

2024 – 2025 Banff Trail School Council Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:55 pm

Location: Banff Trail School and Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Attendees:

Executive Committee Members:	Committee Chairs/Coordinators:	Other members:
<input type="checkbox"/> Ashley L. (Co-Chair) <input type="checkbox"/> Tanner R. (Co-Chair) <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy K. (Secretary)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason A. (Casino Coordinator) <input type="checkbox"/> Anna S-K. (Schoolyard development) <input type="checkbox"/> Cathy D. (Social Media) <input type="checkbox"/> Anna L-W. (Teacher Appreciation) <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas L. (Fundraising) <input type="checkbox"/> Leah W. (Fundraising)	Erin S. Lindsay M. Shahin M. Michelle H. McKentys Mike PK Angela Brooke Carmen L. Christine Richard Melanie M. Laura J. Sara J.
Staff:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ryan T.• Nancy T.• Mme Heather• Mme McCann• Mme Vicky		

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Agenda Item	Speaker	Discussion
1. Call to Order	Tanner R.	Meeting called to order at 6:31pm
2. Confirm Quorum / Adoption of Minutes from January 15, 2025	Tanner R.	Adopted by consensus.
3. Grade 2 Teacher Presentation Mme Vicky Mme Heather Mme McCann	3.1 Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Patterns. ● Number Sense. ● Sound of the week ● Meteghan (social studies) ● Materials (science) ● Writing (FLA) ● Self Reflection ● Speaking
	3.2 Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Writing goal part of SDP ● Picture prompts ● Check lists to self-check, , peer check, Mme check ● Wholistic learning evaluation to assess where they are (seed, sprout, sapling, tree) ● Using exemplars for self-assessment comparison - to understand where they are starting from and where they are able to grow towards
	3.3 Science - Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Testing materials ● Linking vocabulary
	3.4 Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Addition strategies ● Number sense and number concepts - different strategies ● Developing mental math skills - efficient and flexible strategies (e.g., “counting on,” knowing “near doubles,” “friendly numbers that make 10,” etc.)

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practicing facts at home - • game-ifyng math (dominoes, cards, etc)
	3.5 Phonics	Mme Heather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound of the week • The literacy loop
4. Branton Principal Info / Q&A		M. Sébastien Picard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branton - 113 registrations for grade 6 next year (more than the past 2 years) - total over 700 students grades 6-9 • French Immersion and late French Immersion only (no English program) • New Special Education program to be added next year • Grade 6 = 4 classes • Transition: Branton typically does a staggered entry (6/7 first to enter school in September) - waiting to hear if this will happen again next year • Humanities + Smath (Science and Math) + PE + Enrichment (in Gr 6, enrichment is Music (band - starting to use instruments), Art, and Drama) – many more choices in Grade 7-9 • 7 periods/day – 4 in French, 3 in English (English, PE, Enrichment) • PAT's May/June • Vaccinations • NEED parent volunteers at Branton (middle school students need parents to be part of their success) • Clubs - before school, lunch time, after school (e.g., DND, chess, leadership...driven by kids' interests) • Camp Kindle trip (need parents for this trip) • Lunchroom supervisors in Grade 6 (stay at school for lunch) - Grade 7 and later = privilege to leave the schoolyard • Cell phone policy - “away for the day” - awayfortheday.org • Q/A: Yes, they can buy food from the cafeteria • Q/A: is there a possibility of an Outdoor Education program for Enrichment? Outdoor Ed vs Technology/robotics - part of ongoing conversation with staff

