



Bertha Kennedy Catholic School

School Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2019

Call to Order

Kerry Bodell called to order the regular meeting of the Bertha Kennedy School Council at 6:36 pm on May 23, 2019 at Bertha Kennedy School, staff room.

Welcome/Attendance

Kerry Bodell, Kathy Topinka, Jessica Ryan, Dolores Andressen, Lisa Doll, Christy Watamaniuk, Joe Becigneul, Terrie Schock, Jocelyn Dechamplain.

Opening Prayer

First Nations, Metis, Inuit Statement

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Christy Watamaniuk.

Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were changed by Kerry Bodell in the New Business section.

Principals' Reports

THANK-YOU'S & RECAPS

- ✿ Kerry for painting our "Project of Heart".
- ✿ All the parents who have been volunteering for field trips.
- ✿ Pizza lunch - Jessica, Kathy, Lana, Kerry.
- ✿ Support for Run Wild – lots of parents cheering on the BobKats.
- ✿ Lorrienne Peace for Nourish the BobKats watermelon snack.
- ✿ Kathy for putting together the playground bags from School Council.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✿ May 27 - gr. 4-6 BK track and field day.
- ✿ May 28 8-9 am volunteer drive through.
- ✿ May 30 - class photo retakes. (Originals did not turn out well.)

- ✿ June 3- VP and Principal for the day. Kids get to go for lunch.
- ✿ June 6- Div 2 Triathlon- need volunteers! Pool is rented and the Trucksicle will be back.
- ✿ June 12- Div 1 Fun Day.
- ✿ June 14, 24 and 25- District Track- need volunteers for the concession.
- ✿ June 20- Year end BBQ-Dunk tank booked.
- ✿ June 26- Closing Liturgy; Grade 6 Farewell afterward. Starts at 10am.

NEW BUSINESS

- ✿ Maria Pearson starting Monday as the Library technician.
- ✿ Moving Helping Hands to first thing in the morning on the last Wednesday of each month for next year so more parents can attend.
- ✿ New format for parent-teacher interviews - October interviews then Nov. report card and then Feb. interviews and March report card. Parents are always welcome to have a meeting with a teacher at any time.
- ✿ Angel Families - family in need due to loss. School Council will look into starting a new committee.

School Board Trustee Report

GOOD NEWS

- ✿ The Rotary Teacher of the Month Award for April was presented to Brett Arlinghaus, teacher at Neil M. Ross Catholic School. His dedication to students and their families is not only evident in the classroom but in his support of extra-curricular activities for kids. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!
- ✿ Inspired by the initiative of one grade six student, the Neil M. Ross School Community held a “Soles 4Souls” drive to gather shoes for those less fortunate. Over a two-week period a total of 708 pairs of shoes were collected! Thank you to all those who donated and for the students who were servants for God.
- ✿ Congratulations to all of the district high school students from Morinville Community High School and St. Albert Catholic High School who participated in the provincial Skills Alberta Competition. Students competed in many areas including carpentry and hairstyling. Some students earned medals and will be moving on to compete at the national level!
- ✿ ESSMY Rotary Interact Club students proudly hosted their first banquet on April 11, a fundraiser that is part of the schools’ Make Your Mark on Poverty projects in partnership with the United Way. This culminating event brought together and celebrated their intensive research with OceanWise (sustainability project), the Giana Centre, and the St. Albert Food Bank (putting a face to poverty project). Congratulations to the students on a successful event and all of their efforts in making a difference locally and globally.
- ✿ The Morinville Community High School Cheer Team brought back silver and gold medals and the banner for their performances at the recent Alberta School Athletics Association Provincials.

Congratulations to all the athletes and their coaches for their first and second place honours. We are cheering!

