



**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

SC Executive Members Present:

Tracy Brooker, Chair

Susan Brauss, Vice-Chair

Minutes taken by Nadine Hof

SC Executive Members Absent:

Bobcat Backers Fundraising Chair

School Administration Members Present:

Shane Dempster, Principal

Mr. Taylor Grant, Music Teacher

1. **Call to Order** at 7:04 pm

2. **Welcome and Introductions** by Tracy Brooker, Chair.
Round table introductions with parent audience

3. **Approval of Agenda**
Chair Tracy Brooker declared the agenda approved as circulated with the following additions:
8b) SteppingStones to Mental Health
 - Agenda approved by Susan, seconded by Kari and Johann. All approved.

4. **Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2023**
 - Approved by Susan, seconded by Kari Rose. All approved.

1. **Administrative Report – Shane Dempster**
Key Points:
 - **Welcome** to parents exciting year ahead at Bow Valley High School
 - **Educational Philosophy** – creating good humans and good experiences for our kids

- *Creating Moments* – some great, some not but the moments are what we remember.
- *Focus on culture and connection* at the school. Each ‘house’ or team has a certain color and points awarded to students on upholding our community values.
- *Values = Respect, Responsibility, Resilience* is our community focus. House teams collect points to build on these themes. Will help build connection amongst the grade levels. Bring the humanized element back to what education is all about.
- **Bow Valley High School Expansion**
 - School is half the size it needs to be to house the current enrolment of 1,000 students. The expansion will accommodate the current student population.
 - Construction will commence in spring and will likely take anywhere from 18 – 24 months.
 - Exciting plans to build a theatre, fully functioning kitchen, new gym, new shop (wood working, mechanic etc.), weight room, outdoor courtyard and more classrooms.

6. Rocky View School Board of Trustee Report – Fiona Gilbert

Key Points:

● **Board meeting updates**

- Fiona will be returning as Board Chair
- At the last board meeting we reviewed our strategic plan. Reviewed our annual goals and outcomes as related to the strategic plan.
- Good things are happening and some of our challenges as well available on our website. Visit the Rocky View School Division website and Board Meeting Highlights
 - For more information:
https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/whats_new/the_brief_sept_21_2023
- We did initiate an accommodation plan for City of Airdrie and will try to rebalance our enrolment there and will involve a lot of effort and a number of different shift patterns will happen at all the schools.
- Initiated our Superintendent to have conversations with the Town of Cochrane to address these growth pressures in our schools.
- Province is looking at making updates to the Social Studies curriculum (K-6). Information is available on the Alberta Education website.
 - For more information:
<https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say>
- Local MLA is Pete Guthrie is also our Minister of Infrastructure. Parents encouraged to reach out to him to discuss our new Rocky View School building needs. The Minister of Treasury and Finance, Nate Horner and also the Premier of Alberta, Danielle Smith are also key contacts to reach out to.

- Information to better understand the dynamics involved in requesting support for new schools requires a well-informed perspective and these resources are available online.

7. **Bobcat Backers Update** – Tracy Brooker for Erin Sturgeon

Key Points:

- Erin Sturgeon stepping down this year
- Andrea is staying in as Treasurer
- Chair and Vice-Chair are two positions that are available and seeking participation
- Suggested meeting on same day, having two agendas and separate meeting minutes to link Parent Council and Bobcat Backers, which is possible

8. **New Business**

a. **School Councils Orientation** – September 27, 2023 via ZOOM

- i. Tracy to attend, other Council Executive and members are invited to attend

a. **Stepping Stones to Mental Health**

- i. Ashley send her regret (she is away sick) and recommended a number of speaker sessions for parents. We had a good turnout last year and parents enjoyed sharing day to day information about students and getting acquainted. Parents commented that they liked having speaker series on same day as Council to cut back on number of meeting days/events to attend.
- ii. A number of different workshops are available for us to consider

5. **Adjournment** at 8:18 PM