

Bow Valley High School Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 11, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom

In Attendance: Kari Rose (Chair), Judy Heck, Fiona Gilbert, Tracy Bruins, Mandy Kellock, Erin Sturgeon, Jaimie Anton, Dionn, Tiffany, Lisa, Jim Reilly (Principal), Mrs. D. Sawby & Ms. K. Elliott (Assistant Principals)

Regrets: Susan Brauss

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 Tracy Bruins, 2nd Mandy Kellock.

4. Approval of Minutes of May 14, 2020

The minutes of the May 14, 2020 School Council meeting were approved by Mia Kruger, 2nd by Tracy Bruins.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes: None

6. Administration Update - Mr. Reilly

- A. Timetables: Mrs. Sawby and Mrs. Elliott has been working diligently on timetabling.
- B. Staff Update & Job Postings: 2 positions have been posted and the competition closed today for these jobs in Humanities, Math/Science. Interviews will be done next week. Tentatively a 3rd staff member may be hired. Brian Morgotch will be joining the Learning Support team and Jasminka Kovacevic will be teaching Social Studies/Humanities.
- C. Staggered Entry for September 2020: There will be a staggered entry for students this year. September 2 will be the first day of school for the Grade 9 students, all other students will start on September 3.
- D. Enrollment September 2020: Currently, 814 students are enrolled for September 2020, last year's enrollment was 757. The projection for attendance is approx. 824 students, as often there is an influx of new students in September.
- E. Class Space: Admin has been reworking class spaces, the Learning Commons will be changing a bit and some learning spaces have been moved to better accommodate students.
- F. Celebrations:

i) The Blue and Gold Celebration which recognizes athletics, fine arts and leadership at BVHD will be aired on June 24 on the Bow Valley YouTube page. Please tune in. Staff have been busy videotaping presentations.

ii) Graduation Celebration 2020: Will be airing June 29 @ 6:30 pm. The celebration will feature addresses by dignitaries, our School Board Trustee, the Valedictorian (Kevin Wong), the students and an address to students by Kevin Armstrong, who taught the current Grade 12 students when they first started at BVHS in Grade 9. This is our chance to connect and close out the year, and it is a momentous occasion for staff and students as they finish this journey in school.

- G. Message by The Minister of Education (June 10, 2020): Education Minister Adriana LaGrange made an announcement during the provincial COVID-19 update on June 10, that the Alberta government has laid out 3 different scenarios for how students could return to in-person class during the 2020-21 school year, but is hoping to get students back to class as close to normal as possible, in September. The province will decide which scenario will be implemented by August 1. Whether it will be business as usual, or if modifications are implemented, there will be challenges with issues such as, transportation, field trips, entry into the schools, daily health checks, etc. School Admins and Boards are working on backup plans, but need to be flexible and adjust as needed. Also, support for students while they are at home (either by choice or for health reasons) such as online learning situations/packages of learning (ie. via Zoom or open video classes, etc) are being looked at that students can still connect with their teachers and the school. The Board also met today to discuss a unified approach to discuss the Ministers announcement on school reentry and programming.

7. Report from the Board of Trustees - Fiona Gilbert

- A. Re-Entry 2020/21: Fiona reported that detailed information on the 3 scenarios for school re-entry in September can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx> and <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/2020-21-school-re-entry-plan>. There are plans and guidelines for school re-entry. School Boards and Dr. Henshaw will be discussing some of the strategies to minimize risk to students/staff. As indicated above, we should know what scenario we will be in by August 1, and it will be up to the RVS School Board to figure out how to come up with the logistics. There is work being done within the RVS District with task forces to strategize the re-entry scenarios. RVS School Board did have an opportunity to see a 'draft' of the re-entry plan previously and provide feedback, but learned the information at the same time as the public. They are hoping for scenario #1, but more information will be forthcoming.
- B. Joint School Council Meeting via Zoom May 28, 2020: The Board decided to get feedback from school councils about re-entry, which started at the Joint SC meeting on May 28. There will be a survey in the future to get more feedback from parents and staff - tentatively before the end of the school year. Work will continue over the summer on these plans.

- C. Budget: The Board approved the budget on May 21. Budget perspective, 283 million, continue to see a growth of students to 850 (just under 4% growth), maintain successful class sizes, as much money as possible has been allocated to the schools. School fees and transportation fees were discussed. Some parents have not received their transportation refunds - there has been a delay, but refunds should be coming. Parents can address inquiries to: transportation@rockyview.ab.ca
- D. School Start Up: The Board is in support of the staggered starts for Grade 9's and for students/schools that are for transitioning.

8. Bobcat Backers Society (BBS) Fundraising Update - Tracy Bruins

- Kari & Mr. Reilly thanked the BBS executive for their fundraising efforts this school year.
- Fundraising events/initiatives have been on pause. There was a BBS meeting June 11, 2020. Some events will go forward once safe to do so, so stay tuned. We sold Candy Grams in February, and the executive continues to work on and plan fundraising initiatives for next school year.
- The Annual General Meeting will be on September 10, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

9. New Business - Q & A

- A. Will there be an opportunity in August for some students to meet with staff? Admin had the opportunity to meet with Grade 8 students, before and during the open house. Since then, Admin has met with each of the feeder schools - their Admin, CDA, LS and current teachers. They met with Mitford and Fireside staff to discuss students who need a bit of extra help transitioning. A staggered entry for the 224 students is felt to benefit the students and will help welcome the students into the high school community. Tentatively, there will be 7 - Grade 9 classes with approx 32/33 students per class.
- B. What is the plan for Grade 9 Students: Currently, Admin is looking to cohort Grade 9 students: they will group students in Math and English and these 2 core classes will run all year. In the first semester, Math and English classes will be held on alternating days. In the 2nd semester, English & Math will be held every day. Students & teachers will stay together for these 2 courses. Science and Social Studies will be per semester.
- C. The Math 9.3 (extra numeracy work) program this year, seemed to be helpful for students as per their feedback and the extra numeracy work.
- D. Scheduling and Timetabling: The goal is to have scheduling and timetabling done and available by the end of June. It will go into PowerSchool and be accessible through PS. Parents will be receiving a notice regarding 'Options' when ready.

10. Next Meeting

The next School Council meeting and Annual General Meeting will be **Thursday September 10, 2020 at 7 p.m.** either via Zoom or in person in the Learning Commons at BVHS.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m. by Kari Rose.