- ✿ For the third consecutive year, the district received the prestigious recognition as a 2019 Gallup Great Workplace Award Recipient! The award “affirms the power of staff continually exploring ways to make engagement more meaningful in our schools. When this happens, the true winners are our students. This result confirms for our communities that we are blessed to have outstanding staff. Clearly, Gallup would suggest our staff are among the best in the world!” commented David Keohane when making the announcement.

ACTION & CONSENT ITEMS

- ✿ The Board reviewed and approved the following policies and programming:
 - Schedule of Fees for Transportation for the 2019/20 school year. There are no fee increases for eligible riders more than 2.4 km from their designated schools. Increases were approved for those accessing the district’s enhanced service that provides busing to families residing less than 2.4 km from their school and outside of the walk boundary. Increases were also approved to cross boundary rates and those requiring more than one bus. See website for the complete schedule of fees.
 - Board Policies on Alternative Programs, Naming of Schools, Role of the Board (Long Service Awards),
 - Junior High Locally Develop Courses: Sports Medicine 7-8-9, Citizenship 7-8-9.
 - Strategic Priority Report
 - Action on Smoking and Health Legislation – Statement of Support

NEW BUSINESS

- ✿ The Board approved support for a project initiated by the Morinville Rotary Club and the Centralta Tourism Society who are seeking community support and government funding to bring into Morinville a LAV III Monument Project that honours Military families.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- ✿ Information updates from administration provided included the following:
 - Open House Advertising, Grants that Provided Add-ons or Enhancements to Core Services, Leadership Succession Planning and Field Trip Activity.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES FOR THE BOARD

- ✿ Trustees will have representation at the City of St. Albert’s Payhonin Reconciliation public engagement meetings.
- ✿ Trustees will be attending upcoming graduation ceremonies, the annual ASBA Edwin Parr Banquet and the Canadian Catholic Schools Trustees’ Association AGM Convention.
- ✿ The Committee of the Whole Meeting was held Monday, May 13, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at District Office, 6 St. Vital Avenue, St. Albert, AB.

- ✿ The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, May 27, 2019
- ✿ 3:30 p.m. at District Office, 6 St. Vital Avenue, St. Albert, AB.
- ✿ PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Teacher Report

- ✿ Thank you for the playground toys! So far they are working well. Students are signing them out and bringing them back in. Improving playground behaviour was one of our goals for our Healthy Schools initiative and having toys for the students is definitely one of the strategies for meeting with success on this goal.
- ✿ The Project of Heart is really taking shape. We will have the unveiling at the Helping Hands Assembly on Wednesday, May 29 at 11:10. Hazel McKennitt, the knowledge keeper who has visited our school other years is going to be joining us.
- ✿ A reminder to staff has gone out for teachers to submit their receipts and the form for the classroom enhancement. Our deadline is May 30.
- ✿ Thank you for the dinosaurs for the Dinosaur Dig! The Dino Dig starts on Monday June 3. When students find dinosaurs in the sand, they are encouraged to bring them to the office where they can sign their name in the Paleontology Record Book.

Committee Reports

✿ Healthy BobKats / Green Team

- Healthy Schools Initiative-the last meeting is tomorrow where we report on how we are doing with the 3 components of Healthy Schools: healthy eating, active living and positive social environments which is mental health.
- Thank you for the Nourish the BobKat snacks. The students really appreciate them! Not only nutritious but also displayed beautifully! It also gives the Healthy BobKat Leadership Team an important role when they distribute the snacks to the classrooms.
- We are starting to plant our outdoor garden. Thank you to School Council for the funds to rent the fence from FastFence. We are also happy that a schedule of families to tend the garden during the summer will be made up.
- The school received a quote from Phoenix fence for approximately \$5000 to install a permanent fence around the BK garden and front bed to build an outdoor classroom. Lisa will apply for grant funding for this project.
- Thank you to Lorriane Pearce for donating her time and talents for fitness and raising money for the 3rd water bottle refill station. Same cause for the Principal and Vice Principal for a Day contest.
- During the busy-ness of June, thank you for volunteering in your children's classes and in the school wide events.

