

Bev Facey Parent Council September 2017

Attendees: 1 School Trustee: Trina Boymook

7 Staff: Trudi Williamson, Rita Lal, Paul Pallister, Sharon Gach, Sharee Rankin, Pat Forsyth, Jacquelyn Veinot

14 Families represented: Carol Reivonen, Michelle Dugan, Lisa Clamp, Susan Ballash, Sherri Kaldenhoven, Cara Brandse, Kelli Parks, Leah Hesson, Amanda Beck, Sivanthy Suntharatingam, Nici Denny, Guy Martin, Jody Tom, Lisa Mattern

2 Students represented: Kael Kropp, Jana Benade

Call to order @ 6:30 pm

Round Table Introductions were made

Trustee Report by Trina Boymook – see attached

Some questions were presented to Trina:

Question: A parent asked about the process of getting fees waived and the decision making process of setting the benchmarks. Trina will get some answers and we will discuss this at our next meeting

Question: regarding the mechanical cooling that was mentioned in her report. Trina advised the mechanical cooling is only being placed in modulars and not in the core school buildings.

Question: A parent asked if the 2.4 km benchmark for the student transportation is going to be reviewed. Trina responded by saying that the minister stated that in some cases, the 2.4 km walk time is unacceptable (ie for younger students) and this is being reviewed. It is important to note that if changes are made, schools will not be receiving any more funding for transportation so this could mean longer travel times for students.

School Council Nominations

Paul advised that there is a School Council Resource Guide accessible online:

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>. There are two types of school councils. The first option is to have a formalized group and the other option is to have an advisory group. He asked the parents what they would prefer. They decided to have a formalized group. Nominations were made as follows:

Chair – Michelle Dugan (nominated by Lisa Clamp)

Vice Chair – Lisa Clamp (nominated by Michelle Dugan)

Secretary – Susan Ballash (nominated by Michelle Dugan)

Two Members at Large – Carol Reivonen & Sivanthy Suntharatingam (nominated by Michelle Dugan)

All in favour

Paul asked if we were going to nominate a COSC representative and it was decided that parents will take turns going. Michelle will attend the first meeting on October 4/17.

Meeting Schedule: the meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month and they will start at 6:30. There will no meeting in December or June. The dates will be posted on the Bev Facey website.

Principal Report:

New Staff Members: There are a number of new staff members working at Bev Facey and Paul is very excited to work with them this year. They are doing a great job supporting students.

School Start Up – the beginning of the year went very smoothly. The first day of school was divided into two parts. The morning welcomed grade 10's on their own and it gave them the chance to get accustomed to the school. There was an assembly for them as well. The rest of the student body joined them in the afternoon. This was a huge success.

Awards Night – October 26/17 6:00 pm (refreshments) 7:00 pm (formal program)

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews – October 18/17 (5:00 pm – 8:00 pm) & November 30/17 (time TBD). There will be an online booking procedure this year and parents & students will have the opportunity to meet with teachers in 7-8 minute time slots. The general consensus from the parents was this booking format did not work well in other schools. The Bev Facey staff will evaluate the new procedure and discuss it after the first set of interviews.

School Population – the 2017/2018 school year will see a decrease of 80 students from last year and this has caused a budget concern. The new High School Redesign, has changed the budget structure and has taken away receiving money for CEU credits. Instead, the school is paid solely on the number of students enrolled. Bev Facey has \$800,000 less this year than last year. In order to compensate for this loss of income, staff reduction took place.

School Fees – Please see the attached document for this year's breakdown of school fees

Bill 1 <https://education.alberta.ca/bill-1-an-act-to-reduce-school-fees/?searchMode=3> has presented many challenges to how the school is now having to be managed. All teachers were asked to present a detailed, transparent business plan outlining how their fees are managed and used.

Outstanding School Fees – In order to collect outstanding school fees, school staff reaches out to families numerous times to try to collect the fees. If outstanding fees are not paid and current fees are not paid prior to programs starting, going forward, the student will not be allowed to participate in the event/program.

Communication – There are efforts being made to ensure that all Bev Facey social media is being updated on a regular basis.

The Facey Way – the school motto is changing it's core values and they are: Empathy, Self Control, Integrity, Diversity & Grit.

High School Redesign – The first stage of the redesign has ensured that there is an accessible student support area in the school. The second stage of the process will be discussed in October. The plans are to create teacher advisors to support students. This will be implemented in the 2nd semester.

STAR – the literacy test will start next week.

Graduation – Paul asked parents if they were in agreeance in changing the current graduation structure of having the ceremony at The Butterdome and the Dinner/Dance at Northlands. He suggested continuing to have the ceremony at the Butterdome but to eliminate the dinner/dance to accommodate students that are unable to attend due to cost. The survey that was sent out about the 2017 grad indicated that many people found grad to be unaffordable. There was some discussion about this with some parents being against the change and some thought changing it would be positive. Paul will continue to speak with staff and students. He also offered to have another meeting with parents at a later date if they wish to do so. A decision will be made in the near future.

Motion to Approve May 2017 minutes was put forward by Michelle Dugan. Approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:50

Next meeting October 17, 2017 @ 6:30