

Bow Valley High School Council Meeting Minutes
Learning Commons Thursday, April 11, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Jason Ness (Chair), Kari Rose, Tracy Bruins, Susan Brauss, Valerie McCracken, Julia Grohn, Fiona Gilbert, Jim Reilly (Principal)

Regrets: Judy Heck, Scott Bloxham

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Jason Ness.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Kari Rose, 2nd by Susan Brauss.

3. Approval of Minutes of March 2019

The minutes of the March 14, 2019 School Council meeting were approved by Valerie McCracken, 2nd by Susan Brauss.

4. New Business

a. **Fundraising**

- Julia Grohn brought bylaws from MITFORD school as guidelines to create or reinstate a Fundraising group at Bow Valley High. Julia Grohn offered to take up the mantle of leading a fundraising society. Council expressed its appreciation for Julia's willingness to take on such a significant undertaking.
- What are priorities for money raised by the fundraising group?
 - Mascot?, Score Clock?
- Next Step: Society, Name, a formal filing prior to September, 2019
- Ideas
 - Community Event "gala" for Christmas
 - Grant Applications
 - Casino - check if there is a conflict with Band
- Julia will communicate through Judy regarding first meeting.
- Name of society?
 - BOBCAT BACKERS - submitted by Tracy Bruins

b. **Alberta School Council Advocacy (ASCA) Resolutions 2019** – Council's Position on Resolution P19-18 on the Comprehensive Education Funding Framework review was reversed in support of the resolution following an amendment to the resolution.

c. **Joint School Council Meeting** – Was held on April 4, 2019, however, Bow Valley Council was not in attendance.

5. Report from the Board of Trustees - Fiona Gilbert

- a. **Accommodation Plans:** RVS are pretty full. Airdrie's new K-6 (growing to K-8); Northcott Prairie School, will not be ready until January. Airdrie is working on a boundary review. Chestermere is going to start one soon and has already undergone some grade reconfigurations. Cochrane can expect to be doing the same soon.
- b. **Approval of RVS' 2019-2023 Four Year Plan:** Trustees approved the goals, outcomes and design principles identified in RVS DRAFT 2019 – 2023 Four Year Plan, Innovation by Design. Priorities include: 1: Langdon School, 2: Bow Valley High School Expansion, 3 & 4: Two Schools in Airdrie, 5: Cochrane K-5. The new plan is based on the hopes and desires of multiple stakeholder groups who provided direct input into the development of a learning narrative and the plan's goals, outcomes, design principles and strategies during an extensive 10-month consultation process.
 - Goal 1: Connect to passions, interests and people. Outcomes: Students engage in real-world, hands-on learning experiences that matter to them. Students demonstrate ownership of their learning.
 - Goal 2: Achieve their potential. Outcomes: Students are literate, numerate, and acquire core competencies. Students meet high expectations and learning outcomes, tailored to their individual capabilities.
 - Goal 3: Navigate successfully as global citizens. Outcomes: Students are healthy, safe, resilient and value diversity, cultures and traditions. Students make a positive difference in their life, school, community and the world

Over the next five months, RVS will identify performance measures for the plan with the intent to find a balance between required provincial measures and local measures that will chart the jurisdiction's progress towards achieving the plan's outcomes. The full plan will return to the Board Table in November 2019 for final approval and submission to the Ministry of Education.

b. **2019/20 Budget Priorities:** Students continue to be the primary focus of RVS Board of Trustees, as evidenced by the 2019/20 budget priorities, which emphasize direct classroom instruction, inclusive education, mental health supports and balanced literacy and numeracy skills. Approved by the Board March 7, 2019, the budget priorities are driven by the goals and strategies of RVS Four Year Plan, to foster innovators in their learning journey while supporting the operational needs of the jurisdiction. RVS complete 2019/20 budget will be presented for approval in the spring.

c. **Provincial Election:** It is official that Albertans will be going to the polls on April 16, 2019 for the provincial election. Your Trustee strongly encourages you to get informed about the candidates running in our area, specifically regarding public education, and the views and campaign platforms of each of the political parties. Cochrane is in a new riding, Airdrie-Cochrane, so we have new candidates.

