

Banff Elementary School Council

Regular Meeting

3:30pm Wednesday, September 21st, 2022

Location: Banff Elementary School, 325 Squirrel St, Banff, AB T1L 1K1

Virtual option - Google Meet (from 3:20pm) <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>

Or dial: +1 289-949-9903 PIN: 138 527 022#



Meeting Minutes September 21, 2022

In attendance: Craig, Lynx, Ashley, Satu, Sue, Brooke, David, Jennifer, Luke, Deb, Alex

3. We will approve the June meeting minutes next month once everyone has time to review.

4. Reports

a. Nature Explorers Program update and Earth Day - Cristin "Lynx"

This is the 12th year of the Nature Explorer's program, and it is going better than ever. There is hands on learning and much has been weeded out that did not previously work. There is a strong relationship with the teachers, so it is cohesive with what students are learning. Lynx is wondering if the parent feel up to date on all of this as we also need volunteers regularly.

Lynx did a lot of reading this summer, reading about the importance of robust forests to combat climate change. This year she is working with locals on the native tree planting initiative. All of March is dedicated to researching native trees, plants and shrubs and studying their importance. Earth Week she has celebrated and brought awareness with the chalk messages, the giving tree, thumbprints and this year she is hoping to do an assembly as well as have students at the bison street courtyard. In May she will be partnering with locals to teach kids how to propagate native seeds and start growing them at school.

Plan A would be to plant the seedlings on school property

Plan B would be to create a legacy garden with local trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants in hopes to have the children watch the plants grow. Last resort plan would be to have the students take home their plant.

The goal is that native species should be low maintenance and it becomes a school wide multi year legacy project. Thank you Lynx!

b. CRPS Board Update – Luke

The board is excited for the typical and normal feel to the start of the school year!!

c. Chair/Vice Chair's Report – David / Alex

Alex discussed the progress of the outdoor classroom. Colin via TOB mentioned how short staffed they are. The town has the desire but not the means to do it right now. Colin will speak with Parks to chat about what they can do. Guenther's will get asked for a quote and depending on the quote we may ask the Pauw foundation for assistance. The outdoor classroom will also work well with Lynx's projects over the years.

d. Principal's Report – Craig / Jody

- First day of school with families and staff greeting each other on the newly opened Elk field. Students are thrilled to be playing soccer, tag and rolling around in the lush grass
- Nancy Pauw Bridge opening ceremony. Grades 4-8, with support from RCMP/Bylaw, walked to the pavilion for the opening ceremony and our students were the first children to cross the bridge! Thank you to the Town of Banff and the Nancy Pauw Foundation for including us. One of Nancy's sisters that was here for the ceremony commented to a staff member that her favourite part was watching children cross the bridge

- Open House - Great showing of families culminating in a brief school community gathering on the Elk field to introduce the new principal, assistant principal and say thank you and farewell to Ms Keon who is off to Exshaw as principal

Staffing:

- Full time Educational Assistant - Victoria Paradon
- Part time literacy/numeracy teacher - Joanne Indovina-Duncan
- Increase in teaching position for Sharlynn Kelly - ELL focus

Upcoming Events:

- Thank you for signing up for the School Council Learning Sessions. Please review the following information regarding registering and receiving additional information about joining the sessions. Please feel free to contact me if you have any difficulty with the registration process.
 - When: Sep 22, 2022, 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
 - [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkfu2qpzliGty5GbUGtldDSt_BapRyZLHI](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91234567890)
- Terry Fox Run: Thursday, September 18th - gr 7 helping the Kindy's
- Terry Fox Run: Friday, September 19th - gr 1-3 on and around the Elk field, gr 4-8 on the River Trail - Thanks again to RCMP/Bylaw for your support
- National Day of Truth and Reconciliation: Orange Shirt Day, Friday September 29 - Week long focus with a variety of activities: Nature Explorers, gr 2 and 3 mini classroom concerts
- Parent/Teacher/Student conference: October 2,3 in the evening and morning of 4 - Virtual option will continue

e. Teacher Report – Deb

The Banff Springs Christmas party is back on this year for Kindergarten!

Not much feedback from teachers to bring forward. Deb would love to have some cozy and relaxing spaces dedicated indoors for students, staff and parents.

f. School and Family Wellness Worker Report – Ashley

It has been a wonderful start to the new year especially welcoming families in. The open house was successful, as well as helping with the transition for Kindy. Ashley has been working close with Megan from Right From the Start. Ashley will invite students to join on Pride week to BCHS to raise the flag.

g. Treasurer Report – Satu (new email address: treasurer.besc@gmail.com)

No money in or out yet so not much to report. Satu will be added as a signing authority.

h. Hot Lunch Report – Sue

We will rename from Hot Lunch to the Lunch program as not everything is hot ☺

Subway, Rimrock, Patties Pantry, Aardvarks, Spaghetti Factory and Wildflour are all on board for this fall session. The Banff springs will start after Christmas. After Thanksgiving it will be 1x per week every Thursday. At this point, with inflation, we are looking more for community and helping families out with options, connecting with volunteers and less about fundraising.

i. Grade Representatives

No updates until we have decided on the role.

5. Other items

- a. Brooke discussed the inclusive playground progress. The meeting of meetings went well but we just have to backtrack a little as we have a new principal. Craig is on board to help.

6. Next Regular Meeting 3:20 for 3:30 pm start (3rd Wednesday of the month):

- Oct. 19th in-person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>

- Nov. 16th in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- Dec. 21st in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- Jan. 18th in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- Feb. 15th in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- March ~~15th~~ 22nd in person at BES (15th is Parent-Teacher-Student interviews) and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- April 19th in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- May 17th + AGM in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>
- June 21st in person at BES and virtual Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ngs-yopi-oms>

7. Adjourn