

Bow Valley High School Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 9, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.
BVHS Learning Commons

In Attendance: Kari Rose (Chair), Judy Heck, Fiona Gilbert, Tracy Bruins, Julia Grohn, Mia Kruger, Mandy Kellock, Janet Cheverie, Shaun Hayter, Leigh Sands, Jennifer Proctor, Chris Segnitz, Jim Reilly (Principal), Larissa West, Sheila Bielert

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Kari Rose.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Mia Kruger, 2nd by Mandy Kellock.

4. Special Presentation

Larissa West, BVHS Guidance Counselor, and Sheila Bielert, Learning Support presented Scholarship and Bursary information to attendees. Presentation Summary: Grade 12 students are being reminded about Scholarships & Bursaries that are available. Guidance staff & Mrs. Bielert will be holding an information session for students early in semester 2 where they will give students more details, help them develop their portfolios if needed, including important aspects to include such as volunteering/involvement in sports or organizations, letter of reference, skills and experience, etc and assist with applications. Representatives from the Scholarship Committee recently met with one of the local donors, the Cochrane Lions Club, to discuss their continued support. There are many scholarships/bursaries that students can apply for - some are based on academic performance, particular field of study, some on financial need, etc and students can apply for > 1 scholarship. Criteria for applying and acceptance is provided by the individual scholarship or bursary.

Resources presented (many are already posted on the BVHS website):

- Scholarship and Post Secondary Presentation Powerpoint (which includes links to additional resources) -
<https://bowvalley.rockyview.ab.ca/career-center/scholarship-information/scholarship-presentation>
- Scholarship Directory 2019 - 2020 -
<https://bowvalley.rockyview.ab.ca/career-center/scholarship-information/scholarship-information/view>
- Scholartree (where students can open an account) - <https://scholartree.ca/>
- Student Aid Alberta - <https://studentaid.alberta.ca/>
- Local Scholarship Applications 2020 (see attached.)

5. Approval of Minutes of November 14, 2019

The minutes of the November 14, 2019 School Council meeting were approved by Mandy Kellock, 2nd by Tracy Bruins.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes: None

7. Administration Update - Jim Reilly

- Final Assessment Period (AKA Exams) will not be conducted in the gym, however will occur in the classrooms where students do much of their work. Staff have reviewed/relooked and discussed assessment practices & strategies, with a vision to make this time less stressful for students, provide the support students such as MP3 players, alternative writing environments, etc, may need, etc. For example, students who work diligently throughout the semester/school year, and have earned at least 80% in the in-class assessments, the final assessment may be optional (at teacher's discretion). Diploma exams start next week and some Grade 9 PATS closer to end the of January (see BVHS Google Calendar (<https://bowvalley.rockyview.ab.ca/calendar>)).
- January 21, 2020 - Last day of classes.
- Planning for next year has begun and is well underway. Scheduling, time table, courses & course outlines, etc are all being worked on. The registration process starts the end of February 2020. At approximately end of February/beginning of March, BVHS staff will be going to the feeder schools. Courses such as COSPLAY, COSMO, ASL will be reviewed after getting feedback from students, staff, etc.

8. Report from the Board of Trustees - Fiona Gilbert

- Cochrane Accommodation Consultation
Rocky View Schools (RVS) will be holding a public consultation from Jan. 16 to April 23, 2020, to share information and hear feedback on proposed accommodation options for K - Gr. 8 students attending Cochrane schools. First meeting is on Thu Jan 16 at 7pm at RancheView School. RVS will share information on enrolments and school capacity trends, possible accommodation changes, and other items relating to providing quality learning environments for our students in Cochrane. This meeting will see participants involved in roundtable discussion to ensure all feedback is documented and heard. For full information, visit https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/studentaccommodations/cochrane_accommodation
- Board Approves 2020/21 and 2021/2022 School Calendars
RVS Trustees approved the school calendar for the 2020/21 school year on Dec 12, 2019 which has students starting school, Sept. 2, 2020, before Labour Day. The last day of classes before winter break will be Dec. 18, 2020, with classes resuming, Jan. 4, 2021, and spring break will begin, April 2, 2021 (Good Friday), with classes resuming, April 12, 2021.

The Board approved the 2021/22 school calendar, Jan. 9, 2020, which will see students start school after Labour Day, Sept. 7, 2021. The calendar outlines the winter break will

run from Dec. 17, 2021, with classes resuming, Jan. 3, 2022, and the spring break beginning Apr. 15, 2022.

