

Banff Elementary School Council

Regular Meeting

3:30pm Wednesday, October 21st, 2020

Google Meet (from 3:20pm) - <https://meet.google.com/rut-mevh-dfd>



AGENDA

1. Call to order. Welcome Members. In attendance: David Shackleton, Samantha Frey, Sue Hughes, Jody Keon, Natalie Trottier, Deb Cavanaugh, Anne-Marie Puccini, Holly Wilkinson,

2. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda. *Approved by Samantha.*

3. Approval of minutes from previous Regular Meeting September 16th, 2020. *Approved by Holly, 2nd by Anne-Marie.*

4. Reports

a. Chair Report (David): Application for grant funding from TOB was successful for just under \$1000. This money will support classroom enhancement purchases for our teachers. Cheque will be ready by end of November.

b. Principal Report (Nadine)

Thanks everyone for your continued commitment to be part of BES's PC.

- Professional Learning: During half-day Fridays, teachers have met with other colleagues within their grades across the District to brainstorm effective strategies as well as challenges with the goal in mind to adapt their teaching practice to reflect the new learning environments this year, while maintaining student engagement and optimal learning. The collaboration has proven to be successful. During the next half, we had google meets in each schools to focus on reviewing our in-house processes for reviewing student needs within each class, as well having check-ins to see how everyone is adapting.
- At home learning: we have received positive feedback and parents have until the 23rd to make a choice to either return to face to face or continue online until June. Depending on how many of the 48 students return to classes, staffing will potentially be impacted, as well as classroom configurations. Anne-Marie commented at this point that as a parent of children opting for the at-home learning option (one at BCHS, one at BES) she feels the experience could be improved upon. There is little involvement with the school or staff other than their one assigned teacher. She also pointed out that for outdoor activities of the class, her children are often overlooked.
- Community Involvement and Partnerships: this has been limited of course due to Covid restrictions, but we have been fortunate to have Nature Explorer run their program, which students are very excited about. Teachers can still bring experts into their classes, online. An example of this was featured in the The RMO (Outlook) interviewed Keith Robinson about his virtual lesson to both 8 classes in the distillation of fermented grain into sugar water to create ethanol for hand sanitizer (for our 'Separation of Matter' section). Caribou Kids Program is also happening for our students to get free Norquay ski passes.
- Safety Drills: our two first fire drills went very smoothly and we are getting ready for our first lockdown drill. I sent a letter home to parents yesterday.
- School Events: With no assemblies allowed, we have to think outside the box to still celebrate some events. On that note, Terry Fox went well, with each teacher taking their class for a run. Teachers taught meaningful lessons around Orange Shirt Day on the 30th and we created a video stating every child matters, which is on our website. Halloween will consist of classroom

celebrations in the afternoon of the 30th and Remembrance Day will be slide show for each teacher to show their classes. - Our school will take part of the Banff Online Xmas Community Concert, featuring each class for about one minute.

- Gr. 7-8 Leadership opportunities: we recognize that this year is especially challenging for our Div. 3 students, with the closed campus, no after school sports and limited leadership opportunities, therefore I created a School Council where each cohort is responsible for a school event, starting with Halloween (ie - prizes for best costumes, xmas, valentines' day, etc). They are excited about this leadership opportunity!
- Upcoming PTI: the format will be different with phone calls and google meets appoint as opposed to face to face meeting. Also, instead of having the goal setting format, each teacher will send parents a first quarterly report, highlighting areas of strengths and areas of growth. We figured that with students missing school for 3 months last year, parents would want to know more specifically how their child is doing, as well as identifying potential learning gaps.
- Gaga pit follow-up: it is in storage, but putting it back on the field was not part of the building plan and there is no budget. It can still be done in the future, but we need to let the sod settle this year on the new field. Not before the Spring or next fall.
- Equipment sharing and use of play structure: our students are absolutely thrilled to finally have access to equipment outside, as well as the play structure!
- Right from the Start: can now offer their programs outside rather than only virtual

c. Teacher Report (Deb C):

d. Right From The Start Report – no report

e. Treasurer Report (Holly): nothing to report

f. Hot Lunch Report (Sue): discussion of Patti Secord's two submissions (1) becoming the only food provider for hot lunch to minimize contact and (2) possibility of an on property green house. Administration and CRPS are at this time not allowing any volunteers into the building so hot lunch is still not an option. Once operational, we can certainly look at Patti's offerings for lunch and either add as one of multiple suppliers or as a sole supplier.

5. Nominations open for the following positions:

- a. Vice-Chair
- b. Grade/Division Reps
- c. Fundraising Liaison

No nominations made. No volunteers for these positions however Anne-Marie has offered and been welcomed to act as a liaison for the home school learning population of BES.

6. Other items

- a. Request for School Council to help fund recent purchase of \$900 sporting material from Nadine. To create equipment bags for all classes to use in their cohort at recess, lunch and gym, equipment was pulled from the main supply in the gymnasium. The school is looking for funds to replace that which was used. *Motion made by Samantha to approve this spend. Vote passed, all in favour.*
- b. Follow up on sporting equipment for classes – individual cohort bags of equipment have been distributed
- c. Follow up on access to the school gym – classes will begin rotating through the gymnasium with time between classes for janitorial to sanitize. At this time the gym remains closed to outside user groups.

- d. Follow up on playground access outside of school hours. TOB has confirmed that the playgrounds are available after 4:30 pm for community use. Hand sanitizer dispenser has been put in place near the small playground and Jody will follow up with the installment of an additional one at the large playground.
- e. Received proposal for school lunch delivery service. See hot lunch report above.
- f. Received proposal for school Farm project. Nadine and Jody are quite interested in this (as are the rest of us) and will contact Patti to discuss what we can organize now in the hopes of installing this next school year (cost, volunteers, space).
- g. Question from parent: lunchtime Math Club this year? This is not a possibility as it crosses cohorts.
- h. Received Christmas Fundraising proposal from Purdy's chocolates. As we cannot do our usual fundraisers, and the high school band is not using this fundraiser this year (no travel as per covid) all agreed this would be a simple way to raise some funds. Anne-Marie has offered to organize.
- i. Notice of virtual Christmas Concert from the Banff Center. Details to follow at next meeting.

7. Next meeting: Regular Meeting November 18th, 3:30 pm, Google Meet

8. Adjourn 4:35