

**Bev Facey School Council Meeting
Minutes for October 17, 2023**

Attendees

Families: Tiko Bielecki, Cecile Palm, Amy Dieser, Kathi Jette, Marlene Crippin, Jennifer Daly, Alyssa Pratt, Rita Lal, Tamara Parker

Staff: Ken Wlos, Paul Schwartz, Corey Kropp, Deanne Bennett, Candida Shepherd, Tiffany Tattrie

Trustee: Don Irwin

Students: Nayah Lal-Miller (Grade 10) and Terran Tyler (Grade 10)

Call to order at 6:05pm by Ken Wlos

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Treaty 6 Acknowledgment

I would like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory, and show respect to the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community here at Bev Facey.

3. Review of BFCHS School Council Operating Procedures

We still have no Chair and Vice-Chair, but when we do (we will be voting on these positions tonight), they need to sign off on these.

4. **BFCHS School Council Elections** (conducted by Ken Wlos). Votes are by a show of hands with majority rules.

COSC Rep

Christa Porter has volunteered to be the COSC Rep and will send in a report (she couldn't attend tonight). She will also let her name stand as Vice-Chair if no one else fills the position.

Motion to open the floor for nominations for the Chair position (Ken Wlos)

Marlene Crippin and Jennifer Daly volunteered for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, for the 2023-2024 school year.

All in Favour (round of applause ensued)

Congratulations and Thank You Marlene and Jennifer!

5. **Student Report**

Terran Tyler (Grade 10)

Terran purchased his vehicle from Facey. He commented on how great it is to have the Option to take Mechanics. His previous private school did not have Options like Facey has. He loves doing mechanical things, and he's amazed at Facey's Mechanical Program. He likes Mr. Milton's unique teaching style and loves that there is Mechanics at this school.

Q: Why did you choose purchase vehicle from Facey?

A: It's an older vehicle, it's a 1970 Buick (used to be Mr. Salyzyn's car). He loves classic cars and inquired about it when he saw it on first day of school. All summer he had been looking for a classic car as a project and said it's not all about what it looks like on the outside. It has a great engine and he's done some work to it already, and drove it here tonight...with his dad in the car.

Nayah Lal-Miller (Grade 10)

Nayah is an AP student and part of the Leadership class. She has had a super amazing first two months. She acknowledged the teachers and how fantastic they have been at welcoming the students and helping them find classes. She's thankful to all the staff and other students for making her, and all the Grade 10s feel welcome. Nayah also is a member of Instrumental Band (French Horn) and Jazz Band. She says Mr. Sutherland is an amazing teacher. She is also in Drama, the teacher is hilarious teacher and has interesting stories. Drama is a small class of only 14 students and she is thankful for this as it has allowed for close connections in the class. They'll be doing a play later in the year and is excited for that. What she loves about Facey is the Opportunity Wednesdays. The early dismissal days have allowed her to get extra help with ELA (English Language Arts), and she has noticed an improvement in her academic already. Nayah is part of FLI (Facey Leadership Initiative), they have done a bottle drive already and all monies were donated to a local organization; they are supporting Breast Cancer Awareness this month; they have hosted games in gym at lunch time; they have provided food in mornings; they have written quotes on doors and windows around the school. Leadership is fun! Nayah also got to be a "mini" Secretary in office for a morning. She answered one phone call, which she said was lots of fun; she helped direct a student to a class; she took notes, and loved helping students. She was happy to have had the experience as it was a lot of fun. She's excited to learn new things and join different clubs, and be exposed to out-of-school opportunities.

Q: What play will the Drama class be performing?

A: We are not sure yet, there will be auditions where we each have to perform a monologue, and then Mr. Frank will pick play based on the auditions.

Q: Can we come see it?

A: Yes!

Ken: Musical Theatre will be performing 'Grease' at Festival Place.

6. Trustee Report – Don Irwin

Hope you all had a good Thanksgiving break and a good start to this year.

Our Annual Assurance Reviews begin in late October for central departments (Finance, Transportation, and Facilities) and are scheduled in November for schools.

In October, Trustees were assigned to one of the Board Committees; the Committee of School Councils (COSC), Alberta School Board Association Zone 2/3, Board Policies, Audit Committee, Advocacy Committee, Teacher's Collective Bargaining, and Expulsion Committee. Each Trustee is on two or three committees. This year I will be on the Expulsion Committee and the Advocacy Committee.

Over the summer, Facilities completed 377 policies, and average of almost 10 per school. Major projects included the first phase of the Salisbury storm water repair, and the F.R. Haythorne roof and building envelope. Other projects were renovations and upgrades to Quiet Rooms, parking lot line re-painting, annual fire alarm system, and gym floor refinishing.

School visits continue again this year. We will be visiting Fort Saskatchewan schools next Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

The monthly public board meeting will be on October 19, 2023 with the agenda and all items to be discussed and decided on the EIPS.ca website by Monday at noon. One item that will take much discussion and wisdom is the French Immersion location for Junior High and High School

If you have any questions or suggestions, please phone or text me at 587-986-3900, or email me at don.irwin@eips.ca.

Q: I read the EIPS recommendation report for French Immersion, what are your thoughts towards it and which option will you be supporting, as they all affect Bev Facey?

A: I'll need to listen to what other trustees have to say, and what parents have to say (there are two registered to speak already), before making a decision.

Q: Is there a possibility of slowing this process down?

A: This Thursday is earliest we can make decision. This doesn't start until 2026 so no rush, but it is possible.

Q: What does the decision-making process look like?

A: It will be a majority of the Board to pass.

Q: Has there been input from many perspectives i.e.: staff, parents, survey respondents)?

