

Bev Facey School Council Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2019

Attendees: Staff: Barclay Spady, Cherum Orr, Matt Shudra, Candida Shepherd

Families Represented: Amanda Beck, Marlene Crippin, Cecile Palm, Jeff Hanrahan.

School Trustee: Trina Boymook

Student Representative: Jessica Rosvick

1. **Call to order** at 6:36 by Jeff Hanrahan. Round table introductions were made.
2. **Additions to Agenda** – COSC updates added 10.4
3. **Approval of September 17, 2019 minutes** put forward by Amanda Beck and seconded by Marlene Crippin. Approved.
4. **Academic Awards Night** – October 17th at 6:30pm. Jeff will attend to present the Bev Facey School Council award.
5. **Parent/Teacher Conferences** – Council will have a table that evening with parent representatives available to talk with other parents about what council has to offer. Cherum generously volunteered to help prepare a handout to give to the parents.
6. **Parent request** –easier access of resources to parents and students requiring mental health support to decrease the stigma of going to see the counsellor.

Reply – School administration working on improving student awareness of resources now available. Counsellors go to each classroom to talk to students about their role and services to students; that students see counsellors for various reasons and it is often academic advice; all visits are confidential. They work to connect families with resources.

School is also looking into posting helpline and resource information in the bathrooms to help students get the information who prefer to remain anonymous.

October 10th was World Mental Health Day and students were encouraged to wear purple to show support. Different activities were held that day to encourage discussion about mental health; Yoga and cafeteria cupcakes. There are plans for next year to better prepare students leading up to the day as to why it is important to show your support.

Trina Boymook mentioned teenmentalhealth.org as an excellent resource for parents to navigate helping their teen. As well as HeadStrong which is an initiative with the Mental Health Commission of Canada. There may be funding to host a division initiative for students. It is a day of learning focused on stigma-busting activities and ideas to design action plans to used back in school.

Discussion around the table suggested looking into setting up a student group, specifically trained, to be available for other students to contact to talk to. Some kids might be more comfortable approaching someone their own age. This approach is currently used in another school.

7. **Council Operating Procedure** – last updated 2012. **Action item:** Update and approve document for May 2020. Review documents prior and discussion to take place at January 21, 2020 meeting.
8. **Review of School Education Plan – Year 1.** To be submitted by October 30, 2019 Goals will roll forward, strategies may change.

School Goal 1:

More students and families are connected and engaged in the school community.

Division Outcome:

***(Priority 3, Goal 1)* Student learning is supported and enhanced through parent engagement.**

Strategies:

1. Regular contact with home via email, positive phone calls, and through online platforms providing class progress, updates, and timelines.
2. Promote and advance School Council along with increased parent communication via weekly parent email newsletter (Falcons View).
3. Continue relationship building with students via ongoing 6 week cycles of engagement and student voice forum.
4. Student services support center provides greater student opportunities for learning.
5. Teacher collaborative work focusing on innovative and engaging learning environments through the effective use of technological integration.
6. Mental Health supports, along with Family Community Social Services partners and community stakeholders, provide classroom, career, and student wellness and mentorship support programs.

Performance Measures:

1. 5% increase in the Accountability Pillar Parent Involvement results.
2. 5% increase in the Accountability Pillar Continuous School Improvement results.
3. 2% increase in the Accountability Pillar overall Education Quality.
4. Formative feedback from students and parents via Google surveys.

School Goal 2:

More students are engaged in their learning and achieve excellence.

Division Outcome:

(EIPS Priority 2, Goal 4) The division uses evidenced-based practices to improve student engagement and achievement.

Strategies:

1. Flexible and personalized learning environment offered, including independent study.
2. Flexible Advanced Placement opportunities are formalized and available to more students.
3. Utilization of online platforms such as Google Classroom and Moodle to allow students to engage in their learning in a variety of locations.
4. Increased off-campus education program and alternate option intern opportunities available.
5. Standardized literacy strategies and benchmark assessments for students struggling at grade level reading.
6. Formalized English and Social Studies diploma exam analysis via EIPS consultants.

Performance Measures:

1. Increase in the number of students achieving the Standard of Excellence and Acceptable on diplomas by 2%.
2. Improve 3 year high school completion rate.
3. Improve grade level reading for identified students via STAR literacy assessment.
4. Diploma participation levels remain above EIPS and provincial levels.

School Goal 3:

Students are empowered to become active citizens who exemplify the virtues of the Facey Way.

Division Outcome:

(EIPS Priority 2, Goal 1) Our learning and working environments are welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe.

Strategies:

1. Foster 6 week cycles of engagement and relationship building with staff and students.
2. Implementation of student voice forum to gather student input.
3. Students are provided with broader leadership, community service and off campus education opportunities with feeder school framework and with other stakeholders.
4. Establish positive role model initiative and celebrate virtues of the Facey Way.
5. Recognize, appreciate and celebrate student differences through the development of variety of service clubs and programs such as; GSA, Indigenous heritage, Renew prayer club and special program inclusion.

