

Barnwell School Council Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2024

In Attendance:

Natasha M, Jodi C, Joan C, Whitney B, Missy F, Wade G, Elly R, Mandy W, Angela J, Lori F, Carly H, Maggie H, Pam B, Shayla A, Tristie W.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Maggie motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Lori; motion unanimously carried.

Lori motioned to approve the past meeting minutes, seconded by Elly; motion carried unanimously.

Angela motioned for BSC meeting times this year to be the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm excluding December and June. Elly seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

The school has decided to take back the organization of the yearbook through a student option class. If a parent would like to be involved, please reach out to Barb.

Horizon School Division will be holding a policy meeting on October 18th to discuss policies: FEA, GA, GDB, GBB, GXXX. The policies can be found on the Horizon website. Please contact Angela if you have any feedback on those policies.

Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) holds an AGM in the spring to vote on which resolutions put forward by schools will become policy that ASCA lobbies Alberta Education for.

If you have any suggested resolutions, please reach out to BSC.

BSC asked Barb and Aaron if the school would be running concessions during our 4 home tournaments and what was needed of parents to help facilitate them.

Parents are needed to help organize the concession and take shifts in the kitchen.

Julie will be reaching out to player parents.

Tournament Dates:

Oct. 11th T1B

Oct. 12th T1G

Oct. 18th T2B

Oct. 19th T2G

Parents who volunteer through the sign-up link on the school website will receive a discount on their child's sports fees. Please do not put young children in the kitchen to fill a spot. It works best if volunteers can have the spots filled 1 week prior to the event.

Parent teacher interviews are on Oct. 24th. There was a brief discussion that if the meal provided to the teachers for that evening was donated by parents, BSC could organize it. Alternatively, if there would be associated costs, it would need to be organized by Society.

Shayla motioned that BSC will organize the teacher's meal, seconded by Natasha. Motion carried unanimously. Whitney and Mandy will each provide a soup, Shayla will provide a dairy and gluten free soup and dessert, Angela will purchase the buns.

Barb started her update by giving a quick tour on how to find the policies on the Horizon website as well as where to find policies, the school's 3-year plan, and the results of the Assurance Survey.

The school is grateful to have the same staff from last year and is happy to have Aaron Edlund back as athletic director and vice principal.

Our school currently has 177 students from Pre-K – grade 9. Barb is teaching kindergarten and enjoying the time with the younger kids.

Numeracy skills are lower than we would like in our school; the teachers are working on improving this. The junior high kids have been mentoring the elementary students through a concept called Math Buddies. Some parents commented that their kids have been enjoying it.

Barb mentioned that the teachers are starting to receive some training on how best to embrace AI technology, what it can and should not be used to aid learning and teaching.

The schools' budget this year is 69,941.00, which is less than last year.

Students and staff have decided that they learned from the 7 Grandfathers Teachings and would now like to try something new. Barnwell Best Behavior will have a character quality each month and students will be recognized for demonstrating that quality for example: gratitude.

Some parents are concerned that our school might not be adequately preparing students for grade 10. It was mentioned that our option classes might not be challenging enough and that we should have Power School. Barb explained that the school provides the best options it can with the teacher expertise resources it has, but that she will keep this concern in mind. Barb said we do have Power School, but as of now only teachers have access to it. This may change at some point.

For more details on the Principal's Report, you can find it posted on the school website. Please reach out to Barb if you have any questions.

Some families would like to see spaghetti dinner night resurrected. Wade talked about the possibility of doing something similar to fundraise for the 8/9 band trip.

Joan motioned to adjourn the meeting 6:52 pm.

Next BSC meeting: October 7th, 2024

6:00 pm

