

## **Parent Advisory Council: Meeting Minutes**

Monday, Sept. 15, 2025

Location: Bentley High School

### **Members in Attendance:**

Trudy Bratland, Michelle Lundy, Jill Howe, Dale Grimsdale, Holly Grimsdale, Erica Duberville, Marsha Lush, Shannon Yurystowski, Jannah Bertin, Sandra Boulding, Stephanie Smith, Alex Buchine, Steve Lush, Jill Howe, Adam Sia and Ashley Bajema.

**1. Call to Order:** *PAC Chair, Michelle Lundy, called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.*

### **2. Approval of Minutes:**

- The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Ashley Bajema and seconded by Shannon Yurystowski.

**3. Approval of Agenda –** Additions to the Agenda under new business Breakfast Program and School Code of Conduct

### **4. a) Administration Report –**

- **Elementary and High School Educational Updates – Principal Adam Sia**
  - New curriculum and staff are learning what is all included in the new curriculum.
  - Testing for Grade 1-3 is happening now.
  - Not sure what information is all wanted at the PAC meetings. Will have different topics with PowerPoint presentation for the next meeting.
- **Athletics Update – Vice-Principal Steve Lush**
  - 6 volleyball teams this year
  - Senior Girls volleyball team just held their tournament this past weekend. Other teams have their tournaments coming up.
  - Golf – 2 students made it to provincials
  - Cross country runners are low this year.
  - Volleyball regular season games start this week.
  - Terry Fox Run happening near the end of the month.
  - Academies – due to cost and space unable to have academies, but will look at this again in the future.

### **b) ASCE Grant Ideas**

- Think of ideas of what the grant could be used on for the next meeting. This will need to be decided at the next meeting.

### **c) Grade 9 Orientation**

- Only 2 parents and children showed up. There was positive feedback from those that attended. This orientation was announced in the school newsletter and through Power School Announcement.

- We will plan again for next year and also look at field trip for Grade 8 to the high school at the end of the year to show them around the High School. This was overlooked this past year due to the exams occurring right at the end of the days that the students attended school.

#### **d) AHS Career Exploration Camp**

- This was shared with students at the end of June. They are responsible to sign up on their own. This was held in August.

#### **e) Alberta Government School Library Standards**

- New order implemented. Banned books have changed as some previously banned books are now allowed. Books have to be pulled off the shelf and vetted and then put back on the shelf. This is time consuming. There is also a requirement to publish publicly a list of books of all books in the library and classroom libraries. This is a daunting task and we're trying to come up with a solution to get this done before the January 2026 deadline.

#### **f) ASCA AGM Resolutions – 2025 Resolutions attached**

(<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/256168> )

- AGM is held in April. Resolutions need to be discussed and approved at the Bentley School PAC level. Our representative must be appointed by our board if we are sending someone to have the authority to vote on our behalf.

#### **g) Breakfast Program**

- It was brought up that there is no consistency on when the toast is allowed to be eaten.
- Children are eating their toast anywhere from first bell to just before lunch. Administration will bring it to staff to see what times the students in their classrooms are eating toast. Snack carts are also available in the hall as well.

#### **h) School Code of Conduct**

- It was discussed when parents are involved in a minor or major offence occurs.
- Should parents be involved right from the start even if it is a minor to avoid escalating situations?
- There was discussion of bully and in fractures and that these are 2 different types of offences and as such have different policies that are followed when dealing with the occurrences. Administration will look into wording of the School Code of Conduct to see if concerns can be clarified.

### **5. Nominations and Elections**

Chair – Michelle Lundy

Vice Chair – Ashley Bajema

Secretary – Shelby Lethbridge

Director – Shannon Yurystowski

Director – Susanne Mueller

Director – Erica Duberville

- All have allowed their names to stand and were elected by acclamation.
- Sandra Boulding was nominated as director by Shannon Yurystowski. Sandra allowed her name to stand. Sandra Boulding accepted as director. All carried.

