

Minutes for Elizabeth Barrett School Council AGM

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Zoom Video Conference

1) Attendance

Elisa Korver
Fiona Gilbert
Gerry Gaudet
Deb .C.
Natalia .P.
Michelle .B. (Co-Chair)
Renata .L. (Secretary)

Regrets: Heather .D. (Co-Chair)
Chantelle .R.
Collette .B.

2) Meeting called to order by Michelle .B. at 6:36pm

3) Adoption of Agenda – Renata .L. motioned to approve, Natalia .P. seconded, motion carried.

4) Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 2020 AGM – Addition of missed response from first “Question from the Floor” under Section 6) School Board Update – Fiona Gilbert, to add response of “Yes”. Michelle .B. motioned to approve, Natalia .P. seconded, motion carried.

5) Administration Update – Gerry Gaudet and Elisa Korver

- In-person instruction starting on Tuesday, May 25th and is welcomed news by all!
- Online learning this round is going pretty well. Positive feedback from parents and teachers. Engaging, more familiar this time around and there is a flow.
- Covid-19 cases – positive case before the February break. 4-5 positive cases impacting other students
- Busing can be tricky with the trischool site – 1 positive case can take out a lot of the bus if kids aren’t sitting in assigned seats.
- RVS Education Plan Survey emailed out. Please complete one for EACH of your children.
- RVS establishing online school
- Acknowledgment to Nicole Landry on committee establishing online curriculum
- Parents have until May 31st to make the decision on in-person versus online
- EB loss of Grade 5 students - 450 students down from 520 this year.

- 2 sections per grade in both programs (English and French)
- 2 Grade 3's with 1 3/4 split - FI
- 1 Grade 4 – FI
- Transition for Grade 4's and 5's has begun
 - A link from Manachaban will be sent out with a virtual tour, etc.
 - Invite to Manachaban's next school council meeting to be sent out soon
 - Invite to Zoom meet for Grade 5's
 - June 15th – Q&A meeting
 - Visitors from Manachaban expected at the end of May

Big thank you to school council members for your support and involvement.
Big thank you to Fiona for ongoing Ntreporting.

Question From the Floor:

6) School Board Update – Fiona Gilbert

- May 31st deadline for online school registration. This will be a permanent addition, not just temporary as a response to Covid-19. Students won't be permitted to switch back and forth for logistics/planning reasons.
- Education Plan Survey (4-Year Plan) – Please complete this for EACH of your children.
- 2021-2022 budget – more information after meeting tomorrow.
- Transportation - fees down by \$50/rider. Fees are a means of cost recovery, not to make a profit. Please register by June 25th (3rd week) to help transportation system planning, as this helps them set and plan routes for September. There will be an early bird discount.
- RVS will return to in-person learning on May 25th.
- Parent concern regarding close contacts, inconvenience, and negative effects of quarantining

Questions/Comments from the Floor:

1. Natalia .P. – It's nice that RVS let teachers look at the new curriculum and not put it in for next year. Fiona .G. – Teachers are the experts and feedback from them is important. It makes more sense to get groups together to provide feedback. With all that is happening right now, it's good not to throw more in.
2. Michelle .B. – Is the drop in the transportation fee going to result in longer routes? Fiona .G. – It's not supposed to slow down routes, as there is a reduction of routes due to doubling up. Worked with Calgary Catholic to shift the timing of their routes to accommodate.

3. Michelle .B. – What is the rationale of the survey feedback on Grade 3 and up, asking students to complete with parents? Fiona .G. – This is assuming under Grade 3 are not old enough to respond.
4. Michelle .B. – I am very supportive of the online learning system option. In theory, would they follow the same curriculum as in-person learning so if they transitioned it would be relatively smooth? Fiona .G. – All schools follow the same AB curriculum. Would be the same as if the student were going to a different school.
5. Michelle .B. – Would some online classes be connected to schools (eg. Hot Dog Day)? Fiona .G. – They will be treated as their own separate school and hope they develop their own school culture.

7) Reports from EBSC Representatives:

A. Co-Chairs' Report (submitted separately)

1.

Profile:

- School Name: Elizabeth Barrett
- Principal: Mr. Gerry Gaudet
- School Council Co-Chairs: Michelle Balmer and Heather Derksen
- School Council Secretary: Renata Lambden
- Teacher Representative: Deborah Crawford
- Kindergarten Representative: not officially held

1. **Message from School Council Chair**

This year has been a good year that has challenged the teachers, students and parents alike. We have all become more resilient because of it. Due to the COVID-19 virus students were separated into classes as their cohorts with their teachers and parents were unable to enter the school as a volunteer. Many of the school council events were cancelled and all volunteer opportunities were put on hold. School council meetings were all held by Zoom with a couple new faces, but a small number of parents. Co-Chair Michelle Balmer will be staying on for next year, as Heather Derksen will move on to Manachaben School Council. School Council Secretary will also stay on council.

School Council Foundation Statements (Vision/Mission/Beliefs)

I. *Vision Statement*

At EEBS, our community of learners will be empowered in a safe environment on their "Learning for Life" journey. Each individual's personal and academic growth will be challenged and supported. A strong partnership will exist between

children, parents, staff and community which enhances communication and promotes collaboration and teamwork. All members of the school community will endeavour to respect the diversity that students and adults bring to the English and French Immersion programs. Ongoing professional development, planning and implementation of the curriculum will lead to the pursuit of teaching and learning excellence. A multi-faceted, technology enhanced environment will provide learning connections to the future.

