## Barnwell School Council Minutes

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

In attendance: Mandy W., Bryan P., Barb A., Aaron E., Joan C., Jody C., Stephanie A., Whitney T., Elly R., Shayla A., Carly H.

Mandy called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Jodi motioned to adopt the agenda; motion carried by all in favor.

Joan motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion was carried by all in favor.

Myers staff member Bryan Pritchard came to present grade 10 learning opportunities.

The slide deck was shared in the Barnwell School council What's App. Barb will be emailing the information to parents and Bryan will be reaching out to parents around Easter. Bryan can be reached at <u>bryan.pritchard@horizon.ab.ca</u>

Shayla nominated Mandy to the position of Chair for the remainder of the school year.

Mandy accepted and was voted in unanimously.

Mandy suggested that while communication from the school to parents is working well, there might be some room for improvement between teachers and parents.

Discussion:

- Each teacher can choose how to communicate with parents i.e.: Class Dojo, email.
- Apps like Class Dojo show that most parents aren't reading notifications.
- Reminder that parents can email their child's teacher at any time.
- Barb will discuss with teachers.
- Barb will reach out to the division to ask about using Power School
- Barb will adjust the school website to show the email addresses of staff

Alberta School Council Engagement Grant:

- Alberta Education makes \$500.00 available for each school council to increase parent engagement
- Strick guidelines on how grant can be used
- What speakers we could bring in to discuss topics like mental health, anxiety, coping skills.
- Could we have a mental health first aid class?
- Does FCSS have a mental health coach that could come speak?

If any parents have other ideas or information, please contact Mandy.

Twinkle Light Night will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting with the band performance at 5:30 pm.

- Making hot chocolate right after school.
- Barb will look into the cost of a hot drink dispenser.
- Elly will look into cookie options
- Whitney offered to pick up cookies at Costco

Barb thanked parents for providing supper for the staff on parent teacher interview evening.

We miss Julie and appreciate all that she does in her role. Cindy is filling in and doing a great job.

Barb thanked the coaches for their time invested in our players. Congratulations to the boys' volleyball team getting 1<sup>st</sup> in divisionals and the girls getting 2<sup>nd</sup>.

PAT results are above average with room for improvement.

The Student Leadership group has provided valuable input this year and has been helpful.

Assurance Survey results can be found on the Horizon website.

Barb was asked to explain how students with needs are funded

- Tier 1 Classroom Instruction
- Tier 2 Classroom Supports
- Tier 3 School Supports
- Tier 4 Intensive Supports
- Funding is no longer given per code
- Division is given funding to be divided at their discretion
- Some high needs children are directly funded
- Staff struggles to have enough time and support for things like speech

Parents offered to come to the classroom to read with individual kids; Barb will ask if that is acceptable.

Elly motioned to close the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Reminders for parents:

- Volunteers are always needed during volleyball and basketball seasons with concession, scorekeeping, and reffing.
- School Council meetings are always open to all parents. While we appreciate those that serve as the executive or volunteer to help with activities, please feel welcome to simply attend any or all meetings. It is a great way to learn more about your child's educational experience. If you cannot attend, please feel free to read the minutes and reach out to Mandy with any questions or input.

Next meeting: January 6th, 2025