

BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 29, 2016 – Staff Room

Attendees: Roma Dac-Nelson, Fiona Gilbert (School Trustee), Georgette Johnson, Rob Kimura (Principal), Valerie McCracken, Amanda Schultz (Assistant Principal), Francine Wieliczko

Regrets: Karen Packer

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Valerie at 7:17pm

2. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone welcomed

3. Approval of Agenda – September 29, 2016

Motion: Francine motioned to approve the Agenda as circulated. Georgette seconded. Carried

4. Approval of Minutes of May 4, 2016

Motion: Georgette motioned to accept the Minutes of May 4, 2016 as circulated. Roma seconded. Carried

5. Old Business/Outstanding Items

i) Cochrane Community Awards

- BVHS's Building Futures Program was awarded Education Initiative of the Year
- other BVHS students nominated: Andrew Barnett (Equity and Inclusion Champion of the Year), Jordan Tilma (Youth of the Year – winner) and Cassidy Gerhardi (Youth of the Year)

6. Report from Bow Valley Administration

- Smooth start-up to school year. Higher number of walk ups than expected. For first time, BVHS student population is over 600 and there is a locker shortage (had anticipated 555 students). There are 160 grade 9 students (largest class ever). Also includes 13 with PIP program which is here temporarily and will eventually move to RancheView School
- 9 students from BVHS / Leadership Academy, along with Mr. Hooper and Mrs. Karlson, are in New Brunswick for Leadership Conference
- Bobbi Fridfinnson (secretary) is leaving. Her last day is September 30. Gemma Mousley will replace her
- Amanda Schultz will be leaving on maternity leave at some point this semester. 9 staff members (4 are new to BVHS this year) have achieved their ALP (Administrative Leadership Program) so 1 of them may replace Amanda while she is away
- BVHS will be hiring 1 more assistant

- Guidance department has extra help. Allocated 1.6 positions but have 2.2 (Andrew Nicholson at BVHS 3 days/week, another practicum student at BVHS 2 days/wk plus another new hire will spend 125 hours at BVHS)
- Partnerships have allowed several group therapy sessions to take place: 1) Healthy Relationships, 2) Attendance Therapy, 3) Equine Therapy (near Millarville). Also have a psychologist coming to BVHS 1 day/wk
- Class sizes are reasonable. Class sizes range from 22 to 37 students
- Grade 9 program – current focus is to create an interactive display with Telus Spark. Challenge to find a large creative space for large groups (use The Den and Learning Commons mostly). Look forward to seeing the results of this high school re-design initiative at the end of the year

7. Report from the Board of Trustees

- Expected 800 new students to RVS but closer to 1100. Grade 3's are the biggest group followed by Kindergarten
- RancheView School - staged entry. K-Gr 2 already at the school. The remaining grades will move in after Thanksgiving weekend
- In addition to RancheView School, 2 new schools opened in Airdrie. On track to open 2.5 schools in 2017 (one in Fireside (Cochrane), one in Airdrie, and an expansion at Herons Crossing (Airdrie))
- New Superintendent is Greg Luterbach. He is visiting all the schools in the division in September and October
- Alberta Education is revamping the curriculum from Kindergarten to Grade 12. More news to come
- Education Act – parents/public can provide feedback

8. New Business

i) Volunteer Coordination

- **Conference meals for staff (October)** - Parents will not provide supper for staff at Parent-Teacher Conference in October. Will plan to provide a meal for staff in December and March, and at the end of the school year
- **Pumpkin Lantern Festival (October 28)** - 3 teachers' classes are getting participating. It is optional for students to enter a pumpkin. Parents can volunteer at the event if they wish

ii) ASCA Updates

- ASCA is looking for parents who are interested in belonging to a School Council Engagement Task Force in an advisory capacity
- Continuing to hold Webinar Wednesdays which covers various council topics

iii) Council Meeting Dates and Proposed Speakers / Topics

- BVHS Council meetings will continue to be held the first Wednesday of each month (except in January). The dates are as follows: November 2, December 7, January 11, February 1,

March 1, April 5 and May 3. Six meetings will be in the evening and two meetings will be in the morning (TBD).

- Topic/presenter ideas: Jennifer Brewer (RCMP – Trends Among Youth), Andrew Nicholson (Therapy groups, particularly Equine Therapy), Jan Higgins (Scholarships), Students for Change (Service Trip to San Diego), QSA, Building Futures, Leadership Academy, Safe Coach (now being run by FCSS and AHS), Grade 9 High School Re-design

- Action: **Amanda/Rob** to arrange and confirm availability of some speakers, with a focus on the next 3 meetings (Nov 2 – Jennifer Brewer, RCMP; Dec 7 (morning?) - Andrew Nicholson , Therapy Groups; Jan 11 - Jan Higgins, Scholarships & Bursaries)

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm

Future Meetings: Future Meetings (some of the times TBD): November 2 – 7pm, December 7, January 11 – 7pm, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3