- 2019/20 Fall Budget

RVS' Board of Trustees approved the 2019/20 fall budget, Nov. 28, 2019. With expenditures of \$278.7 million, over 77.6% will be directed towards instruction, 13.2% to plant operations and maintenance, 6.3% to transportation, and 2.9% to governance and administration. In keeping with Board priorities, 84.2% of total monies available for instruction will be directed to schools. As announced previously, provincial grant rates outlined with the Alberta government's 2019 budget in October left RVS with a budget shortfall for the 2019/20 school year. To address the shortfall, RVS will be drawing down \$4.32 million from central reserves and \$1 million from school reserves, with Education Centre budgets reduced by \$1.53 million and school budgets by \$1.75 million. Schools were able to achieve these reductions through reducing supply and equipment spending and making a handful of temporary staffing adjustments.

- Budget 2020 Consultation Plan

In recognition that reserves are not a sustainable resource and the current budget contains a one-time provincial transition grant of \$5.1 million, reductions will be required for the 2020/2021 school year. The board directed the superintendent to draft a community engagement/consultation plan to seek input and feedback from RVS stakeholders into budget and program priorities for future school years. The plan is to be brought forward for Board consideration in January. Stay tuned.

- RVS' Four Year Plan Approved by Board

RVS' 2019-2023 Four Year Plan, Innovators by Design, has officially launched following the Board of Trustees' approval, Nov. 28, 2019. Based on the hopes and desires of students, parents, staff, business/community leaders and service providers who provided direct input into its development, the plan features a new learning narrative and new goal statements crafted around "I CAN" – Innovators Connect, Achieve, Navigate. The plan can be accessed on the jurisdiction's website under Publications/Four Year Plans.

- 2018/19 Annual Education Results Report Outlines Jurisdiction's Successes

Approved Nov. 28, 2019, RVS' 2018/19 Annual Education Results Report revealed significant progress made in building staff efficacy in the areas of literacy, numeracy, social emotional development and data analysis through focused and systematic professional learning opportunities. As a result of various initiatives, satisfaction levels among stakeholders increased in a variety of areas, including staff perception that collaborative and job-embedded professional learning opportunities are contributing to their growth and students' viewpoint that they are learning skills that will be applicable once they leave school. The plan can be accessed on the jurisdiction's website under Publications/Annual Education Results Report.

- 2018/19 Audited Financial Statement

The Board approved the RVS 2018/19 Audited Financial Statement (AFS) which painted a relatively strong financial position for the jurisdiction. Revenue for the 2018/19 school year rose to \$285 million, with the bulk of the increase resulting from increased student enrolments of 4.13%. Of the total expenses, 76.7% was spent on instruction, 14.2% on plant operations and maintenance, 6.3% on transportation, 0.1 on external services, and 2.7% on board governance and system administration - well below the government's ceiling of 3.6%. The largest expenditure was for salaries and benefits, totalling \$208 million.

- Memorandum of Agreement Achieved

The Board of Trustees and Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Local 35 have ratified a collective agreement for the term September 1, 2018, to August 31, 2020.

- ASCA Conference and Meeting

There is support for School Councils to attend the ASCA Conference and General Meeting in Edmonton April 24-26, 2020: max \$1000 per attendee or \$2000 per school council. Deadline to request funding is January 17, 2020. Members interested in attending complete the application

(<https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/staff/forms/General/af110-school-council-asca-support>).

9. Bobcat Backers Society (BBS) Fundraising Update

Julia Grohn, chair of the Bobcat Backers Society, reported that she has secured a performance by Gord Bamford and he will be bringing his 2020 #RedNek Music Fest Tour to Cochrane on Friday, June 19, 2020. This will be BBS's major fundraiser this school year. A draft poster was circulated. A few details were discussed such as VIP seating, 50/50 Raffle at the event, the possibility of silent auction/raffle online beforehand, etc. Julia showed a short promotional video to attendees. Attendees expressed much enthusiasm about the fundraising event.

Tickets will be on sale shortly and there is exclusive pre-sale access for Bow Valley High School through a code/link which will be provided to BBS.

10. New Business - None

11. Next Meeting

There will not be a School Council meeting in February. The next School Council meeting will be **Thursday, March 12, 2020 @ 7 p.m.** in the BVHS Learning Commons.

Presentation: March 12, 2020 – Healthy Relationships – Guest speaker: Ashley Cheney CYC from Stepping Stones to Mental Health

May 14, 2020 - Presentation – RCMP Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) - tentative

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. by Kari Rose.