



Banff Elementary School Council

Regular Meeting

3:30pm Wednesday, November 17th, 2021

Google Meet (from 3:20pm) <https://meet.google.com/xgw-kbas-rhz>

Or dial: +1 647-736-6507 PIN: 908 403 740#

BES November meeting minutes

1. In attendance: David, Alex, Brooke, Holly, Stephanie, Sue, Ashley, Deb, Nadine, Kristen, Linda, Ashlyn
2. Meeting minutes approved from September & October
3. Approval of minutes from previous Regular Meetings on Sept 15th, and Oct. 20th 2021.
4. Reports
 - a. Student Report – Ashlyn Gr. 7- Ashlyn came to represent and introduce what they do on student council. Their main goal is to lift the spirit at BES. Currently there are 8 grade 7 students on council. They hope to be meeting regarding Christmas to make plans for the holiday season.
 - b. Chair's Report – David- Nothing specific to report to the group this month
 - c. Principal's Report – Nadine, Jody

NOVEMBER REPORT

Thank you Ashlyn, for coming to speak to our parents with regards to your leadership role being part of the Student Council.

COVID Update:

Status quo since our Sept. meeting: 4 reported COVID cases, affecting two classes since the beginning of the school year.

SCHOOL-RE-ENTRY PLAN - Update

The District's new policy on vaccinations will allow us to slowly remove some COVID restrictions, which will take effect on November 24th.

- **Hot Lunch:** The program will resume in January, with a slow start of providing a hot lunch once per week. More details to follow. The targeted date is Jan. 19th
- **Parent Volunteers and Visitors:** starting November 24th, we will allow for parent volunteers and guest speakers to come into classes, provided they show proof of vaccination either via email or to the office. For security reasons, we will still keep doors locked and ask parents to book an appointment before coming to BES.
- **Assemblies:** We will not be having school assemblies until we are mandated by Alberta Ed to not cross-cohort, whenever possible, indoors.
- **Div. 3 students at Lunchtime:** Given the number of COVID cases has significantly dropped since September, we are revisiting the possibility of allowing Gr. 7-8 students to go downtown at lunchtime. We will inform families next week. We are still having them rotate through the den, intramurals and the option for them to go outside is always there too.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

92% of our parents attended conferences. Thank you parents for working with us as a team to best support BES students!

CTF:

Grade 7-8 students will start their second semester and rotate in their CTF courses starting Nov. 26th. As a reminder, the following is offered to them this year

1. Computer Science: coding
2. Art
3. Foods
4. Outdoor Ed
5. Entrepreneurship
6. Passion Project (2022-2023)
7. Drama

Elk Filed Update

The field will be opened again starting Nov. 22nd until springtime when we can evaluate the status of the sod.

Christmas Concert

Grace will be preparing our students for an online format of a Xmas concert to be shared with families as the Banff Centre will not be having a community concert this year.

Outdoor Pursuit Update

Kindy skating dates booked at the Fenland

- Gr. 1 Swimming - springtime
- Gr. 2 - Swimming - springtime
- Gr. 3 - Downhill
- Gr. 4 - x country
- Gr. 5 - climbing (dates will be set in the new year)
- Gr. 6 - curling
- Gr. 7 tennis - spring
- Gr. 8 canoeing - have gone already

Opening of Learning Commons/Library

The learning commons has been open to students since October. Teachers can either send a small group of students to exchange their books as needed or come with their whole class for some inquiry-based projects.

