

BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2016 – Staff Room

Attendees: Fiona Gilbert (Board Trustee), Michael Kerfoot, Rob Makkreel (Assistant Principal), Valerie McCracken, Andrew Nicholson (guest presenter)

Regrets: Karen Packer, Francine Wieliczko

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Valerie at 9:10 am.

2. Guest Presentation – Andrew Nicholson

Andrew is currently an Interim Councillor (3 days/week) while working on his Masters degree. Guidance Department currently includes Andrew, Jan Higgins, Jackie Hatton, Larissa West (1 block/day), Erin, Elanna (part time), Nicki Neave (family support liaison). The larger team with diverse skills has allowed the ability to offer additional therapy programs.

Current Programs:

1) Healthy Relationships: offered in conjunction with Calgary Women’s Emergency Shelter, this program is intended for those students that are experiencing abuse or conflict in having healthy relationships in their family or community. This is a supportive therapeutic group currently with 7 students (cap of 10). Sessions run once a week for 10 weeks during school day. Students are able to repeat program when advantageous.

2) Board Game Outreach: new program, every second Wednesday; provides a safe, positive space at lunch for those students struggling socially with fitting in. The goal is to allow students to experientially practice social skills. Program is under direction of Larissa West.

3) Equine Facilitated Learning: program provided by a trained facilitator at the Whispering Equine near DeWinton. Six week program is coordinated by Jacqui Simons, FMNI Liaison. Each session takes a full day (3+ hrs/lesson plus travel time). Goal is to develop inner courage and respectful leadership; students suited for this program typically exhibit anxious, shy behaviour. The 6 students participating have weekly follow-up.

Future Program Possibilities:

- Anxiety group “Deal With It”, curriculum / program provided by Stepping Stones.
- Ashley – coping strategies (8-10 students)
- Social Skills Group: aimed at improving student’s social skills; dependant on availability of team.

3. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone welcomed, introductions made.

4. Approval of Agenda – December 7, 2016

Motion: Michael moved to approve the Agenda. Carried

5. Approval of Minutes of November 2, 2016

Motion: Michael moved to accept the Minutes of November 2, 2016 as circulated. Carried

6. Old Business/Outstanding Items

- i) Council Speakers / Topics: No changes since last meeting.
January 11 – 7pm, Jan Higgins (Scholarships & Bursaries)
February 1 – 7pm, Speaker tbc (Safe Coach)
March 1 – 7pm, speaker and topic tbd
April 5 – 7pm, Speaker TBC (Building Futures)
May 3 – 9am, Students for Change (Service trip to San Diego)
- ii) Conference Meals for Staff (December):
Meal planned for Thursday, December 8 in conjunction with Conferences. Sign-up has been a little slow but is now nearly full. Thanks to Gemma Mousley for her assistance in coordinating the email notices to parents.

7. Report from Bow Valley Administration

- Parent/Teacher conferences are this Thursday, December 8th
- December 13th: Christmas Concert, Band
- December 14th: Drama Variety Show at RancheHouse
- December 22nd: Alumni Night, basketball game with Senior team vs. alumni
- Football team won the ASAA Tier IV Provincial Football Championship, acknowledgement to the great coaching; a pep rally was held on the Friday prior to the game
- Basketball and curling are underway
- The first Grade 9 project culmination was held last evening at Telus Sparks; half of the students presented projects showing their learning
- Reindeer tag has started and is ongoing. Helping Hampers: 5 families have been connected with BVHS, students will contribute towards providing food and other items for the Christmas hampers
- Scholarships: application process has been changed to an online application; Ms. Hatton will be meeting with students prior to the end of the year

8. Report from the Board of Trustees

- Ward Boundary Review: RVS Board of Trustees is undertaking a review of electoral ward boundaries. Public meetings have not been well attended to date; online survey will be available until Friday, December 9th. Information/feedback gathered will go back to the Board in February; proposed changes must be submitted to the Province in March.
- Audited Financial Statements for 2015-2016 approved at last meeting for submission to the Province. 75% for students, 14% for maintenance/buildings, 6% transportation, 3% board governance/administration. All details available online.

- Budget for 2016-2017 updated. 250 more students resulted in an additional 24 staff.
- AERR (Annual Education Results Report) was approved, available online for viewing.
- Cochrane Learning Connection was given notice to vacate current space in provincial building by end of June 2016. As no suitable lease space was available in Cochrane RVS purchased a building on River Avenue (previously owned by 4iiii Innovations). The new building has 8-10,000 sq. ft. which will accommodate the Learning Connection program as well as provide office space for staff that work in multiple facilities.

8. New Business

none

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am

Future Meetings: January 11 – 7pm; February 1 – 7pm; March 1 – 7pm; April 5 – 7pm;
May 3 – 9am