

BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2017 - Learning Commons

Attendees: Cheryl Lee Andersson, Lara Barnett, Lila Harter, Michael Kerfoot, Rob Makkreel (Assistant Principal), Eleanor Marr, Valerie McCracken, Karen Packer, Carla Papp, Troy O'Hearn, Melissa and Garrett Peers, Janet Riganti, Marvis Stewart, Jakko Vos

Regrets: Fiona Gilbert (Board Trustee), Francine Wieliczko

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Valerie at 7:15pm

2. Guest Presentation - Scholarships & Bursaries by BVHS Guidance Department

Jan Higgins and Jackie Hatton presented an informative PowerPoint about scholarships, bursaries and applying to post-secondary institutions. Some scholarships/bursaries are specific to BVHS/Cochrane. Scholarships come from high schools, post-secondary institutions, the province, the federal government, community groups, service organizations, companies and private individuals. This presentation is also given to students at BVHS and can be found on the BVHS website. Handouts and website links were available to complement the presentation. The "Alis" (www.alis.alberta.ca) website was noted as being exceptionally helpful as was www.myBlueprint.ca. A new system for students to manage transcripts and applications is the site www.mypass.alberta.ca. There is a BVHS Scholarship Booklet but also numerous on-line scholarship search engines. There is a Scholarship Committee at BVHS. Emphasis put on starting early to develop a portfolio and looking at which scholarships to apply for (i.e. grade 11 is a great time to start!), that grade 11 marks are becoming more important particularly for early admission, for more competitive schools and programs and for some scholarships. The importance of extra-curricular activities was also noted. Sample portfolios are available at the Guidance Office. Some universities offer "Student for a Day" during which a high school student is matched with a university student and shadows them at school for a day.

3. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone welcomed

4. Approval of Agenda - January 11, 2017

Add Volunteer Co-ordination under New Business

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

5. Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2016

Motion: Michael motioned to accept the Minutes of December 7, 2016 as circulated. Karen seconded. Carried

6. Old Business/Outstanding Items

i) Upcoming Council Meetings

Speakers are lined up for all upcoming council meetings except for March

ii) Staff Meals

The staff meal in December went very well

7. Report from Bow Valley Administration

- The school is preparing for exams later in January. This is the first year the grade 9 students will not be writing exams and they will continue to attend school during the exam schedule which may pose some logistical challenges regarding use of space in the school
- The Cochrane Classic hockey fundraiser (for the Activettes) between BVHS and Cochrane High is coming up
- The Cochrane Classic Basketball tournament organized by BVHS, St. Tim's and Cochrane High is this weekend

8. Report from the Board of Trustees

Fiona Gilbert's written submission:

- Looking forward to a busy next few months as the Board will consider important items and issues such as Electoral Ward Boundaries, Budget Priorities, School and Transportation Fees, 2017/18 Budget, Capital Planning, Attendance Boundary Changes and more
- Given the unexpected rate of growth in Cochrane over the last couple of years, RVS Administration is recommending a change to the attendance area boundaries for Fireside School that would see the communities of Bow Ridge, Bow Meadows and Jumping Pound continuing to attend Glenbow Elementary School for grades K-5 and Mitford School for grades 6-8 (their current designated schools). The current projection, if boundaries are not adjusted, is that Fireside School would be at capacity within 2 years of opening. Having this group of students continue at Glenbow and Mitford allows space to be available at Fireside School for growth. An additional benefit to this alternative is that Mitford School will not experience such a strong decline in enrolment. Administration has scheduled a meeting on January 24 at 7:00pm at Glenbow School to discuss accommodation strategies with the communities of Bow Ridge, Bow Meadows, and Jumping Pound as well as the greater school communities of Glenbow, Mitford and Fireside. It is expected that the Board will consider the recommendation and make a decision in late March or early April

- Alberta Government has launched a campaign to get input from Albertans on Budget 2017 and in this challenging fiscal time, I encourage you to provide comments and suggestions to the province on priorities that are important to you and your family. Minister of Finance Joe Ceci will host meetings with community leaders and the public while visiting towns and cities around the province. Calgary meeting is Jan 20 and Town Hall style phone conversations take place Jan 30 and 31. Feedback can also be given online at <https://www.alberta.ca/budget-consultations.aspx> or email MLA Cam Westhead at banff.cochrane@assembly.ab.ca

9. New Business

i) Volunteer Co-ordination

- Staff meals will again be held for parent teacher interviews March 9, 2017 and at the end of the year
- Valerie plans to update the parent volunteer form and switch from paper to online. She would like to tailor it to the school's needs and would like to attend a staff meeting to ask teachers for their input

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Future Meetings: February 1 - 7pm; March 1 - 7pm; April 5 - 7pm; May 3 - 9am