

Minutes for Elizabeth Barrett School Council  
Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Zoom Video Conference

1) Attendance

Gerry Gaudet  
Elisa Korver  
Fiona Gilbert  
Bri .L.  
Deb. .C.  
Jakki .M.  
Chantelle .R.  
Renata .L. (Secretary)  
Natalia .P. (Co-Chair)

Regrets: Michelle .B.  
Colette .B.

2) Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

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

4) Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 2022 – Natalia .P. motioned to approve, Chantelle .R. seconded, motion carried.

5) Administration Update – Gerry Gaudet and Elisa Korver

- Thanks to the EBSFA, we have Sound Creations coming May 16-19 to do dance classes with the kids in the gym. Schedule has yet to be finalized but classes should get several sessions.
- The pre-K program housed at EB for the past 6-7 years will relocate to RancheView School for the foreseeable future due to space concerns.
- Grade 1's were tested in January and we were recently told we would receive funding for additional staffing. Grayson Rogers (grade 2 & 3 interventions) will extend contract until end of year. Kerry Lee (1/2-time Kindergarten teacher) will work afternoons with Grade 1 literacy. Brynn Wayson is a new hire (local former Fi trischool student) and will be supporting Mme Amanda and Mme Diller. Grade 2 & 3 interventions originally meant to end in May will extend into June.

- School Fees: Legislation in the last few years makes fees very visible. School fees listed and posted on website every fall. Maximum amounts posted and cannot exceed. A lot of the fees haven't been charged in past few years due to the nature of the pandemic (eg. field trips haven't been used during pandemic like swim lessons). Due to inflation, costs can be a bit of an unknown and costs raised up to 20%. Increase in provider costs coming out of the pandemic. So far swim lessons cannot currently agree on a price point with SLRF to make it feasible. Elisa looking into other options for swim lessons at SLRF to make it more affordable but not looking promising.

#### Discussion from the Floor:

Bri .L.– For the lesson itself, how much are they asking? Elisa .K.– Last time was \$75 and school supplemented transportation. The current fee is \$90. Chantelle .R.– Pre-pandemic, the lessons didn't include badges but were cheaper. Weren't they around \$60? Elisa .K.– It would be the same program as before (45 min lesson with no badges) but the cost has just gone up that much. Bri .L.– With swimming being a life skill and so difficult to get kids into lessons, it would be great to be able to help parents with this. Gerry .G.– It really is prohibitive at \$90/student. I can't in good conscience put that out there and the non-recognized courses could be problematic. Gerry .G.– Fiona, do you know of any other schools looking into swim lessons? Fiona .G.– Fireside has discussed doing swimming that comes to mind but not privy to the details.

- School Workbook takes the place of different documents at the school, stop, and gather data about the school. It includes:
  - Student Insights:
    - What do students think are some things that are going well?
      - Learning is fun and engaging – hands-on, multimedia, group work
      - Students are friendly, kind, accepting and supportive
      - School staff is there to encourage you to do your best
      - Breakfast program
      - Our school has spaces to help kids – Pit Stop, Tool Box, Learning Hub
      - School feels positive, safe and friendly
      - EB Buddies are a good way to recognize students
    - What do students think could be worked on or improved?
      - Reintroducing assemblies
      - Improving student recess behaviour
    - In response to what students think, what actions could our school take to do better?

- Post-Covid, reintroduce our students to gathering in assemblies to strengthen school culture
  - Promote consistent recess expectations around student behaviour
- Staff Insights:
  - What do staff think are some things that are going well?
    - Specialized student spaces to meet student needs (Pit Stop, Tool Box, Learning Hub, Math Lab)
    - Targeted learning interventions – Response to Intervention model
    - School Covid responses have been thoughtful and well-organized based on the guidelines at the time
  - What do staff think could be worked on or improved?
    - Post-Covid, focusing on strengthening school culture
    - Fostering common understandings around best practices in literacy and numeracy instruction
  - In response to what staff think, what actions could our school take to do better?
    - Post-Covid, resuming culture-building assemblies and school-wide events
    - Continuing focus on Professional Learning around literacy and numeracy instruction
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- Parents Insight:

(Note: presented during the meeting for discussion but parents welcome to send in responses once they have had time to reflect)

- What do parents think are some of the things that are going well? Natalia .P.– Great communication from the school and teachers. Access to intervention program. Chantelle .R.– Communication well done and interventions for Grand 2 & 3's was really good. Bri .L.– I second both of those. EB Staff able to retain as much normality as possible, staff has done an amazing job.
  - What do parents think could be worked on or improved? – Natalia .P.– Making sure that staff is doing ok through all of this. Bri .L.– A bit of a divide between French and English and teachers usually work together to counter but noticeably less collaboration lately.
- Prototype Plans: 4 Areas: Student Engagement, Inclusion, Instructional Design, Making Learning Visible