The Board has put together an election advocacy postcard that lists four non-partisan questions that we are encouraging stakeholders to ask of their candidates. The questions align quite strongly with the Boards Advocacy Priorities for this year. The questions are as follows:

If elected, how will you ensure:

- that every school board in the province is funded equitably?
- the mental health of students is supported?
- supports exist for increasingly complex and diverse classrooms?
- new schools are built for growing jurisdictions?

d. **Modular Approvals:** Back in November, the Board requested 39 modular classrooms to support the growing enrollment needs across RVS District. RVS district has recently been notified that only 7 have been approved for use across the division. Administration is currently working on a plan on how best to use these modulators to accommodate students for the 2019/2020 school year.

e. **Prince of Peace School:** Board of Trustees voted on March 7, 2019, to accept SAGE Properties' five-year lease agreement with an 18-month termination clause, subject to approval of the lease by SAGE's Directors. Although this allows RVS to maintain the program for the near future, a long-term solution is required given that the property owners intend to eventually sell the building. Trustees also voted to begin managing the number of students at Prince of Peace, given that Chestermeres' current schools are full. Effective immediately, no new non-resident students will be accepted.

f. **Joint Board School Council Meeting:** Up to 3 members of School Council are invited to attend the Joint Board School Council meeting this Thursday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the RVS Education Centre in Airdrie. This is a great opportunity to network with other council members from across the division. The Agenda will include: discussion on community opportunities in the new four-year plan, education and the upcoming election, and conversation around effective school councils.

g. **Upcoming Board Meeting Items:** At this week's Board meeting on Thursday, April 4th, the Board will be considering student transportation fees for 2019/2020 (i.e. 5% increase for paying families; 19% increase to fees bussing students outside the divisional boundaries; fee cap for a family has been removed, students beyond the 2nd in a household are 1/2 price), as well as some changes to transportation policy regarding ride-a-longs, secondary stops and free-for-all bussing in urban areas. Other items for consideration include the 2020/2023 Capital Plan and

decision on East Airdrie student accommodation changes. If interested, you can subscribe to “Board Highlights” at <http://trustees.rockyview.ab.ca/subscription-services> to receive timely information on Board decisions.

6. Report from Administration

- a. **Recent collaborations with Cochrane High School** were well received. A joint drama competition “One Act Play” held by BVHS & CHS fine arts program was successful. A combined school Rugby program is also going well. Two Provincial and 1 National Wrestling Championships were won by BVHS/CHS wrestling teams.
- b. **Bow Valley is currently at 92% capacity** - #2 on capital plan.
- c. **Timetabling and Scheduling for next year.** A flex block will be added to next year’s timetable. Students will be expected to stay in the room with the teacher preceding the block. Initially, there will be less “flex” as students are coached and mentored into using their time effectively. As time goes by, they will have opportunities to choose which teachers they need to connect with during that time. All Grade 9 Options will be in Block 1, which should increase choice and flexibility.
- d. The **P3 Sports Academy** programming is underway and will be available for enrollment next year. Inquiries can be directed to the office. Men’s & Women’s hockey; baseball, etc programs will be available.
- e. **Adopt a Bobcat Program.** Athletics has always played a large role at Bow Valley High School. Unfortunately, one obstacle many students cannot overcome is financial. Many will miss out on the benefit of sport for no other reason than the cost and students who would benefit the most from sport are often the ones who can least afford to participate. We also increasingly find that many students don’t qualify for charities like “Jump Start”, and can’t pay sports fees without causing their family hardship. BVHS is starting a not-for-profit initiative to help support students with financial need hoping to participate in extracurricular sports. For more information, please contact BVHS Administration and watch for links to the program on our BVHS Website.
- f. **Staffing Update:** Gemma Mousley is moving to the head office. Janette Young-Larocque is replacing Gemma. Job opportunities at BVHS are now being posted Internally. After May 18th, positions will be posted externally.
- g. **Programs of Choice:** P3 - hockey, baseball, lacrosse?, Building Futures, Farm. American Sign Language (ASL), Yoga and Cosplay will be new options available for the next school year.

7. Admin Q & A:

N/A.

8. Next Meeting

The next School Council meeting will be **Thursday May 9, 2019 @ 7 p.m.** in the Learning Commons.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.