

## **Minutes for Elizabeth Barrett School Council**

Wednesday, September 15th, 2021

Zoom Video Conference

### 1) Attendance

Elisa Korver

Fiona Gilbert

Gerry Gaudet

Bri .L.

Deb .C.

Jen .R.

Velvet .M.

Meghan .M.

Chantelle .R.

Dennette .H.

Modesun .Y.

Ramon .M.&.Z.

Kenya

Athila .M.

Michelle .B. (Co-Chair)

Renata .L. (Secretary)

Natalia .P. (Co-Chair)

Regrets:

### 2) Meeting called to order at 6:32pm

### 3) School Board Update – Fiona Gilbert (submitted separately)

Welcome to all parents/guardians and thank you for taking the time to be here. The role of a School Council is very important as it has a legislated role to fulfil to act in an advisory capacity to the school principal and the school board. The RVS Board truly values being part of our local school council meetings and we are appreciative of the opportunity to connect and share information.

Over the last number of weeks, we have received lots of feedback from parents and community members regarding the return to school and appreciate all the differing perspectives and opinions on how best to support the health and wellness of our children and students as they head back to school.

RVS' return to school plan continues to focus on balancing the social, emotional, physical health and learning needs of our students with an "as normal as possible" school year, while keeping within the government health guidelines. New provincial

health measures were announced today and we are quickly adjusting our Return to School Plan to be in alignment. The Board believes that even with these health restrictions in place our schools and teachers continue to create great learning environments for students.

As a school division, RVS continues to grow, and our current enrolment exceeds our projections for this year. This means there are more students than anticipated and the division will work to address this over the coming weeks as numbers get a little more firmed up.

Municipal and School Board elections take place on Monday October 18

4) Adoption of Agenda – Jen .R. motioned to amend with addition of EBSFA update under New Business, Chantelle .R. seconded amendment, motion carried.

5) Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 2021 – Michelle .B. motioned to approve, Natalia .P. seconded, motion carried.

#### 6) Introductions

- Introductions of all attendees
- Administration: Gerry Gaudet – Principal and Elisa Korver - Assistant Principal, Deborah Crawford – teacher representative, Fiona Gilbert – Ward 6 Trustee and Board Chair
- School Council Executive: Michelle .B. and Natalia .P.- co-chairs, Renata .L. – secretary, acknowledging the hard work and dedication of Heather .D. as past co-chair.
- School Council:

Group made up of school administration, and parents – our job is to support school activities & represent your voice by providing input & feedback and in general, sharing our ideas with Administration and to Rocky View Schools' Board of Trustees on a number of different initiatives including:

- School Education Plan
- New directions/policies
- School Annual Results reports
- Budget/Mission/Vision & Philosophy

We also aim to provide a liaison between the school and the community, where we can advocate for our kids/teachers/school via membership in the Alberta School Councils' Assn.

We also get a monthly update from Administration on what the priorities and areas of focus were for our school & a monthly update from our school trustee who attends every meeting.

#### 7) Administration Update – Gerry Gaudet and Elisa Korver

- Welcome back returning EB families and huge welcome to new families.
- Start up was positive – staggered entry is a success. Relaxed feel, less traffic congestion, kids have a chance to connect with teachers and familiarize themselves with classroom space, etc.
- Shifts in Enrolment:
  - 443 students (spring 2021)
  - 480 students (actual enrolment to date)
  - Based on Grade 3's not showing up and more Grade 4's coming
  - Grade 3/4 split ended- two Grade 3 and two Grade 4 classes in French Immersion
  - English Kindergarten-more registrations than anticipated. Granted another section:
    - Adding a fifth section (in addition to existing 2 English and 2 French classes) means adding a third space (PIP program space from last year)
    - In the process of staffing that section=another English Kindergarten class
- Hoping to get volunteers back as soon as we can safely do so.
- In the process of starting to integrate volunteers in Cochrane Rancho walks, if possible.
- Mr. Wayne Wilburn is retiring and his last day is on Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Students and staff have plans to honour him and show their appreciation.
- Covid-19 Daily Health Checklist – reminder to do this DAILY. If your child doesn't meet the criteria, please keep them home.
- Implementation of cohorts (pairing classes up for lunch recess, etc.) together in defined spaces. May change if government Covid-19 restrictions change.
- Construction of Hwy 1A causing bus delays a bit
- Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Terry Fox run. Will not be a big trischool event this year due to Covid-19 safety protocols. It will likely be class-by-class with educational component.
- Truth and Reconciliation Day on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. EB committee discussing what to do to honour this day.

#### Questions and/or Comments from the Floor:

1. Megan .M.-How will they separate Kindergarten kids (logistics regarding AM/PM) with a new fifth class. Gerry .G.-There will be three AM and two PM classes. The PM classes who indicated a preference for an AM timeslot will be asked if they want to change.

2. Deanette .H.-What is the Truth and Reconciliation committee? Gerry .G.-Staff members are discussing what to do for Truth and Reconciliation Day (eg. events, programs, etc.).
3. Michelle .B.-Will there be a replacement for Mr. Wilburg? Gerry .G.-We are still in the process-not posted yet.
4. Michelle .B.-Is the Breakfast Club still on? Gerry .G.-Yes. It is meant to be accessible and inclusive-all are welcome. Sponsors include Cobbs Bread, No Frills and other community partnerships. Donations via School Cash online are welcome. A big thank you to Tina Branscombe and Dawn Bartelds who volunteer so much of their time to make this happen. Parent volunteers (pre-Covid-19) were very much appreciated. Approx. 200 kids/day at its peak and food is available throughout the day. Michelle .B.-Appreciates the initiative and that there is no stigma around the breakfast club, as so many kids enjoy it. Reminder that if you mention EB at Cobbs Bread, part of the profits are donated.

## 8) Old Business

Updates from EBSC Representatives:

- Volunteer positions will be put on hold and carried forward to future meetings when we are permitted to start up again.

## 9) New Business

EBSFA (Elizabeth Barrett School Fundraising Association) – Jen .R.:

- Next meeting October 6th at 7:30pm via Zoom
- EBSFA used to be one with EBSC but was mandated that they split off and be separate
- Initiatives include new playground equipment, technology and books, learning assistants, etc.
- Fundraising Ideas for 2021/2022:
  - Art cards
  - Pink shirts
  - Read-a-thon
  - Bottle drives (fall and spring)
  - Mabels Labels (donates a portion of proceeds)
  - Cobbs Bread (donates a portion of proceeds)
  - Contact information will be in the Friday Fan-out

Questions and/or Comments from the Floor:

1. Natalia .P.-We should remind parents to mention EB when ordering Mabels Labels, Cobbs Bread, etc.

2. Dennette .H.-Do we have a list of businesses that regularly donate to EB? Jen .R.-Yes. We will post on our FB page.

10) Schedule of Meetings for 2020/2021 (Note: All 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 (moved to 4<sup>th</sup> week due to Spring break)
- May 18, 2022 (AGM)

11) Adjournment at 7:32pm, Michelle .B. moved to adjourn, Renata .L. seconded, motion carried