Performance Measures:

1. 3% Increase in Accountability Pillar related to Safe and Caring measure.
2. 5% Increase in Accountability Pillar measure related to students modeling the characteristics of active citizenship.
3. Attendance and punctuality data improve.

Anyone interested in viewing the whole document can contact the office.

9. Review of BFH Alberta Education Accountability Pillar data May 2019 –

Improvements have been noted in most areas as seen above. One area, while it has seen a small improvement is still in need of attention “Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship. This is a very general question which can be interpreted in various ways. Administration is working to understand where the lower marks come from so improvements can be made.

Last year when surveyed, 30% of students expressed discomfort with asking questions in class. Changes this year to address this issue include:

- new classroom configurations, creating “elbow partners” etc.
- changing language ie. “What are your questions?” vs “Are there any questions?”
- using digital mediums that allow the teacher to walk around the classroom to converse with students promoting discussion rather than the authoritative approach of standing at the front of the classroom.

10. Reports

10.1 Student Report – Jessica Rosvick from FLI (Facey Leadership Initiative)

- a. FLI is currently working on events to include and welcome all students.
 - i. They have now split into action teams to plan events for the year. Next event will be for Halloween. Event dates will be posted.
- b. This weekend is the FLI retreat at Birch Bay Ranch. There are about 50 FLI students attending who will be working on leadership building.

10.2 Administrative Report – Barclay Spady, Cherum Orr, Matt Shudra

- a. Bring your parent to CTS/Option Day – October 16th. Last year it was just CTS but now have opened it up to all options this year with a positive result. About 100 parents will get to participate in their child’s option class.
- b. Student Voice 2019-2020. Matt Shudra met with about 35 students to open discussions on increasing student/teacher connection and comfort. They discussed the Accountability Pillar results and talked about ways to communicate student feedback. This will be shared with staff in hopes to implement some changes before the next Student Voice meeting.
- c. Advanced Placement. Deadline for registration for AP exams was today October 15th. The number of registrations are up from last year likely due to increased communication about the program and its long-term benefits. New classes and programs are currently being added now and for next year; AP French, AP Art and Design and AP Spanish.
Deadline for Green Certificate Program was also today. The Green Certificate program provides students with opportunities to enter a variety of agriculture-related, structured learning pathways as a part of their high school program and to earn up to 16 Grade 12 diploma credits and a credential leading to a career in agribusiness.

- d. Grad Student and Parent Council. There was a good turnout for the first meeting with students. A survey will go out to students next week regarding their ideas for grad, this will then be discussed at the meeting with parents on October 29th.

Deadline for Grad Clothing Design Challenge was October 15th.

Parent Question: Where can parents find out grad and grad preparation information? Can there be a link added between the parent and student website menus so both receive the same information?

Cherum: We will update the website and look into adding the link. An email will be going out to parents soon.

- e. Off Campus Education opportunities. Dave Brown from Careers Next Generation and Strathcona County will be presenting RAP (Registered Apprenticeship Program) opportunities to students October 18th during block 2 in the Learning Commons.

There is an increase number of students in the Work Experience program which is partnered with the Next-Step Program.

Students gave positive feedback about the post-secondary presentations on September 24th. It promoted discussion about early post-secondary preparation.

- f. Read-In Week. Bev Facey students went to Wye, Glen Allan, Wes Hosford and F. R. Haythorne Schools to read to the students there. This was a positive experience for both.

10.3 Trustee Report – Trina Boymook

- a. The budget is expected to be tabled on October 24th. The Board will meet the following week to assess the impact to our budget assumptions. The Board has set a budget working session in November 14th and have added another meeting on November 28th to approve the budget to meet the November 30th deadline.
- b. The Board retreat was September 17 and 18th. There was discussion around the school fee process, which will no longer need to be signed off by the minister. Fees will continue to need to be approved by the board.
- c. Priorities for upcoming year for the Board include:
 - i. Advocacy and Engagement
 - ii. Education Funding – To continue to provide excellence in times which by all indications, will become increasingly difficult.
 - iii. Managing urban enrolment in both Fort Saskatchewan and Sherwood Park.

- d. Results Review for Bev Facey is scheduled for November 26th at 9:00 – 11:30 am at the Board Room at Central. Bev Facey Council members are invited to attend.

10.4 Chair Report – Jeff Hanrahan. Next COSC meeting is November 6th at 7:00 – 9:00pm. Suggestion for next meeting discussion re. Choice in Education – What does that mean to you? Encouraged parents to review the School Council Operating Procedures documents to prepare to discuss what changes might be necessary to update the document.

11. Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Minutes prepared by Cecile Palm, Secretary