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branton Parent Council Meeting - all BTS parents will get email information for last two council meetings (April and May) and invitations to attend (online or in person) Weekly Newsletter every Friday BTS parents will receive a big information message in June Follow on Instagram Q/A: Is there a possibility of Yellow Bus Service to Branton? - no conversation about that, not a school decision – To help students who take City Transit, meeting at the end of the first day of school at Branton with all students who take city bus, students from the same community meet each other and begin to form connections (cross-grade); lots of carpooling support in the community – safe neighborhood, surrounded by houses, Banff Trail Park May - Branton will host Banff Trail and Varsity Grade 5 students to tour the school, parent volunteers welcome Q/A: Bell times - uncertain if they will remain the same (have been informed that some schools will be impacted by bell time changes, but don't know who yet) - expecting no changes due to no yellow school bus at Branton Doors open at 8:15am, school starts 8:30am, school ends 3:11pm Doors open for clubs 7am; sports could go later into the evening (basketball as late as 9pm)
4.1 Thank you Grade 2 Team	Ryan T.		
4.2 Thank you Sébastien Picard			
4.3 F.I. School Partners		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work with French Immersion School partners – calibration, assessment, succession, potential collaborations King George, Varsity, Branton 	

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	4.4 Carnival activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High impact 3 days of activities
	4.5 Conventions (ATA, SA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATA - teachers convention • SA - staff association • personalized professional development
	4.6 Registration		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lotteries - had to do a Kindergarten lottery (over 110 registrations, could only fill 3 Kindergarten classes) - • Next steps - letters sent to successful families, awaiting decisions, families on the waitlist
	4.7 Program monitoring		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys done, next is data analysis • Gives BTS direction
	4.8 Negotiations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of strike 72 hours, starts Monday • negotiations ongoing • contingency operations TBD • information shared to the community • future school council meetings may be online (next one scheduled for April) • updates posted on website (will be shared in Ryan's Friday weekly update)
	4.9 Capital Project work		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • i.e., renovations in the school • adding drywall sections to learning commons/library - ? • depends on numbers/funds from the Province - TBD
	4.10 Student Numbers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 386 registered for 2025-26 currently; will be likely 400 or more next year • clarification in the next 1.5 months
	4.11 School Engagement Presentation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 Banff Trail School Planning • School Development Plan (SDP) - guides ongoing assessment and review of goals and actions - posted on website - 3 sections (learning excellence

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			<p>actions, well-being actions, and truth & reconciliation, diversity and inclusion actions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● French Proficiency Goal ● monitor progress throughout the year (not simply beginning and end of year assessment) ● 2024-25 BTS received \$2,575,086 (at least 75% of budgeted funds covers staffing and the remaining for instructional and operational supplies) ● student enrolment for the current year: 387 ● 2024-25 School Fees - field trips, in-school activities, artist in residence, school fees are not the same as Central CBE Fees (lunchroom, bussing, etc), optional purchases ● Gathering Feedback ● Next steps: update school website with summary feedback, meeting evaluation summary, feedback from survey; share info about student results and SDP at school council meeting 2025-26; updated SDP by Nov 30, 2025
5. Committee Reports	5.1 Introductions	Tanner R.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction of Committee Chairs ● Please contact banfftrailchair@gmail.com if you would like to be involved with any of the committees
	5.2 Teacher Appreciation Coordinators	Anna W. Yuri P. Christina H.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gave staff annual ornament from local vendor and some treats; next appreciation gift in Spring
	5.5 Bike to School Coordinator	Alexandra C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No updates
	5.6 Grade 5 Farewell Coordinators	Robyn A. Leah W. Shann R.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Things are happening... :)

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6. Discussion Forum	6.1 Connecting with parents / families and improving engagement	Ashley L.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting with parents/families and improving engagement - <i>Please contact banfftrailchair@gmail.com if you have anything you would like to discuss in the upcoming forum portion of our meetings</i> • Grade 3 teachers present next month
7. Adjournment			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjourned until next meeting April 9, 2025 at 6:30pm • Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.
8. Upcoming meetings			<p>Upcoming meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 9th – Grade 3 Teachers Presentation • May 7th – • June 4th – (tentative)

Contact Information

Email: banfftrailchair@gmail.com

Facebook: [Banff Trail School Parents](#) (this is a closed group, accessible by request / invitation only)

Twitter:

Instagram: [banfftrailschoolcouncil](#)

Volunteers: banfftrailvolunteer@gmail.com

Schoolyard Development: ebtschoolyarddevelopment@gmail.com