

Bow Valley High School Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Learning Commons

In Attendance: Jason Ness (Chair), Judy Heck, Kari Rose, Tracy Bruins, Susan Brauss, Mia Kruger, Fiona Gilbert, Jim Reilly (Principal),

Regrets: Scott Bloxham (Assistant Principal)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Jason Ness.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Kari Rose, 2nd by Mia Kruger.

3. Approval of Minutes of October 18, 2018

The minutes of the October 18, 2018 School Council meeting were approved by Susan Brauss, 2nd by Mia Kruger.

4. Report from Bow Valley Administration – Mr. Reilly

- a. The Leadership group organized the Halloween Havoc on October 31, 2018 that involved grades 9-12. Academic Awards Assembly was held on November 7, 2018. There will be a Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday, November 9, 2018.
- b. The Breakfast Club will proceed. There is money from the Activettes. This program will include non-perishable breakfast items and is anticipated to start in the 2nd semester. The next step will be to meet with teachers and parents who are willing to take part in the breakfast program.
- c. Admin is looking at repurposing Bread Tuesday. Cobbs Bakery donates bread, buns, scones, etc every Tuesday. Admin hopes to combine this donation with the Breakfast program.
- d. Term 2 started November 7, 2018. Parents/Guardians can check Powerschool to see their students marks.
- e. IPPs should be ready around November 20. First, teachers meet with the students, review strengths and areas that need work, and collaborate to create short and long-term goals. A parent asked about a Reader accommodation for students that need it for exams and Mr. Reilly indicated that an MP3 player would serve this purpose for students who need exam questions read.
- f. In late November, early December, Admin hopes to organize tours of some other schools to explore various facilities setups, programming, etc. Mr. Reilly would also like to invite interested parents and students to participate in the tours.
- g. The School Advisory Group met again. Admin received some powerful feedback from the students.
- h. Out of Boundary transfers were discussed. There is a procedure for out of boundary school transfers, which briefly includes: meeting with the home school, providing a letter of rationale for the transfer, such as wanting to participate in a program of choice, social/emotional issues, siblings attending a different school, etc. Then there is a

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meeting with the receiving school to see if there is room and the resources available to accommodate the transfer. Both schools Administration meets to discuss the transfer and the request may need to be reviewed by RVS senior executives. The request may be granted or denied.

- i. Mr. Reilly reported that there are 24 BVHS students taking mechanics at Cochrane High School. Mr. Reilly and Mr. Polhill are also discussing other learning opportunities between the two schools.

5. Report from the Board of Trustees - Fiona Gilbert

- a. Fiona Gilbert asked attendees if they had any questions about the Capital Plan and Modular Solutions following our previous school council meeting when these were reviewed. Jason Ness acknowledged Fiona Gilberts attempt to have the Bow Valley High School expansion moved to be # 1 in priority, but despite her efforts, the BVH school expansion will remain as priority 3.

6. New Business

a. School Tour (Walk and Talk)

Attendees took a thorough tour of the school to discuss aspects of the physical space. The hopes for the tour would be to (a) consider recommendations as school council in the event a capital funding allocation is afforded to RVS for an expansion for the school and (b) to consider recommendation that council might make to a fundraising society that supports BVHS.

Insights were gathered and attendees were invited to share their thoughts on what they liked about the space as well as what they perceived as potential needs.

Likes	Potential Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Visible presence of student artwork and projects.”• “Many spaces were not purpose built for their use, but staff have clearly made very effective adaptations and turned what might have been challenges into opportunities for students.”• “The Chill Room was a warm and inviting space.”• “Teacher names and pictures posted in each room were appreciated, especially for new students.”• “Classrooms had a friendly and welcoming feel.”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “More ‘learning nooks’ and places for students to be productive outside of classes, the Commons & the Den.”• “More seating in the Den (or another place for students to eat)”• “Softer/different lighting.”• “More spaces that are built purposefully for complimentary programming e.g. theatre space, culinary arts, weight room, etc.”• “Water fountains that can fill bottles.”• “More places for plants and ‘growing’ besides the foyer.”

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “A proper school sign.”
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b. Buddies of Bow Valley

There is a fundraising society called Buddies of Bow Valley but it has not been active for many years. Mr. Reilly indicated there was a need for generating funds for the schools use. If some parents were interested, they could form a new executive and the authority could be transferred. It was suggested that School Council find the paperwork for the Buddies of Bow Valley and facilitate a meeting as Tracy Bruins, Susan Brauss, and Mia Kruger indicated they would be willing to participate in the fundraising society. Any parents interested in being involved in Buddies of Bow Valley can email BVHSchoolcouncil@gmail.com.

c. Programs of Choice

There is some confusion about what, when, where extracurricular activities and course curriculums such as Building Futures are being held at the schools. Course requests (e.g Building Futures) should be submitted by spring break. A suggestion was made there be better communication between schools and parents about these. If parents have questions they can email School Council BVHSchoolcouncil@gmail.com who will redirect their question appropriately.

d. Concerns, Commentary, and Questions

Parents suggested topics for information sessions including vaping, alcohol and substance abuse, marijuana education.

7. Next Meeting: Thursday, **December 13, 2018** starting at 7:00 pm.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.