II. *Belief Statement*

We believe that:

- Our school reflects the unique needs of the community it serves
- Each student, parent and staff member is a unique and valued member of our school community
- Personal excellence is promoted in an environment that encourages individuals to do their best
- Mutual respect and support enhance learning
- Everyone is a thoughtful and reflective learner and everyone is a teacher in the lifelong process of learning
- Student learning and personal development is maximized in a learning environment that is safe, caring and respectful
- Students need to be actively involved in their own learning
- A child-centered, inquiry approach promotes meaningful learning of the curriculum for students
- Teachers and parents work together to provide connections and continuity in learning for students
- A caring, committed staff is important to the development of the 'whole' child
- All staff are mentors and models and have an impact on student learning
- A staff that values teamwork is effective
- Ongoing professional development promotes excellence in teaching and learning
- Learning in a community is enhanced when there is shared responsibility between parents, students and staff.

The EEBS School Council supports the Vision and Belief Statements of EEBS.

III. *Goals/Purpose*

The goals of the School Council, in keeping with the School Act and the School Councils Regulation, are to:

- Represent the parent perspective by providing advice to and consulting with the principal and the board on matters relating to the School such

as: the School philosophy, vision and belief statements, policies, improvement plans, programs and directions, and budget allocations to meet student needs;

- Develop special events which will foster participation and well-being of the school community;
- Develop a communication plan to share information with parents and the community and facilitate communications with all educational stakeholders;
- Consult with other school councils and provincial organizations;
- Advise school boards, Alberta Education or other provincial organizations on broader educational issues;
- Encourage a positive atmosphere where individual contributions are encouraged and valued;
- Stimulate continuous improvement and meaningful involvement by all members of the School Community;
- Facilitate collaboration among concerned participants of the School Community;
- Support an approach to education in which decisions are made collaboratively and, wherever possible, at the School and classroom level;
- Facilitate the achievement of a common vision for the School;
- Facilitate a formal performance evaluation of our School Council and communicate the results of the evaluation to the school board and the School Community;
- Support the School in its efforts to focus teachers' time and the School resources on the essential tasks of teaching and learning;
- Facilitate communication with educational stakeholders and the general community;
- Comply with the School Councils Regulation by providing the school board with an annual report that summarizes the School Council's activities for the previous school year, including a financial statement relating to money, if any, handled by the School Council, no later than September 30th;
- Adhere to School Council's Code of Ethics

1. Recent Achievements

In September, School Council set the following Goals for the 2020-21 school year. Our achievement for each goal, follow the goal in italics.

- To vote on advocacy issues at the ASCA AGM. *We were unable to send members to the online meeting this year due to other obligations.*

- Send representatives to the RVS Joint Board/School Council meetings in November and April. *We had at least 1 if not both Co-Chairs at both meetings this year*

1. **Challenges**

Our main challenge this year was the Coronavirus (COVID 19). Our school was fortunate to have minimal contacts that affected the whole school. A couple classes were asked to isolate at home and the whole school division asked to be home twice throughout the year to help bend the curve for a week to two at a time. Our teachers proved to be a wonderful support to parents during the unprecedented time and have been able to deliver a schooling program to continue student learning. They are also making time to have live chat sessions with the students to continue the relationships they have built throughout the year.

Because of the virus, parents and parents volunteers were unable to be on school property or help in the school. This posed a challenge with different programs like the library, literacy tutoring, and the breakfast program/hot lunch.

1. **Financial Statement - Recommended**

EBSC School Council does not maintain control of any bank accounts or school funds. There were not hot lunch programs in 2020-21 therefore there are no funds to recommend allocation for.

1. **Appendix - Minutes of School Council - Recommended**

Please see the following minutes from the EBSC 2020-2021 year. Please note that the April 2021 regular meeting and the May 2020 AGM minutes are drafts only, as they have not been approved by our membership.

B. Secretary Report

All 2020-2021 meeting minutes have been uploaded to the EB website. All minutes that have been approved have been posted.

C. Volunteer Coordinator Report (submitted separately)

Volunteer Coordinator Year End Report 2020/2021

Submitted by Chantelle Richard

May 5, 2021

Due to Public Health Restrictions, I was unable to perform my duties as Volunteer Coordinator this past year.

I am hopeful that we will be able to return to volunteering during the 2021/2022 school year.

D. Hot Lunch Coordinator Report (submitted separately)

Hot Lunch- Elizabeth Barrett Elementary 2020/2021- Year End Report

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to the pandemic and ongoing restrictions from the government we were unable to provide hot lunch and I was unable to perform the coordination duties this school year.

Kind regards,

Colette Beresford

Interim Hot Lunch Co-ordinator
Elizabeth Barrett Elementary School

8) Election of School Executive 2021-2022

- A. Co-Chairs – Michelle .B. to remain Co-Chair for the upcoming school year and Natalia .P. to join as Co-Chair (acclamation rather than election)
- B. Secretary – Renata .L. to remain Secretary for the upcoming school year

All in favour of approving the above mentioned in their respective roles. No objections. Carried by all.

10) Appointed Roles

- A. Hot Lunch Coordinator –Collette .B. to traing as Hot Lunch Coordinator pending Collette's consent and when circumstances permit
- B. Volunteer Coordinator – Chantelle .R. to remain Volunteer Coordinator for the upcoming school year pending Chantelle's consent and when circumstances permit

All in favour of approving the above mentioned in their respective roles. No objections. Carried by all.

11) Suggested Schedule of Meetings for 2021/2022 (Note: All meetings at 6:30pm and via Zoom until further notice)

- September 15, 2021
- October 20, 2021
- November 17, 2021
- January 19, 2022
- February 16, 2022
- March 16, 2022
- April 27, 2022 (previous week is a school holiday)
- May 18, 2022 (AGM)

12) Announcements: Renata to organize a Wine'd Up social in August

13) Adjournment at 7:18pm, Michelle .B. moved to adjourn, Renata .L. seconded, motion carried