members in Attendance:

Shannon Yurystowski, Sandra Boulding, Holly Grimsdale, Susanne Mueller, Michelle Lundy, Tammy McDiarmid, Jill Howe, Marsha Lush, Landan Stones, Ashley Bajema, Adina Armstrong, Erika Duberville

1. Call to Order: *The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Chair, Michelle Lundy.*

2. Approval of Minutes:

- Shannon Yurystowski approved the minutes from November 25, 2024. Susanne Mueller seconded.

3. Approval of Agenda

- Shannon Yurystowski approved the agenda. Erika Duberville seconded.

4. Administration Updates – Elementary & High School

- Exams for Grades 9-12 will conclude at the end of this week.
- **Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Presentations:** Scheduled for April 1, with student sessions during the day and a parent session in the evening. The Parent Council suggested 5:30 or 6:00 PM as the best time for parents.
- **Junior High Mid-Year Reports:** Expect marks and comments in the first week of February.
- **ACE Plan:** Available on the school website: <https://bentley.wolfcreek.ab.ca/about/our-school>
- **Intramural League for Grades 1-5:** Admin is considering implementing this during lunch hours.
- **Teacher Allocation and Timetabling:** Planning is underway for the 2025-26 school year.
- **High School Europe Trip:** Mr. Button is exploring a possible Europe trip for high school students. No formal proposal has been submitted yet. If the Junior High trip to Quebec continues, it will likely be scheduled on alternate years.
- **Legislature Trip for Grade 6:** Miss Howe will look into the 2024-25 schedule.

5. School Events/Activity Days

- **Concerns Over Spirit Days:** The PAC expressed concern over the frequency of spirit days, particularly repeat events like Pajama Day. Admin clarified that spirit days do not impact instructional time and are organized by leadership students. Feedback will be relayed to them.
- **Parent Awareness of Clubs and Events:** PAC members raised concerns that parents are not always informed about school clubs and activities. They would like more transparency so they can encourage their children to participate.
 - The office will ensure clubs such as choir and art club are included in the school

calendar, newsletter, and social media.

- Sports sign-ups will also be posted on social media, the school calendar and in newsletters.

6. PAC Book Distribution

- Parent Council purchased 18 books to distribute at school events and meetings.
- At the recent Arts Alive event, no names were entered into the draw. The council discussed challenges in engaging parents.
- Michelle Lundy and Erika Duberville were the winners of the book draw at this meeting. Draws will continue at future meetings and events.

7. Direction Report

- No report from directors

8. Trustee Report January 2025

- Our December Board Meeting Agenda included receiving a report on the parent information sessions held in Blackfalds to promote parent engagement. This initiative aims to evolve into a joint School Council for all of the Blackfalds schools.
- We also received a report regarding the new science curriculum for grades 4 to 6 and how the Education Services CoOrdinator is implementing the curriculum.
- The Board had a presentation from the Ecole Secondaire Lacombe Composite High School regarding their award-winning BeeWise Monitoring System, showcased at the AZTech Awards on September 27 in Calgary. Their teacher, Mr. Steven Schultz and a number of his students have won awards over the years, and continue to participate in many eco-friendly initiatives.
- We received a report on class size averages across the Division and it will be available on the Web Site in the near future..
- We also received an update on the 2024/2025 Budget and it appears that we are on track in most areas, as it is difficult to predict a number of expenses and grants ahead of time, particularly when the Government does not give a lot of lead time for announcing grants.
- I attended the Wellness Steering Committee meeting on January 13 and received a great deal of information about the good things that the Committee is doing. A motivational speaker, Mr. Brett Gardiner is scheduled to give a virtual presentation to all staff on February 19th. We had the opportunity to chat with Mr. Gardiner who we think will be a great asset to the day. He has expressed an interest in working with Wolf Creek this year and we hope to take advantage of that.
- At our January 16 th meeting our Agenda items included discussing the Stakeholder Summit, an update on the vaping detectors installed at the Lacombe Composite High School, the hiring of the new School Social Worker Program Lead, the Literacy and Numeracy Funding allocations, entering into a lease agreement with BGC Wolf Creek at the Rimbey Elementary School, Dual Credit program highlights and a number of revisions to Admin Procedures to comply with Government regulations.

- We are finalizing plans for the Stakeholder Summit to be held on January 31 in Lacombe. More than 200 people have registered.
- We virtually attended the Zone 4 ASBA meeting on January 27th.
- We will meet again on February 13.

9. Town Council Report

- **Land Rezoning:** The land east of Bentley (near the Fire Hall) has been rezoned for commercial use, which will benefit future town planning.
- **Bentley Arena Repairs:** The town received an in-kind grant from Lacombe County to repair the slab under the ice surface. However, this means there will be no rodeo this summer.
- **Arts Alive Event:** Dale praised the Arts Alive event hosted by Mr. Button and students.
- **Grant Applications:** The town is currently reviewing applications to determine funding allocations.
- **Soccer Field Construction:** Approved and expected to begin soon.
- **Arena Roof Condensation Issue:** Some PAC members expressed concerns about condensation dripping onto the ice surface and requested that the town look into possible solutions.

10. Next Scheduled Meetings

- Monday, March 17 at 7:00pm

11. Meeting Adjourned

- Meeting adjourned 7:43pm