#### **6. Bentley School Chest Society Report – Stephanie Smith**

- The Bentley School Chest Society is a not-for-profit Alberta registered Society. We are the fundraising entity of the Bentley School. Our objective is to enhance curriculum, arts, recreation, and sports for the Bentley School. We enhance the students learning with aids, equipment and technology that is not included in the school budgets. We are a volunteer run board with six volunteers that coordinate any fundraising events.
- Some of the purchases that we have purchased for the school is
  1. Jerseys
  2. Cross country skiing equipment
  3. Wall pads
  4. Time clock.
  5. School sign
  6. Accelerated Math Program
  7. Music Instruments
  8. Supplies for the drama program.
  9. Trickster Theatre
- We do not decide where funds are spent. It is decided by the school administration with input from the teachers.
- Casino coming in first quarter of 2027. They are great fun. You get walk through every step. You don't need to have prior knowledge and your get feed a great meal and refreshments throughout.

#### **7. Trustee Report - Trudy Bratland**

- The final Board meeting for the 2024-2025 school year was held on June 18 and items on the Agenda included hearing from the Mecca Glen students about their trip to Montreal, Quebec City and Ottawa.
- The trip was well organized and fell within the parameters of curriculum requirements in addition to being appreciated by all who attended. A welcome back luncheon for Division office staff was approved, as was a number of meeting dates for the fall.
- Wolf Creek partnered with Red Deer Public Schools to host the August Public School Boards' Association meeting and on August 7 we spent the day learning about various initiatives in Wolf Creek in addition to touring the Iron Ridge Secondary Campus.
- Compensation rates for non-unionized staff were made as were transportation rates. We also renewed the Alberta School Council Association membership for the upcoming school year. In May and June I had the pleasure of attending the Bluffton Grade 9 Farewell, the West Country Outreach, Bentley and Eckville Graduation celebrations.
- The Board and some staff were to attend the Canadian School Board's Congress in Winnipeg from July 3 to 4th. Due to the Wildfires in the province, the in person

Congress was cancelled as hotel rooms were needed to house the evacuees that had nowhere else to go. The Congress was then offered in a virtual format with some of our registration fees being returned, so a number of us participated in that way. There were very good sessions offered and the keynote speakers Dr. David Suzuki, Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Phil Fontain, Fred Penner and Clara Hughes were well worth listening to.

- On August 25 there was a get together to make “swag bags” to give to staff on their return to work and on August 28 we held a Board meeting with Agenda items including reviewing the smoke-free Environment procedure, and update on the Report Card and Grade Book enhancements, the success and growth of the Summer School Program and the expansion of offerings focused on Drones and Culinary Arts.
- Also included in our agenda package every meeting are reports from the various departments that are integral to the smooth operation of the Division: Facilities, Transportation and Technology.
- As you know, the ATA and Provincial bargaining sessions are in the news and on everyone’s mind. We are doing the best that we can to stay on top of those issues in addition to the other initiatives that Alberta Education is mandating.
- Our next Board meeting is September 20 and we have an Audit Committee meeting and our first Zone 4 meeting is on Monday at the Wolf Creek office. I have the pleasure of attending the Rimbey High School Graduation on September 20.
- Welcome back - I wish you a very successful year and appreciate all that you do!

#### **8. Town Council Report – Dale Grimsdale**

- Soccer fields are progressing. Seed has been planted and should be ready next spring.
- Open House for finalization of South East annexation.
- 3 more lots were sold – 11 in total sold now.
- Arena completion is expected in November. Delayed due to frost under the old slab.
- Garbage changes – Empringham Disposal will be doing the garbage service.
- Open house at school is being held the same day as the Good Neighbor Day again. September 24.
- Town of Bentley Municipal Elections will be held October 20.

#### **9. Next Scheduled Meetings**

- November 17 at 6:30 pm in the high school library

#### **10. Meeting Adjourned**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.