

# MINUTES

## BANFF COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

September 21st, 2020, 4:15 pm

Present: Chris Rogers, Mike Shoemaker, Cathy Geisler, Maya Capel, Anne-Marie Puccini, Jody Yawney, Joanne Geyer, Susan Blonski, Madi Carr, Cassandra Sheppard

- **Call to Order & Introductions**
- **Additions/Approval of Agenda**  
Kathy motioned to approve, Anne-Marie 2nd
- **Review of June meeting minutes**  
Cathy motioned to approve, Susan 2nd
- **Reports:**
  - **Student Report:**
    - Madi Carr and Kass Shepherd  
They started Student Leadership to get ideas from students and want to plan ways to get the school closer while staying safe. An example – Mr. Luders had an idea for a virtual competition to compete for points – virtual houses within the school. They've only had one meeting. They are also getting the grad class to get together for ideas for fundraising.
  - **Selection of Parent Council Chair Positions:**
    - Chair
    - Vice Chair
    - Treasurer
    - Secretary
    - Member(s) at Large (?)

Move to October AGM.

- **Principal Report –**

### Communication from the school

There has been a lot of communication from the school. The website has been getting updated as well as the parent handbook. There is lots happening really quickly, especially with the grade 11's and 12's. It's good for parents to know that the parent handbook information is there as well as the re-entry plan. This week's weekly went to parents as well as the students emails. The weekly information is usually announced daily, but we're trying to tell key things for that week and upcoming events. Links should be up and running now and show what slides the students see. Students have been really welcoming to Mr. Rogers.

### Cohorting

Over the course of the summer we went with near normal.

### Quarter System

This is for grades eleven and twelve – they have two classes each quarter. This has cut down on size of cohorts which in theory will reduce numbers of any potential breakouts. We also shortened the lunch period. It definitely gives a different rhythm of the day. Some like it, some don't. We're already almost half way through the courses. Progress reports are coming for grades 11 & 12. Teachers are reaching out to parents if the kids are underperforming to what they know they can achieve.

### At Home Learning

We have:

- 7 in grade 9 (total of 50 students)
- 5 in grade 10 (total of 36 students)
- 3 in grade 11 – 2 are hybrid learners (total of 40 students)
- 15 in grade 12 (total of 46 students).

We are asking kids to not jump back and forth. Total enrollment is 173 students. We developed more support with math and science with Ms. Bulas. Distance Ed – The Division has hired Ms. Irvin to teach humanities which allows us to offer 20 and 30 level courses.

### Exams

The first exams are November 5 – 10. The grade 9 & 10's will have quarter assessments during that time as well. Grade 9's this year will be on the exam schedule the same as everyone else. If students do not have an exam, they are not in school. This benefits the school as we can then have the opportunity to do deep cleaning.

### Parent Conferences / Reporting

Grade 11 and 12's will get report cards in October, 9 and 10's fall more closely with the divisional calendar – Oct. 30 report cards will come home. Parent/teacher conferences will be the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of November and will be a Google meet or Zoom, or a phone call. They will still be 10 minute appointments.

### Developing Community in the "New Normal"

We are having a welcome back bbq this week. Each day is a different grade. The kids feel like they're working in silos so we are working to have more community events. The teachers have really stepped forward to keep our regular events going. We have four bbq days: grade 9 today, 10's Tuesday, 11's Wednesday, 12's Thursday. The adults are doing all the cooking and handling of condiments. 9 and 10 classes are going canoeing.

### Honours Society

Students will be called down by cohorts, a presentation done and virtually shared with parents by Thanksgiving. Parents are not able to attend, but pictures will be taken and awards given. We are having all classes attend so they can get inspired with what they can achieve. We are setting new trends with all of these changes.

Terry Fox Run – We will have a school based virtual presentation, then running within your cohorts

Turkey Trot – early October – We will have a Strava course setup and winners get a turkey

Hike Day – this year a hike week by grade. We will have a Hoodoo Trail hike.

Will Chisholm & Rylan McKenna are Class Presidents for grade 12.

Orange shirt day is on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

New library committee – great job – looks great!

- **Teacher Report - Maya Capel**

We have an amazing place that we live in. Kids are sitting in class with their masks on for the most part. If they take them off, they ensure they are back on to talk to each other. They are being kind and considerate to each other. Thanks to the parents for showing the importance of all of the new normal as it is very evident they are respectful. Mr. Luders is in charge of Student Council. There is a grant at Town of Banff that BCHS is applying for – we need to finish that. We did get an amount last year. There will be a virtual flag raising with Banff Pride – it will be on Facebook live and will be broadcast on our classroom tv's. Picture day was last week.

Anne-Marie Pucci – her son is in grade 10 doing online learning. Where do they stand with BBQ's. The school's understanding is that home based learners are at home because they aren't comfortable being in the school. They are of course welcome, but the parent needs to let the office know their student will be attending. She feels if it were outside that would be different. Chris will review for the other events. Anne-Marie mentioned that it's nice to hear that our kids are behaving with respect as that is not the case that she's seeing on the news in Calgary.

- **Treasurer Report**

We have \$13,590 – split into two accounts: School Enhancement (\$7,200) and General Operating Account which is money the Parent Council has raised over the years (\$6,300). Susan is willing to stay on as Treasurer if there are no other volunteers, but this will be her last year.

- **Fundraising**

Haven't done much in the last couple of years.

- **Chair Report - Please discuss in my absence**

- i. spread the word to all who may be interested in the Parent Council.
- ii. invite the student council to attend each meeting - yes
- iii. is day and time good for most - yes
- iv. Do we have all positions filled - no

- **Correspondence – n/a**

- **Adjournment – 5:21 pm**

- **Next Meeting – October 19, 2020 – 4:15 pm to include 2019/2020 AGM**