

Banff Community High School – Council
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2007

Present:

1. Dave Brazeau (Principal)
2. Chris Macdonald (Member-at-large)
3. Lynn Calvert (Member-at-large)
4. Deb Hornsby (Voting member)
5. Alysa Amirault (French Teacher)
6. Connie MacDonald (Voting member)
7. Lorraine Widmer-Carson (Member-at-large)
8. Karen Sorensen (Voting member)
9. Dale Martin (Teacher)
10. Linda Schultz (Voting member)
11. Stephanie Kuxdorf (Secretary)
12. Margarette Moar Bell (Chairperson)
13. Patty Glover (Treasurer)
14. Sharon Phillips (Voting member)
15. Frank Balcom
16. Shelley MacAulay
17. Linsey Balcom
18. Currie MacAulay
19. Kelsey Larg

Absent:

1. Roy Goulet
2. Alison Milroy
3. Sharon Oakley
4. Tanya Bouchard

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1. **Call to order at 4:05 pm.**
 2. **Approval of agenda with additions.**
 3. **Minutes from last meeting approved.**

Additions:

Computer Use/Internet Safety

- Shawn Carr from Town of Banff came to let us know about the Computer Use/Internet Safety Course being put on by Community Services on Wed., Oct. 17 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the BCHS Computer Lab.
- Cost is \$5.00 and people can register at TOB.

Grade 9 Québec Trip

- Alysa Amirault presented the Québec trip planned for the Grade 9s to Council.

- The trip is still subject to approval by Brian Callaghan (Superintendent of Canadian Rockies Public Schools).
- It hasn't been announced to the students yet, so please keep it quiet.
- There will be a tour guide for the whole trip.
- It will be an educational trip.
- Takes place during the Québec Winter Carnaval.
- She wants the parents to be responsible for the fund-raising since she won't have time to look after that part of the trip as well.
- Ideally, she would like all 34 students to be able to go

4. Old Business

a) Computer Use Policy

- The first draft was handed out at the last meeting for review
- The draft doesn't address texting and cell phone use
- Lorraine pointed out the negative language in the draft: it should read "agreeing to" rather than "agreeing not to"
- Should it also include other electronic devices?
- The newsletter could include a policy on cell phone usage – they are not to be used in class

b) Donations

- Dave said the donations for his rewards program have been very generous and he'll look after the thank-you letters

c) Meeting Schedule for BCHS Council Meetings

- Some dates need to be changed due to holidays, etc. so revised dates are: Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 19, March 10, April 21, May 20 and June 16
- Lynn is working with Polly on getting email addresses from parents not on the list – emails should be sent to bchs@crps.ab.ca

5. Reports

a) Principal

- Several students have qualified for the Provincial Cross-country Running meet
- Candidates running for Town Council came to the school to present to the students
- School Trips: we need to determine what will be offered. Linda pointed out that it's not just the costs involved, but also a safety issue. Dave wants to offer lots of trips but some are cost-prohibitive. Connie suggested that we look locally since we have lots of options within the community. Liability issues make trips more expensive. Margarete said that we need to address the issue of kids being left out and find a middle ground. Our community has always been one of inclusion for all students. Deb said that we can be approached as a Council to make sure that all students can go. The Banff Community Foundation is there to help support as well.

- Communication: the school is trying to improve communication with parents and the community. The “Bear Essentials” will be emailed out weekly (only by email) and is a very simple weekly bulletin. The automated phone system will cost between \$3,500 - \$5,000 and Dave is defiantly in favour of it. The newsletter will not be mailed out in hard copy form. Parents can download it from the internet.
 - Strategic Plan – the draft is ready and is meant to reinforce and support the district’s goals. Everyone should review it and we can discuss it at the next meeting.
- b) Junior High
- No representatives present.
- c) Senior High
- 3 representatives attended the meeting: Linsey Balcom, Currie MacAulay, and Kelsey Larg (all Grade 12s) came to listen to the meeting today.
 - The grad class wants to apologize for the dance on Oct. 5 that didn’t happen.

6. Committee Reports

a) Futures Committee Report

- Deb said they have begun the First Phase of 3: Education in the Bow Valley.
 - What to accomplish
 - Strategic vision
 - Community values – on Nov. 10 will ask the Community what values they want to achieve from the educational system
 - Speaker series intended to spark ideas
- Phase 2 will take place in January/February
 - Examine demographic trends in the area within the next 5 – 10 years
 - Canada as a whole and around the world
 - Job opportunities
- Phase 3 will take place in March- May
 - Examine key directions
 - Public session and speaker series
- They’ve named the project “Inspiring Hearts and Minds”

b) Treasurer’s Report

i) Budget

- Margarett has some bank statements for Patty
- The food for the AGM cost about \$200
- School fees are \$400 per year in income
- We currently have \$8,000 in the account, \$5,500 came from the MacTaggart Third Fund, which was allocated specifically for drama – we need to know how to spend it

- We have about \$2,500 left to spend
- Margarete outlined the correspondence received (see separate document), some of which looks like payments we need to make
- Some suggestions on ways to spend this funding are: the Heroes program which costs \$35 per student, having a local theatre group (formerly Precipice) come and perform, Second City Founder that Margarete knows

ii) Banking Possibilities

- Patty and Linda will review the options

7. New Business

a) Scholarship Program

- Linda mentioned that the Bow Valley Credit Union (where she works) wants to give a Grade 12 scholarship
- Lois Vanderlee is a great resource for figuring out how to do this

b) Advocacy

- Margarete has been getting at least 2 phone calls per night from parents concerned about class sizes
- The Trustees have invited Council Chairs to participate in their meeting with the MLA. Margarete will fact find and find out what the challenges are and what the funding shortfalls are. How can we get the most bang for our buck? Deb will attend this meeting with Margarete.
- Concern that the Junior Music Class size is 46 students.
- Magazine Fundraiser raised \$7,800 for the school.

8. Correspondence – refer to separate document

9. Questions – none

10. Next Meeting

- Next meeting: Monday, Nov. 19 at 4:00 pm

11. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.