- Community initiatives (Terry fox run, pajama drive, etc.), Pit stop and toolbox, breakfast club, school-wide literacy and numeracy data collection, math lab, telling our story (connecting with community including parents, social media presence)
- Budget highlights
- School Council Review of document:
  - What resonates with parents? What inspired them? Bri .L.– You are continually working on and revising (despite shifts in focus), Natalia .P.– Impressed that you're able to reflect and be responsive through all that has happened during the pandemic. Renata .L.– In dealing with my kids teachers, I've become aware that they are very compassionate and really care about the students.
  - What questions did they have? – Bri .L.– Is the literacy and numeracy support something that will be offered in years to come with students who are behind? Gerry .G.– How do we continue this support? I have no influence over this but from my perspective this short, intensive support has been impactful, but it doesn't solve everything so I'm hopeful that it would continue in the future.
  - What did they find tricky? Natalia .P. – Is there a way for other parents to see this document? Gerry .G.– When it's finalized, it will be available to all parents.
  - How can parents play a more active role in its implementation? Natalia .P.– looking forward to future active engagement opportunities

## 6) School Board Update – Fiona Gilbert

- Presentation (Strategic Plan Stakeholder Engagement-Presentation to School Councils – Spring 2022):
  - Strategic Plan:
    - The Board of Trustees believes high-level strategic planning is an integral component of our governance and leadership roles
    - We are beginning a stakeholder engagement process to inform development of a strategic plan that will drive the division's overall direction, priorities, budgets, and operational plans for a four-year period
    - RVS highly values the input and perspectives of our stakeholders and will actively seek feedback to ensure the plan reflects the

community voice and sets the stage for success in advancing the division's vision and purpose

- We need your help!

- High Level Timeline:

- May – First Engagement

- Four-Year Plan online survey with strategic plan questions emailed (a separate strategic plan survey will be made available to stakeholders that are not included in 4YP survey)

- August – Board Strategic Planning

- September – Strategic Plan First Draft

- October/November – Second Engagement

- Draft strategic plan shared with stakeholders for feedback

- December – Strategic Plan Finalized

- Approval at public Board meeting – published and shared with stakeholders

- 4-Year Plan Survey coming out next week (March 2-15, 2022) and feedback will be gathered, reviewed and strategic plan drafted in August/September and shared with stakeholders with 2<sup>nd</sup> round of engagement. Once that feedback is gathered, it will come back to the board for approval. Parents will receive an email with link to the survey next week. There will be access to survey through web site too.

Question from the Floor:

- Bri .L. - Any idea of percentages of parents who complete the surveys?  
Fiona .G.– Since we send them directly to inboxes, we get more responses and good feedback from students and staff who do them in class. We will have numbers once it's completed but percentage is pretty good.
- Board Update:
  - One meeting in April and one tomorrow, so more to report end of tomorrow.
  - School Calendar changed for next year to include September 30<sup>th</sup> (day of truth and reconciliation) and date in May to support provincial election requested by Alberta Elections but declined. 2023/2024 & 2024/2025 draft

calendars are out to parents for feedback on to different options. If you haven't received the email or can't find it, we can get it out to you.

- Transportation fees to be kept at same level. Early bird discount from \$25 to \$40. Helps with planning routes and gives break to parents with fees increasing due to inflation. Registration is not open yet.
- New Curriculum K-6 is completed (no longer draft) so drafting plans to support implementation come September. Mandatory curriculum, as per Education Minister. English, LANGUAGE, ARTS, K-3 – ELA and math 4-6. Work on professional learning for staff. NEW.LEARNALBERTA.CA. More will be coming out for professional learning for teachers
- Link to board meeting will be available on the website – budget profile, curriculum, putting pieces in place for budget coming up end of May

#### 7) Update from EB Fundraising Committee (Chantelle .R.)

- AGM is May 12<sup>th</sup> and EBSFA needs volunteers and executive roles need to be filled.
- Casino – no date but should be in the summer

#### 8) Old Business

Updates from EBSC Representatives:

- Hot Lunch Program (Collette .B.) (submitted separately)
  - Hot Lunch is going well, we have all our volunteer spots filled up until the end of the school year.
  - Mucho Burrito is the one vendor that a few teachers have expressed concerns over the mess (packaging tends to leak). It's also the smallest of the lunch orders/least popular. Next year we might consider looking at other options in town. We did have Rocky Shawarma in Sunset reach out to JoAnn about a lunch option for the kids. We let them know it could be a possibility for next year as we already have the schedule finalized for the remainder of this school year. I have saved their contact info and the pricing they sent us.
  - Any suggestions or ideas to make this program better are always welcome!
- Volunteer Coordinator (Chantelle .R.)
  - 1 parent volunteer in library/week until end of the year
  - Police checks and FOIP forms

- A lot of parents volunteering in classrooms

#### 9) New Business

- ASCA Conference – didn't have anyone go to it this year
- \$500 school council fund – parent resources for mental health, anxiety, ADHD in children, etc. Gerry, where is this money located? Fiona .G.– The division has it and it will get transferred when required. Renata .L.– Is there a deadline on these funds? Natalia .P.– Needs to be spent prior to the AGM in May. Natalia .P. will get info. to Gerry .G.
- AGM – Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Learning Commons at EB

#### 10) Adjournment at 7:48PM, Natalia .P. moved to adjourn