- K-3 fun day is a Bike Rodeo. Wednesday, June 12 from approximately 11:10-3:30. All students will need a bike or scooter and a helmet. We are in search of a nurse or two who would be able to present a 25-minute session on the brain and helmets.
- The 2A tomato plants are ready to go out into the gardens. We have about 15 plants that are \$4.00 each. The Roma seeds were part of the tomatosphere project. Chris Hadfield took these seeds up into space with him as part of an experiment to test the effect of space conditions on plants. They are a little spindly but will be ready for your garden after a little hardening off and once there is no chance of frost.
- Personal note: Dolores Andressen and Stephanie Hazelwood are retiring at the end of June. We will miss them both very much and we wish them all the best!

🌸 Nourish The BobKats

- The May snack was watermelon and it was very well received by all the students.
- For June, we are thinking of making Bannock to incorporate with the celebrations on National Indigenous Peoples Day.

🌸 Birthday Book Club

- Nothing new to report. We will work with Maria once she is settled on continuing this club.

🌸 Playground/Garden

- All of the flowers are now purchased for the front and back beds. These will be planted once the new watering cart is purchased and assembled.
- Thanks to Terrie and Lynn for the time and donating some bulbs for the back planters. Fingers crossed that we get some flowers from these bulbs.
- We will be looking to hold a spruce up event before the wind-up bbq to make the back porch and playgrounds looking their best for summer. Kathy & Lisa will work together to get the kids involved too. They love to help out!
- Kathy will be making up a summer watering schedule and asking for volunteers very soon.
- A request was made for funds to purchase some trees for the orchard area on the side of the school. Kerry put forward a motion to set a budget for Lindsay of \$300 for fruit trees. Kathy seconded the motion. It was passed by Council. Terrie also has some trees that she is willing to donate with the help of getting them out of her yard.

New Business

- 🌸 Jocelyn Dechamplain presented Parklane Jewelry to Council as a fundraising opportunity on behalf of Karen Cassidy Shaw. Very nice selection and the school would make 50% of the sales. This will be looked at in the fall (first council meeting in September) as we have wrapped the fundraising for this school year.
- 🌸 Kerry attended the AGM for ASCA. Voted on behalf of Sister Alphonse and VJM as well as BK. There were a lot of changes made to the resolutions before they were voted on. Kerry believes all of the changes made were good. Most items voted on after the changes were largely in favour. Resolution P19-18 was voted in favour but after a change was made to add wording that will protect separate school systems.
 - “P19-18 Comprehensive Education Funding Framework Review - That Alberta Education create an independent review panel on education funding to identify challenges with the current funding model to inform direction for potential restructuring of the funding framework

while respecting the denominational constitutional rights and the existing Alberta pluriform model of choice in Education.”

- “P19-14 Regional Collaborative Service Delivery - That Alberta Education make publicly available current, clear and transparent information and reporting by Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD). Further, that Alberta Education include parents/guardians and other stakeholders on regional RCSD committees. Further, that Alberta Education ensure feedback from parents/guardians and other stakeholders is included in regional RCSD decisions and allocations.”
- ✿ The conference and AGM should be attended each year by at least 2 council members (or one council member plus a parent/member at large). In speaking with others at the AGM, Kerry found out that all of them were sent there by their district. Therefore, cost did not have to be covered by council. Asked Joe to bring a request to the board to cover the cost of the annual conference.
- ✿ Staff appreciation lunch is June 7 (last PD Day). Need someone to head that. Menu items can be listed on volunteer signup. Terrie and Kerry to organize.
- ✿ Elections are next month. An email has been sent to families regarding what council is and why we fundraise and to encourage meeting attendance. Hoping to have more parents join us before elections. Any nominations for next year positions? Anyone not able to take a position next year? Secretary, Treasurer, Chair, Vice Chair.

Adjournment Kerry Bodell adjourned the meeting at 8:18pm.