

MINUTES

Banff Trail School Council

November 21, 2016

Attendees: Brigid H, Paula O, Vanessa R, Tara B, Karine C, Mary A, Thao T, Colin D, Nicole F, Teresa K, Sara D, Tania B, Tina C, Omar S, Sandra G, Allison B, Tessa T, Allison K, Sonia C, Sean M

1. **Call to Order – 6:30pm**
2. **Introductions** (5 minutes)
3. **Additions and Approval of the Agenda** (Teresa K, Sara D)
4. **Adoption of Minutes from October 24, 2016** (Tina C, Mary)
5. **Principal's Report (Evelyne L) - 30 mins**
 - 5.1 School Development Plan update –
 - Focus will be on the “Literacy Stem” or oral language, achievement goal has been set
 - Each year as a staff we develop a plan for our school that is focused on improving our school as well as aligning with the goals of the broader system to strengthen education for our students. After much conversation, reviewing parent input and careful evaluation of our data we have developed our plan. This year we have decided to focus on improving our student’s ability in oral French as this is the foundation for greater understanding in reading and writing and impacts all areas of study. This is in keeping with the CBE’s Literacy Strategy identified in the 3Three-Year Education plan. Our professional learning will be designed to help teachers move this goal forward and we will be sharing our progress with you at various points in the year. The Annual Results Report which describes the School Development Plan from last year and our achievement of the targets is now posted online.
 - Other elements of the SDP remain in effect on an ongoing basis
 - 5.2 Logo / Mascot Project - Heather
 - Contest via leadership team is to create a new logo and mascot
 - Andrea has confirmed that kids will vote on an (AB) animal, and kids will explain why the particular animal should be selected, deadline for submissions is Dec 5, 2016
 - School Council has been invited to assist with decision
6. **Chairperson's Report** (Brigid H – 20 minutes)
 - 6.1 Action Items from October 24th meeting:
 - 6.1.1 *Action item:* Letter to grade 1 parents explaining Fun Lunch and Spirit Days
 - Was sent out by email and letter
 - 6.1.2 *Action item:* Teacher Potluck Dec 1
 - As is tradition, food will be provided by parents in appreciation of the teachers on interview day
 - 6.1.3 *Action item:* Playground Survey
 - Now 39 responses (out of 275 families), will await further responses to make a decision on this issue, but Brigid and Meike may collaborate to get further responses during parent / teacher interview day
 - Cost of new structures may be as high as \$300k, size of playground is limited to the space it is already in
 - Additional column space to highlight the discussion will be available on the School Council newsletter, to be provided to Brigid for publishing
 - School Council Chair at Dalhousie (Lisa T) would be a resource to those interested in pursuing, Brigid has her contact information

- Communication re naturalization would be necessary also (Tania B)
- After further discussion parents agreed that more survey responses would not be pursued at this time. Karine and Paula will consult with Lisa T. and Tania B. to look at improvement options. Brigid will assist Tania with discover of past Naturalization plans etc. to consider.
- **January Action item:** Additional volunteers for naturalization work would be helpful. Parents will collaborate to see what might be considered as an addition to the school yard

6.1.4 Funding request – staff appreciation:

- Kim N – as a Suncor employee she was eligible for a \$750 volunteer stipend, she wishes to donate to the School Council (non-casino fund).
- Motions carried to direct \$400 for Welcome Back BBQ (Tina C, Teresa K); also to direct up to \$250 to staff appreciation lunch at end of year (Vanessa, Tania)

6.1.5 Funding request – school council supplies:

- Box for School Council supplies, up to \$50 for office supplies for School Council to conduct our work (simple supplies e.g. stapler, stapler remover, post it notes, fun-tack, etc)
- Background provided re supply box idea was initiated by School Council, to facilitate supply access for SC volunteers. The school remains open to making additional supplies available as required.
- Motion carried to direct \$50 for this purpose (Tara B, Nicole F)

6.1.6 Funding request - Dec 16 Fun Lunch milk and oranges:

- Last day of school Fun Lunch for cereal / PJ day
- Funds requested up to \$150 for milk and a mandarin orange
- Motion carried to direct up to \$200 for this purpose (Sandra, Tina)

7. Vice Chair Report (Gursher P, 20 mins)

7.1 Traffic Safety Committee

7.1.1 Mandate – Gursher, along with some other parents, discussed traffic safety, single point of contact / SPOC has come forward (Karen F)

- Options are available including change of the bus zone, crosswalks, “kiss and drop”, etc
- Clarification provided that the Traffic Safety Committee is focussed only on traffic safety, and not school access or dismissal protocol
- Parents who have concerns regarding school access etc. have be asked to follow-up with Mme Lamontagne directly

7.1.2 Plan moving forward

- Karen has linked with 311 re how to begin the process of making changes
- City typically supports these sorts of initiatives with traffic surveys etc
- If a kiss and drop is put in place, having parent volunteers each am and pm to make it work is necessary

8. Treasurer Report (Vanessa R. - 5 minutes)

8.1 Update - \$7800 has been fundraised so far this year (see attached)

9. Updates from Committees & Representatives (20 Minutes)

9.1 School Council Supplies – Tara B (per above)

9.2 Grade 6 Committee – Mary - A - T-Shirts are organized

9.3 Fun Lunch – Allison K. – 279 orders for November Fun Lunch

9.4 Fundraising Committee – Kim P & Lawna H – ongoing efforts, no report at this point

9.5 Key Communique – Gursher P - **CBE Mental Health and Wellness**

On November 16 at the Council of School Council meeting mental health and wellness was the topic of presentation. Links below will provide further information on mental health and wellness along with various resources that are available through CBE.

- It is estimated 20% of school age children experience mental health and wellness concerns, information and links on this topic are on the CBE website Links here: [Mental Health and Wellness Presentation](#) [COSC Presentation](#)
- School Messenger has 75% compliance, also “yycbeedu” is CBE Twitter handle
- CBE’s homepage recognizes schools doing extraordinary things (e.g. last year BT was featured for la cabane sucre and the solar panel project)

11. Next Meeting – No December meeting, next meeting January 16th

12. Adjournment - 8:05pm

Post Adjournment - Allison B. asked admin about the timing for the Grade 4 + 5 Ski and Snowboarding program, after not finding it on the school calendar online. Meike explained that the teachers had ask for the program only be offered every second year. Parents expressed their concern about not being consulted or informed about this decision. Parents also expressed how very much their children look forward to this program every year.