

# Vermilion Elementary School Parent Council

## Meeting Minutes

### October 26, 2023 6:30pm

- Call to order
  - 7:00pm meeting called to order by Susan McCulley with a hybrid platform
- Introductions
  - In attendance: Susan McCulley, Sheila Doherty, Adrienne Joha, Jerri-Lyn Visser, Jim King, Darla Yonkman, Kirsten Burns, Hailie Zaharko, Amanda Kotun, Dawn Newberry, Rochelle Horne
- VES Bouquets
  - Congratulations to the staff award winners being recognised for long service, 3x15 years and 1x20 years
  - An appreciation sent to Greg for his rapport and support of safety with the students arriving and leaving from the school grounds
  - Appreciation for welcoming all the new students in to the VES family
- Review of last meeting minutes
  - No additions or deletions. Accepted as is. Need to confirm enough attendees present to meet quorum, AGM moved to November meeting.
- Additions/Changes to the Agenda
  - None
- Board Report
  - Appendix provided by Jim King with an update, see attached.
  - New Secretary/Treasurer
  - Superintendent , pre-evaluation went well
  - Grant revenue being reviewed, overall student numbers are complete
  - Teaching retirement strategy and staffing report will have an overview update
  - Innisfree has a group of minimum 12 students traveling to Italy in the spring of 2024
  - October 16<sup>th</sup> the Education Minister
  - PBSA looking at rural bussing needs, support family run bussing
  - Mannville, Edgerton and Vermilion
  - Request for a hybrid board meeting for parents to listen in
  - No changes in admin procedure, Darla has made a motion and is under review
  - Sharing costs between JR and VES and Learning Hub (question came up to ask about merging some meetings for parents with both VES and JR students)

- Administrator's Report
  - Hot lunch Friday
  - 31<sup>st</sup> for Hallowe'en parade
  - Grade 1 to attend Lodge as part of Citizenship project
  - Nov 1 – assembly and Oilers Nation attending
  - Nov 3 – Remembrance Day ceremony 9:30am
  - Last sign-up for Parent/Teacher interviews
  - November 13 and 14 Inuit visitor Goota Desmaris (15/16 at JR/Hub)
  - November 14<sup>th</sup> sausage fundraiser pick-up
  - Bookfair November 20/21/22
  - November 22/23 parent/teacher interview
  - Grade 4 and 4/5 caroling (Citizenship) early December
  - Kindergarten field trip/resources/ECS programs fundraiser, Mom's Pantry (December 12-14)
  - Looking for alternate fundraising suggestions in a saturated market
  - School-based budget,, three year weighted average, just over 2,000,000, 94% staffing, prefer to be 80% teachers and 14% support staff, VES is higher on support
  - 6% is for resources/tech – refurbishing desktop computers
  - School generated funds – fundraising and donations (carry-over funds being discussed by BTPS)
  - General budget is \$20,000 – swimming, music, ESC, fieldtrips, AR/Math
  - Environmental fund, looking at benches
  - Breakfast, now a government grant of just over \$13,000, re-directed to hot lunch
  - Outdoor digital sign, sign alone quote at \$50,000, one time fund of \$20,000, grant applied for \$25,00 awaiting review, falls under the five-year tech plan
  - Universal design playground, Darla with a letter to the board, with consideration for own VES students
  - Parent engagement – welcoming a partner/team approach, in decision making and being in the schools
  
- School Council ideas/brainstorming for 2023/2024
  - Request parent feedback with a QR form or bouquet, no anonymous so all concerns can be addressed, include a place for bouquets and feedback
  - Include suggestions for fundraisers (google form with a QR code?)
  - New family welcome package?
  - How to ask/invite new families and community members
  
- Correspondence/notes

- None
- Outstanding business
  - None
- Adjournment and set next meeting date
  - Adjourned at 8:00pm. November 16 6:30pm for AGM



# BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## News from the Board: October 2023



### MEETING DATES:

#### NEXT BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY  
NOVEMBER 29TH  
STARTING AT  
9:30 AM

ASBA AGM  
NOVEMBER 19-21



### Mission:

Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.

### Communication Strategy:

#### At the October meeting the following motions were passed;

- ♦ To approve the Teacher Retirement Transition Strategy to continue for the 2023-2024 school year.
- ♦ To receive the staffing report for information.
- ♦ To accept the 2023-2024 Board Work Plan as amended and presented.
- ♦ To receive multiple amended administrative procedures for information as well as new 302.8AP Exhibit 5 Field Trip Permission Form. The new form will provide consistency across the division with all schools following the same format.

### OTHER NEWS

- The Board was happy to host students from Mannville, Edgerton and Vermilion Elementary Schools for the first Student Engagement of the new school year. The topic for the first engagement was School Start Up. The local Trustees took turns asking the students from their schools these three questions 1) How were you welcomed back to school? 2) What are you looking forward to most this school year? and 3) How do you wish your school would make you feel welcome? The students were happy to share the fun activities that welcomed them back to school and a large variety of things they were looking forward to this year.
- The Board Chair and Superintendent attended a meeting with the Minister hosted by ASBA. The following week Education Minister Nicolaides and MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk met virtually with the Board and Superintendent and the Board had an opportunity to share celebrations and challenges from across the division. It was a wonderful first opportunity for engaging with the Minister.
- Several members of the Board are in Edmonton at the Public School Board's Association of Alberta Fall Conference and AGM. The Board welcomes these opportunities for ongoing professional learning and collaboration with its colleagues from across the Province.
- Superintendent Webb shared information from the recent Leadership Highlights which included recognition of Keaton Xu from WHS for being selected as one of 40 junior and senior high students across the province for the Minister's Youth Council 2023-2024. The Minister's Youth Council gives students opportunities to share input and perspectives on Provincial programs and initiatives and participate in engagement initiatives. The Superintendent also told the Board that we are so proud of Shelley Sinclair from Irma School for being recognized with the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence—Certificate of Achievement. A colleague wrote "Shelley strives to lead with competence and expertise while providing a learning environment that is reinforced with compassion, acceptance and unabated encouragement."

### Celebration and Retirement Event

The Board of Trustees is looking forward to welcoming staff on October 25th. Employees will be recognized for their service to BTPS from 5 years to 50 years. Several other awards will be presented throughout the evening.