

Draft Minutes

1. Call to order at 3:32. In attendance: Dave, Deb, Nadine, Sue, Jody, Luke, Ashley, Brooke
2. Approval of Septembers minutes delayed until next meeting when there are more board members.
3. Principals Report: Nadine

COVID Update:

Status quo since our Sept. meeting: 4 reported COVID cases, affecting two classes, since the beginning of the school year. BES sent a letter to all families two weeks ago with this update.

Government Literacy and Numeracy Screening Tools:

As announced on June 29, 2021, the Government of Alberta will invest an additional [\\$45 million](#) to fund local initiatives to address COVID-19 learning disruptions in Grades 1 - 3. LeNS, CC3, and the numeracy screening tools were among the tools included on the list of recommended assessments that school authorities can use to apply for this additional funding. Gr. 2-3 teachers administered these and the data was sent to Alberta Education with the hope of being considered for the Government grant and providing more support for students at the Elementary school level.

Alberta Settlement Services

Vanessa Champagne, replacing Stephanie, will be coming to BES every Thursday and bridging the gap between the school and ELL families to best support them.

Pop-up Clubs: Kat Wiebe from Right from the Start has started to offer some pop clubs outside, based on student interest. So far, a group of students in 5-6 is teaching other students some Rubik's cube skills. She also facilitated some art sessions with gr. 6 students.

OH&S Audit

The OHS Officer met with myself and Scott Wing, our Health and Safety Officer for the division who is a member of the Health and Safety Committee on Oct. 5th. The inspection was conducted as part of the OHS 2021 K-6 School in-Person Learning initiative.

During the inspection, the following was observed:

- Remove some chairs from the staffroom to encourage more social distancing.
- Custodians working alone late at night: create a system with your colleagues in other schools for regular check-ins.
- Other safety protocols meet the work legislation standards. We spent a great amount of time explaining the online WORKS program, along with procedures should Respect in the Workplace not be followed. We reassured the OH&S officer that all staff has different venues to report potential harassment situations (HR, principals, ATA, CUPE), and how these procedures are outlined in our admin. procedures found online.

TPGP: Nadine and Jody have been busy meeting every teacher for their Professional Growth Plan, along with their strategies for achievement and a scheduled follow-up in May.

Fire Prevention Week

Sparky came to our field to offer short presentations on fire safety to our K-1 classes.

New EA. We hired a new EA named Danielle Liwanag mainly to work in kindergarten classes.

Elk Field Update

Guenthers has gone well above the warranty period and replaced a great deal of the field at their cost and has told us they will continue to support us until the town takes over the field next summer.

Clarification: the decision to not open the field in the spring rests with us. It could not open in the fall because of the new sod. They make recommendations but we have the final say. Reopening in the spring would be dependent on weather conditions and how the field does over the winter. If we put kids out there in early spring with wet conditions we will end up in the same place. But again we could revisit things and maybe be able to open to nice dry conditions later in the spring. We are looking at re-open for the winter months, once the ground is frozen.

Truth and Reconciliation Afternoon Sept. 29th:

CRPS sent out a letter to all families explaining how the afternoon would unfold and the rationale for the school closure on Sept. 30th. Our students welcomed elders virtually who came and told stories of the past and focused on hope for the future. Students have engaged in reflective tasks afterward, to go deeper into the meaning of Orange Shirt Day and around Truth and Reconciliation. Gr. 8s and Gr. 3 classes were featured in our Enews performing songs on this important matter.

Safety Drills: our first fire drills went very smoothly, but we felt it was more spacious to have it on Big Horn St rather than on the Moose Field. We are getting ready for our first lockdown drill. I sent a letter home to parents last week, for the upcoming drill on October 25th at 2:00.

School Events: With no assemblies allowed at this time, we still 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. Halloween will consist of classroom celebrations in the afternoon of the 29th and Remembrance Day will be a slide show for each teacher to show their classes. We are still unsure regarding Xmas concerts.

Gr. -7/8 Leadership Opportunities: Like last year, 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: As per the calendar, these will be happening during the evening of Nov. 3rd, 4th, and the morning of Nov. 5th. The format will be online again this year.

RFTS: Stock-tober Initiative, led by gr. 6 students

The items will go to the Calgary Drop-In Centre for them to assemble Frosty Bite Kits, to help people who live on the street, or who spend a lot of time outside due to housing insecurity.

Staff PD during Half-Day Fridays

Teachers have been engaged through the Calgary Consortium in 12 Quick Fixes sessions on the topic of Quality Assessment, to align with our 4 year Education Plan. EAs are following 4 sessions called Self-Regulations (useful strategies to assist our students with severe needs to help them develop effective strategies either to be proactive regarding their behaviors or support them during a potential crisis.)

IPP Meetings

Teachers, EAs, and our LST have been busy meeting with parents to update the intervention plans of students for students with mild, moderate, and severe difficulties.

PC \$500 Donation

Jody purchased some gaga balls for every class, a volleyball net, some beach balls, and soccer balls. We are much appreciative of PC supporting our phys.ed equipment!

Questions from the report: Remembrance Day, will there be an assembly? The school will continue with classes only. Nadine will ask student council about helping with some involvement of Remembrance Day.

4. Deb's Teacher Report:

She will get more feedback regarding the teachers' topics, ideas, or concerns. Currently there was nothing to report. She is still looking for grade level representatives for grades K,2 and 5. Deb will reach out and ask some families.

5. Ashley: School and Family Wellness Worker

A survey to be sent out on E News in November of topics parents would like to hear about. Some examples were friendships and relationships, focus and concentration.

The theme of gender identity has come up from students this year. She would like to move forward in a collaborative way and formulate some best practices regarding this topic. We discussed how this information is important and navigating the best way to communicate to families, we suggested adding a link on E News moving forward.

6. Treasurer: Nothing to report

7. Hot Lunch: Sue

No news to report yet. Several factors in discussion on how to start this back up.

8. Inclusive Playground: Brooke

Alex reached out to a company and was able to get some pricing. Brooke and Alex will discuss before next meeting to get the ball rolling

9. Christmas Fundraiser:

Purdy's Chocolate to be discussed. Sue has offered to help roll this out and will look into it.

10. In Person Meeting: We all agreed that although we would love to have in person meetings for parent council, we are limited until we find a place that can accommodate a group with space and video conferencing. The teachers would have a difficult time making it to a meeting right after school as well. For the time being we will keep the meeting online until the right opportunity comes up to make a change.