

2023 – 2024 Banff Trail School Council Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER

Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023
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. (Chair) <input type="checkbox"/> Erin R. (Vice Chair) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy K. (Secretary) (online)	<input type="checkbox"/> Franny F. (Volunteer Coordinator) <input type="checkbox"/> Nicole R. (Casino Chair, Schoolyard development) <input type="checkbox"/> Jason A. (Casino Coordinator) <input type="checkbox"/> Anna S-K. (Schoolyard development) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Kathy J. (Social Media) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Cathy D. (Social Media) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Anna L-W. (Teacher Appreciation) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas L. (Fundraising) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Leah W. (Fundraising) (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Tanner R. (Bike to School) (online)	Shahzad (online) Lindsay M. (online) Michael (online) Anahita S. (online) Brooke (online) Gavin G. (online) Kath (online) Shannon v-L (online) Erin M. Joyce (online) Matthew J. (online) Taryn (online) Thanita N. (online) Shahin (online) Sean F. (online) Jana W. (online)
Staff:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan T. • Nancy T. • M. Jonathan (online) • Mme Stafford (online) • Mme Myriam (online) 		

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Agenda Item		Speaker	Discussion
1. Call to Order		Erin R.	Meeting called to order at 6:43pm. Thanks for your patience with a faulty link!
2. Confirm Quorum		Erin R.	Quorum confirmed.
3. Adoption of Minutes from September 27, 2023		Erin R.	•
4. Grade 4 Teachers Presentation	4.1 Grade 4 Team	Mme Stafford M. Jonathan Mme Myriam	Grade 4 Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mme Myriam - Room 4 • Mme Stafford - Room 17 • M. Jonathan - Room 3
	4.2 FLA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Language Arts • Biography in 5 parts; Opinion text writing (hamburger paragraph); Story writing continuity FLA & ELA (showing vs telling, strong verbs, relevant details); Pen pals (letters & cards design and writing); Poetry; Research connected to a Social Studies or Science topic; Daily 5 (5 au quotidien) - Grammar & Spelling; Reading intervention (supported by Mme Sophie, lunchroom staff); Daily reading in French and English; Novel reading and study (La nouvelle maitresse); Daily French discussions; Sharing Circles
	4.3 ELA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts • Daily 5 reading and lessons on reading strategies; Writing: personal/opinion texts, informative texts, fiction and poetry; Novel studies; Oral presentations; Words Their Way (program to help students improve spelling in English)

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	4.4 Math		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math • Sequences; Numbers sense (up to 100,000); Collect and organize data; Graph building and interpretation; Measurement and time; Addition and subtraction (and estimation up to 9,999); Factors, multiples and algebra; Multiplication and division (basic facts); Long division and long multiplication (up to 9,999); Fractions (represent, compare, and order), Decimals (addition and subtraction), and Percentage; 2D shapes & 3D objects, Triangles & Angles, Transformation; Proportional reasoning; Math talks
	4.5 Science		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science • Waste and our World (the impact of our habits on our environment); Wheels and levers (simple machines, how to assemble and operate, pop-can catapult); Building devices and vehicles (storage of energy, building a self-propelled vehicle); Light and shadow (effects of light in the environment, different sources of light, mirrors and prisms, build a periscope, in-school field trip); Plants (structure and growth of plants; have planted tulips in front of the school that will come up in the Spring)
	4.6 Social Studies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Studies • Examining the physical geography of Alberta; understanding the ways of life of First Nations people in Alberta prior to colonization; Applying historical thinking to understand events in Alberta over the past 250 years; Examining different populations that make up the fabric of Alberta's population
	4.7 Field Trips		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPAWS - Nose Hill: learning about grasslands, trip cut short due to weather but CPAWS came to school and gave an in-class lesson - Teachers Pet - Light and Shadows - Leighton Centre (art and social studies) - Needle Felting (in-school field trip re; art) - tentative plans for climbing field trip to UofC

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5. Q&A with MLA	5.1	Dr. Luanne Metz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MLA for Banff Trail School constituency, reached out to Ryan with willingness to attend one of our parent council meeting • Dr. Metz is part of the NDP government, happy to bring forward ideas, suggestions, etc • relayed a message from Laura Hack (school trustee) - she is also happy to come to a meeting at any time to hear from parents/school council • This thursday there will be a city-wide meeting of school councils that we are welcome to attend (Erin will be attending) • Parent comment re: concerns about the new curriculum and the current attitude towards teachers – Dr Metz expressed support for teachers and acknowledged that teachers have been “beaten up” in the last few years • Parents expressed gratitude to Dr Metz for her service
6. Principal’s Report	6.1 Welcome Message & Thank Yous	Ryan T.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to Grade 4 teachers for the presentation and to Dr. Luanne Metz for speaking with our families • Thank you to Council and parent volunteers for everything done so far, including: Welcome Back Event, helping with Picture Day, field trips, posting leaves to our display, organizing cheque-writing campaign, reading program, and more!
	6.2 Reading Program		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Program has begun; some new changes in response to what more recent research says about learning language and literacy development, mostly around what books are sent home, instructions about what to do with these books, etc. Reading program is to target those who would most benefit from extra support by grade level
	6.3 Field Trips		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field trips have begun; Bow Habitat, CPAWS, Nose Hill, Glenbow Ranch PP, etc • Field trip yesterday got canceled due to the weather/roads
	6.4 Terry Fox		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for your generosity! • Total raised: \$2542.60 (per capita, among highest donors in the province)

