

School Council & BPAC Meeting

MINUTES

April 15, 2024

Meeting called by; Brittany Fraser
Type of meeting; Monthly
Note taker; Nicole Walker
Chair; Brittany Fraser
Attendees; Meike Thomsen, Candace Gartshore, Nicole Walker, Brittany Fraser, Morgan Metzger, Krystina Edwards, Lindsey C, Adam Turner, April Renn, Therace Quest, Undine Weiler, Kayla Jones, Wayne Jackson, Brit Hart, Michelle Edworthy. VIA Team meeting link; Tanya Bonham and Corey Feodoroff

1. Motion to open School Council Meeting

- Time; 6:34

2. Guest Speaker – Principal Tiffiany Austin from Thomas B. Riley Jr High School

- Open House will be held in May or June – time/date will be sent out soon
- TB Riley and Bowcroft plan to collaborate more in the near future
 - Earth Day cleanup
 - Sports Day – TB Riley student leaders will help run our stations
- Options include Band, Foods, Construction, Tourism, Drama, Art, French, Wildlife, and more
 - Grade 6s are attending a play put on by the drama students
- Sport teams currently offered
 - Basketball, volleyball, badminton, soccer, track & field
- 4 programs at TB Riley – regular stream, TLC, 2 special needs programs
 - All teachers teach both the regular stream and TLC programs
 - There are 2 community classes vs 3 TLC classes for each grade; 7 through 9
- Ms Austin was hired in May 2023. She has high expectations for the staff and students at TB Riley
 - Strong like minded staff
 - 18 of 23 staff were hired in the last year
 - Lots of movement in all CBE schools in the last couple years
 - Most staff members that left, retired, or moved to high school
 - Admin staff know all the students
 - Open policy, built on trust
 - Projected numbers to be close to 500 next year; 540 is considered capacity
 - Ms Austin came from Terrace Rd elementary last year

3. Principle Message & School Report – Meike Thomsen

- Land Acknowledgement – Meike
- See bottom of document for Meikes admin update
- Additions
 - Priority right now is for smaller class sizes
 - Projected class sizes for next year was shown
- Parent questions - 5yr plan?
 - 520 students (next year projected 420)
 - German and Community programs are both growing
 - Possibility to move German program – many discussions and meeting will happen before this happens
 - Meikes dream would be for the German program to have its own stand alone k-9 school
 - When German program hits 150 kids, these talks can happen
- New German teachers coming for next year
 - Gr 5/6 – Dressler going to be on maternity leave
 - Gr 3
- Next year the bistro will be ½ and then music will be moved into other half
- Bowcroft was always underutilized; that is why we have the German program
 - Bowness and area population is exploding
 - CBE not communicating with parents
 - Meeting to be setup with our trustee
 - Who has a voice? It needs to be all of us
- Much discussion was had about the German Kindergarten class being moved up to the 2nd floor
 - Main reason for moving, is for all German students to hear German spoke in hallway by adults always, strengthening the program
 - Parents are very concerned about physically separating the community and german programs inside the school – do not see any positive side to doing this
 - All concerns were heard
 - If more concerns, reach out to Meike privately via email or office meeting to voice concerns
 - Meike to get more feedback from teachers and families
 - Possible survey to be sent out?
 - Update: teachers will make collaborative decision on Friday

4. Close School Council Meeting & open BPAC Meeting

- Close; 8:08pm
- Open; 8:08pm

5. New business;

- German program – Brittany Fraser
 - Covered above in School Council portion of meeting
- Treasurer Update – Krystina
 - See attached

6. Action items from March Meeting;

- Outdoor classroom/Garden committee – Michelle – michelle had to leave early – update will happen in May. Nothing huge or new to discuss
 - Manure scheduled for delivery in May
 - Seed start/garden update
 - Nature Club update
- Grant update – Michelle
 - Michelles application was accepted!
 - \$3,350 TD FEEF School Grant (Learning Garden Enhancement)
 - Michelle to work with BPAC, School Admin and McCashin
- Book Fair
 - Next years Book Fairs are scheduled for November 25 – 29, 2024 and then March 17 – 21, 2025
 - March 2024 Book Fair
 - a. Total Sales \$6150.30
 - i. Net \$5842.78
 - b. 2nd booking bonus free \$5842.78
 - c. Moya purchased \$2000 worth of free books from fair
 - d. Also received additional \$1470.18 in Scholastic dollars in our account
 - Fun Facts – fair net sales since pandemic
 - a. November 2022 - \$4912.65
 - b. March 2023 - \$5062.35
 - c. September 2023 - \$5767.78
- Fundraising
 - Popcorn Thursday
 - Sept – Dec Net sales \$600.40

