

**BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2016 – Learning Commons**

Attendees: Fiona Gilbert (Board Trustee), Rob Kimura (Principal), Valerie McCracken, Karen Packer, Francine Wieliczko

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Valerie at 7:06pm

2. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone welcomed

3. Approval of Agenda – May 4, 2016

Add School Education Plan (SEP) under #6.

Motion: Francine motioned to approve the Agenda as amended. Karen seconded. Carried

4. Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2016

Motion: Francine motioned to accept the Minutes of April 6, 2016 as circulated. Karen seconded. Carried

5. Old Business/Outstanding Items

i) Cochrane Community Awards

- BVHS nomination was submitted for its Building Futures Program
- 45 nominations received. 5 schools on the list, including BVHS
- Winners will be announced on Sunday, May 29 in the afternoon

ii) ASCA AGM – results of the voting on the resolutions

- All 5 resolutions passed
- Some discussion on “LGBTQ access to information” - age appropriate information and source of information
- Some changes made to the “Provincial Support for Transfer Station development in regionalized transportation systems” resolution

6. Report from Bow Valley Administration

i) School Activity Update

- May 6 – Evening of Hope: “Hope Takes Flight”. Ticket sales going very well
- Start planning for next year – planning on at least 30 more students. Small changes in staff
- Grad list is strong; most grade 12s will graduate
- Play “Beauty and the Beast” was well attended. Was one of BV’s best plays to date
- High School Redesign – Grade 9 program added. Other schools are curious to see the outcome and will be watching

- Building Futures program for 2016-17 year will be 2/3 students from BVHS, 1/3 from Cochrane High and Springbank. Next year, Monty Smith and 1 other teacher, not yet known, will teach the program
- Til Next Time (TNT) assembly will take place on June 10

ii) School Education Plan (SEP)

- SEP was presented of which recent achievements (high school redesign, and identification of students requiring support and building support plans) and priority areas of focus (building literacy and numeracy at grade 9 level, developing a long-range legacy plan to maintain programming with anticipated staff turnover, and adapting to increasing numbers of socio-emotional issues) were highlighted
- Budget similar to last year and looking good

7. Report from the Board of Trustees

- Provincial budget was announced on April 14. Education funding is basically staying the same, with a commitment from the Province to fund enrolment growth, which is good news for RVS as we are predicting an increase of 880 students for next year. Slight increase in Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding to address needs of older schools. Introduction of carbon tax will hit school divisions but impact is still unknown at this time
- New Deputy Minister for Education is Dr. Curtis Clarke and he will take the reins effective May 16. Clarke previously served as Assistant Deputy Minister (Correctional Services) and Associate Deputy Solicitor General
- Board of Trustees has started process of recruiting a new Superintendent of Schools for RVS since Don Houim announced his retirement. Parents and staff are invited to provide input to help short list potential candidates and to guide interview questions. Parents must provide feedback before May 8 via online survey found on the RVS website
- Parents have until the end of May to complete the RVS Satisfaction Survey. It will take less than 10 minutes to complete. A link to the survey can be found on the school's webpage
- Fiona attended the Alberta School Councils AGM & Conference in Edmonton from April 22-24 and participated in various workshops and sessions. Challenges faced by School Councils in Cochrane and throughout RVS are similar to those across the province - low attendance at meetings, lack of parent engagement in schools, lack of funding, low volunteerism. The RVS Board wants to support the growth of school councils across the division
- Joint Board School Council meeting was well attended and good feedback was received from the participants. BVHS students from the Building Futures program did a great presentation on their experience in the program and what it has meant to them, and Craig from Kingsmith Homes, our community partner in this program, also spoke to the positive impact it has had on his staff and many of the contractors
- Fiona attended the Leaders of Tomorrow banquet held at the RanchHouse on the evening of April 21 where the Town of Cochrane honoured over 20 young people for their volunteer and leadership contribution to their community

8. New Business

i) School Council Best Practice Guide

- A draft of the RVS School Council Best Practice Guide was shared at the Joint Board School Council meeting. Topics include i) communication (could explore using Reminder 101), ii) meeting topics that engage parents, iii) offering parent volunteer opportunities, iv) meeting accessibility, v) recognizing volunteers, and vi) school council visibility

ii) Staff Meals

- Parents will not provide supper for staff at next Parent-Teacher Conference on May 12
- Council will organize a staff appreciation meal for June 21 at noon
- Action: **Valerie** to create a google doc to request parent volunteers

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm

Future Meetings: School Council meetings for the next school year will continue to be the first Wednesday of the month, starting October 5, 2016. Due to lack of quorum, the AGM is postponed until October 5, 2016