Supporting Literacy and Numeracy at BES

"The Alberta Government designated \$45 million province-wide to support literacy and numeracy interventions for Grades 1-3 students across Alberta. The government targeted these grades based on information they collected that indicated that the learning of younger students was more adversely affected by the pandemic than other age levels. CRPS submitted a grant application to receive this funding and was thrilled to recently receive \$63,700 to support Grade 2 and 3 students. Provincial funding will follow in the new year for identified Grade 1 students who could benefit from additional support. The CRPS Board and the senior leadership team also recognize the critical importance of early interventions. Therefore, CRPS has made the important decision to allocate additional funding to augment the government funding for literacy and numeracy interventions, to further support students' academic growth. This additional funding will help to mitigate the impact of learning disruptions caused by the pandemic and will also address the Board's Four-Year Education Plan outcome that focuses on student literacy and numeracy. We are excited to announce that the equivalent of a half-time teacher has been put into place at BES and will begin to provide these additional student interventions this week!" Teachers will work with students identified as being at risk based on the testing data collected back in September.

Remembrance Day Project

Under the direction of Ms. Sunderland, our Div. 3 students took part in an exciting Remembrance Day Project, in collaboration with the Banff Legion: Students collected mason jar to put candles inside and place them next to the gravestone of fallen soldiers in the Old Banff Cemetery. Students also researched some of the soldier's biography. Our students also painted poppies on rock, which appear around town and at the cemetery.

Online Play

Thanks to Ms. Keon our students will get to see the online version of Hazel and Grezel this week by the Alberta Opera.

After School Sports

Our volleyball season is coming to an end for our Div. 3 students. This Thursday, we have organized a mini-tournament for our gr. 8 students to go to Grassi and for our Gr. 7 students to host Grassi students. Basketball season is up next. Please contact Mr. Weller if you are interested in being a community coach.

d. Teacher Report – Deb

School Council Teacher Report Nov. 17/21

First Big Snowfall brought so much joy!

We truly experienced the habit of mind
“Awe and Wonderment”

Recess - huge snowballs like a postcard

N. E. - built snowpeople outside of hospital windows

Looking forward to Hanzel and Gretel

Nov. Conferences provided opportunity for

Connections with families around learning

Progress. Thankful for all the participation.

Kids are starting to look forward to the celebrations and activities that the upcoming winter/holidays bring.

e. School and Family Wellness Worker Report. Gender identity? – Ashley : There was a brief follow up during a staff meeting, staff was reminded and there were no further questions

f. Treasurer Report – Holly \$500 committed for volleyball nets and that is the only change we have so far

g. Sue Update: Hot lunch will begin in January. We will start slow, once per week (Wednesdays) We had 7 vendors previously, Subway has declined for now. Sue will ask Edo Japan. Other options, Patties Pantry, Wild Flour, Aardvarks & Spaghetti Factory. Fewer vendors moving forward will help us ease back into hot lunch. Volunteers are allowed back into the school.

Grade Reps –

8 Sue: Grade 8's wants the option to grab lunches downtown, potentially allowed to go on Mondays.

5. Election of Officers. We are looking to fill the following positions:

- Secretary (Executive)
 - Nominee: Brooke Wilson
- Grade Representatives

KG – Stephanie Ferracuti

(1 – Kristen McCutchen)

2 -

(3 – Brooke Wilson)

(4 – Alex Eaton)

5 -

(6 - Alex Eaton)

(7 – Laura Ouellette)

(8 – Sue Hughes)

- Fundraising Lead
- Members at Large

6. Other items

- a. Update on the state of the playing field: see Principals update above.
- b. Update on effort to improve Inclusivity on the playground suggestions – Brooke and Alex will discuss with Nadine about where the funding will be coming from. Update from discussion, you will have access to \$16,700. Wonderful news, thank you Steve Greene for the email update.
- c. Christmas chocolate fundraising, Purdies. There was discussion amongst the group that next year we do a local fundraiser, for example Valbella. We are looking for a thoughtful local fundraiser and a business that gives back.

7. Next Regular Meetings (3rd Wednesday of the month, 3:20 for 3:30 pm start, Google Meet (link: <https://meet.google.com/xgw-kbas-rhz>) and meet in-person?

Dec. 15th

Jan. 19th, 2022

Feb. 16th

March ~~16th~~ 23rd (to avoid parent-teacher interviews)

April 20th

May 18th

June 15th

8. Adjourn