- Jan – march Net sales \$338.25 (about 100 bags left before spring break)
- Dance Support
 - May 10 – selling popcorn and glow sticks
 - a. Popcorn being sold as they are leaving
 - i. Stick as they are arriving
 - b. Ms L giving out muffins and treats
- Fundforward frozen fundraiser – early May, with delivery in June
- 50/50 – Nicole – to have setup by May 1
- Brit H – fundraiser ideas
 - Come up with a plan, to present at another BPAC meeting

7. New business;

- Brit H – mural idea
 - Meike to find out what the rules are
- We need help!
 - We are looking for parents to come to meetings, get involved and potentially shadow a Board Member next year, with the idea of taking over that role in the following year

8. Close meeting;

- Time; 8:32pm

Admin Update April 15, 2024 BPAC – a week later than initially planned.

1. HR:

- a. Jennifer Farrell and Tayler Plewes both on maternity leave. Waiting to see what their decisions will be for next year.
- b. Our 5 probationary teachers will know by end of May if they are staying (and getting a continuous contract)
- c. Stine Marie Warning , German student teacher started on April 2 with Mr. Benty and will be with us for 3 months.
- d. Ms. Jones on leave, Ms. Arora filling in

2. Technology: no more 1:3 ratio. Simply a \$200 per student limit

3. Provincial Budget: 4.4% increase, so increase in students is funded, but NOT the increase in expenses (electricity, insurance, salaries etc) all other inflationary costs are not accounted for

4. Alberta Assurance Framework Survey:

- a. 11 parents completed the survey as did all the teachers and grade 4 students. Results will be available in a couple of months.
- b. As a system, our data shows a 2+% decline for Safe and Caring (students and teachers. Parents are ok). What is our data? What are our next steps?

5. WINS: House to Home Program, front office will get trained first week of April. School does not need to keep any clothing (we have 30 big totes taking up space). Monthly budget of \$1000 that the school can print vouchers for and give to parents who need it. Can shop in all Calgary stores

6. We are getting \$50 gift cards to help families who are experiencing food insecurity. We got 40 cards

7. Survey feedback, PowerPoint see printed copy

8. Funding

- a. Less for each students
- b. \$9,000 system money for new curriculum and we added \$4000 .
 - i. Spent \$4,600 on early readers, they have arrived (took 5 months)
 - ii. Spent \$6,600 on math manipulatives, ordered a month ago
- c. Applied for system funding of \$22,000 for 35 desks and chairs and \$18,000 for two new Smartboards
- d. \$ 5,000 for psych assessments ‘arrived’ officially. I was contacted by Education Matters.
- e. AGECE is supporting math manips with \$3,300

9. Outdoor equipment (metal basket) to be rolled out with first class going outside. With list of equipment, so that students and teachers can easily check (11 items only)

10. New program: Classroom Champions (also with German Olympic athletes) for next year

11. Class sizes right now 357 as of Thursday

- a. K – G Neumann: 16
- b. K morning Bonham: 18
- c. K afternoon Bonham: 12
- d. Grade 1 Halvorson: 19
- e. Grade 1 Rusnak: 11
- f. Grade 1 G McCashin: 17

- g. Grade 1 Ruhrmann: 16
- h. Grade2/3 G Benty: 21
- i. Grade2/3 G Hauck: 19
- j. Grade2/3 Buckner: 24
- k. Grade2/3 Dietrich:23
- l. Grade2/3 Ferzacca: 19
- m. Grade 4 G Viljoen: 23
- n. Grade 4 Isaac & Arora: 24
- o. Grade 5 Mitchel: 28
- p. Grade 5/6 G Dressler: 21
- q. Grade 6 Tetz: 26
- r. Grade 5/6 Cattanach: 12

Open Minds

- Grade 4-Science School, Jube School, Arts Commons
- Grade 5-Science School, Zoo School,Stampede School, City EcoAction School, Arts Commons
- Grade 6-Science School, Zoo School,Stampede School, City EcoAction School, Arts Commons