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	6.5 Musical		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical is on again this year: Finding Nemo (grades 4 and 5) • thanks M. Jones, Mme Wensley, Mme Heather for the work that has already begun with this!
	6.6 Teacher Evaluations/ Staffing Update		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time in the next couple months? Teacher evaluations! Typically 2 reasons for teacher evaluations: beginning of career (probationary contract moving towards continuous contract) and Alberta teaching certificate – because there are many new teachers at BTS, there are many evaluations happening (6!) • Welcome to Mme Erika in Grade 3
	6.7 Residencies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anita Crowshoe, Francofolie • Priorities: sport; Indigenous theme (Anita); French language and culture (Francofolie) • please send ideas to Ryan if you have leads, especially for K-2; some sports/activities are restricted, but Ryan is happy to entertain ideas (fencing, climbing, fitset ninja...): banfftrail@cbe.ab.ca
	6.8 Lifetouch		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suggestion from rep Jenn Ferguson to run Spring photos specifically for siblings that may be interested, outdoor photos • they were apologetic about some of the processes that have not gone well this year • Spring sibling/outdoor photos would have to be prepaid and pre-determined photo sheet (such as \$10 or \$20 for these 2 sheets, etc). – is there interest in this? they indicated it could extend beyond this year if there is interest; ryan indicated that this would need to be low maintenance on the school's part as well (it has been very time consuming, sorting through many issues) • Nancy has been exploring other alternatives (ie Kent Stuart Photography, good reputation, smaller local photographer) - is willing to look further into it
	6.9 Digital Citizenship Plan 2023-24	Nancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decided to (like last year) focus on 7 sacred teachings and well-being, incorporated with developing positive online interactions/presence (integrity, taking care of ourselves/others/space)

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> goal is education around how to have a positive online presence (as opposed to saying not to have an online presence)
	6.10 Usage of Council Funds		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have spent some funds to help support families in need within our BTS community: teachers and support staff keep their eyes out for families in need; have spent some money to help support families who need appropriate outdoor wear, etc – thanks for the ability to do this! Raz Kids: reading program, support for French reading at home (has english as well, but we use it for French) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> school council has already approved this program, but costs have increased (7-8%); last minute option from Raz Kids to lock in price for 3 years, so bringing forward this option to Council – do we want to lock in or not? discussion surrounding Raz Kids and education value (esp with increase in cost, etc), is it the best option? - Ryan commented that Raz kids was chosen (rather than lalilo or je lis je lis) based on a number of factors - they are open to trying different things still
7. Committee Reports	7.1	Ashley L.	<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
	7.2 Volunteer Coordinator	Franny F.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> banfftrailvolunteer@gmail.com volunteers NEEDED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Fair – November 23-24 Teachers Potluck – November 23 School Dance – November 30
	7.3 Traffic Safety Coordinator	Kathryn D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> watch for email: reminder re: Hug-n-Go, no stopping/parking in Charlebois Dr. alleyway Ryan's Principal Message will also include traffic safety and outside safety in general Ryan was also in touch with CBE transportation re: signage and discrepancies that have caused some issues for busses etc

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> patrols are outside every day (unless it's a Blue Day -20 and below)
	7.4 Events Coordinator	Polly P.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
	7.5 School Dance Coordinators	Polly P. Kathy J. Cathay D. Christina H.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion re: school dance planning Dance plans are underway; gym is booked; new DJ to try this year (cheaper than last year); considering Christmas or Winter theme; requested to book hallway and into Learning Commons (in addition to the gym) to help with capacity issues Fundraising: entrance fee, bake sale (Grade 5 students/parents) Pre-sale tickets? Hoping capacity won't be a concern like last year. Also looking into an online payment option
	7.6 Jacket Racket Coordinators	Christina H. Tanner R.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 1-17, 2023 it was announced in the newsletter; will send another reminder to families
	7.7 Teacher Appreciation Coordinators	Anna W. Yuri P.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no updates
	7.8 Social Media Coordinators	Kathy J. Cathay D.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign up for our Facebook and Instagram groups
	7.9 Bike to School Coordinator	Tanner R.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no updates
	7.10 Grade 5 Farewell Coordinators	Nicole R. Arvind P-R. Erin R.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no updates

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8. Discussion Forum	8.1 Connecting with parents / families and improving engagement	Ashley L.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please contact banfftrailchair@gmail.com if you have anything you would like to discuss in the upcoming forum portion of our meetings
9. Adjournment			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjourned until next meeting November 29, 2023 at 6:30pm Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm
10. Upcoming meetings			<p>Upcoming meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 29th – Grade 5 Teachers Presentation January 31st – Grade 1 Teachers Presentation February 28th – Grade 2 Teachers Presentation April 24th – Kindergarten Teachers Presentation May 29th – Grade 3 Teachers Presentation

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