A: Yes

Q: Will Facey speak at the meeting?

A: Usually the schools have a rep in attendance, so yes Facey will have a rep there.

Q: Who do parents contact if they have questions or concerns?

A: Send an email to me (Don Irwin) and I'll forward to the Superintendent.

Q: The Trustees make the decision, not Superintendent correct?

A: Correct, but she can put in recommendations.

7. Information Reports

Administrative Reports

Principal's Report – Mr. Wlos

- September 30 leading up to National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we had a wonderful display honouring the students from Residential Schools.
- Aboriginal Studies class had a field trip to the Hope Mission.
(Candida) Hope Mission (novel From the Ashes – Jesse Thistle – talks about generational trauma, street drugs, culture, and recovery). We will be moving forward with the celebration of the culture (beading, drumming). The culture must be celebrated and understood, so we're working hard on that in classroom.
- Orange Shirt day was on September 29 (Sep 30 was a Saturday).
- Bev Facey Fall Rally – This rally was a fun time. All the sports were showcased and a former Grad in the Audio program is now a DJ in Fort Saskatchewan, and came out to DJ the whole thing for us. It was well done! At each rally we want to try to feature other programs the school offers, such as Art, Concert Band, some short skits from play if students are not able to get out to see them.

Mrs. Bennett Update:

- Emergency Preparedness
 - Our next Evacuation Drill is on October 24
 - We will have a Lock Down Drill on November 2
- Athletics
 - Cross Country Runners did excellent – six students qualified for Provincials with are this Saturday October 21 in Trochu, AB
 - Sr. Girls Volleyball came back with Bronze in the last two tournaments
 - Swim Team is ranked 10th in the Province
 - Jr. Football Team is 3rd in Metro
 - Starting organizational meetings for Curling

Mr. Schwartz Update:

- First Parent/Student Grad Meeting will be Thursday October 26 beginning at 6:30pm in the South Gymnasium. Josten's will also be here on that evening.
- Started Grad committee – last week at lunch about 30 student, and 15-20 teachers
- Grad logo chosen (done by Art 30 student)
- Graduation Date is set for Saturday June 8, 2024 at the Edmonton Expo Centre (old Northlands)
- For all up-to-date Grad information:
 - Grad SMORE Newsletter: Friday October 20, 2023
 - Grad Instagram "**faceygrad24**"
- Grad Baby Photos Due: February 1, 2024
- Grad Yearbook Quotes Due: March 1, 2024
- Grad Theme Selection: March 2024
- Grad Gown Sizing: April 2024

Ms. Kropp Update:

- Read-In Week was a success. 25 students participated in reading to elementary school children during the week.
- Advanced Placement meeting for current AP students (parents are encouraged to attend) registered in exam courses this year on October 25 at 6:30pm in the Library. U of A AP Representative and Mr. Lawlor (Bev Facey AP Coordinator) will facilitate the meeting.
Comment: It would have been beneficial to have this meeting before the exam registration deadline.
 - Information about the benefits of writing AP exams
 - AP transfer credits
 - AP exams take place May 6-17, 2024
 - Students have made their exam decision on October 4, 2023
 - 71 students signed up for Semester 1, full year, and exam only
 - Semester 2 courses deadline is February 28, 2024
- AP Exam Schedule can be found on the Bev Facey website under 'AP'
- Ken – AP Seminar class student was chosen to attend COP 28. Shelby Hartman was selected from our 11 AP Seminar Students by the College Board and the Centre for Global Education. She will travel to the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference from Nov 30-Dec 12 in Dubai. There was extensive competition involving a written component, a video submission, as well as an interview. This was an amazing opportunity for all our students. We want to do this every year. When she comes back, Shelby will share her experience with her peers and we also want to include it in Grade 9 meeting in spring to talk about it with incoming Grade 10s.

Mrs. Tattrie Update:

- Post-Secondary transition planning:
At the beginning of the school year, a questionnaire was sent out to families “Getting to Know Your Child” and this was used to gather information regarding their student(s) competencies. From here we will be sending out specific information and next steps to families. Part of the information send out will include information about competencies (skills that employers look for), career exploration, and how to continue this conversation with staff and our Admin/Counselling teams. Parents can still complete the questionnaire if they wish: [Getting to Know Your Child](#)
- This is meant as a starting point, we want to avoid streamlining, but want to give them the tools to figure out what may be a career choice for the student
- Next year: the hope would be to send out a questionnaire/survey that would look at interests inventories and then adding that data to the current 58 groups of core competencies.
- If parents are unsure what their child’s best skills are, try this app:
<https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/program/skills-for-success/>
(Download the app in the app store)
- Our hope is that parents would begin to explore some areas of interest with their student as they enter high school.
- Ken - This Friday October 20 the ELAA (Educational Liaison Association of Alberta) will have 18 different Post-Secondary organizations (including RCMP and Canadian Military) and Schools coming into Bev Facey from 1:00-3:00pm.

Bev Facey One-on-One Post-Secondary Meetings – if you would like to sign up please come see Mrs. Tattrie or Mrs. Shrimpton in Student Services

- U of A, Concordia, and McEwan will be joining us for One-on-One advising sessions in the next couple of weeks:
 - Concordia University of Edmonton (CUE) – October 18 2:00pm-3:00pm
 - McEwan University – October 20 All Day
 - Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) – October 27 8:30am-10:30am
 - King’s University – October 27 10:00am-12:00pm
 - University of Alberta (U of A) November 15 All Day

Upcoming Important Dates

- October 20, 2023 – Bev Facey hosts ELAA Post-Secondary Tour
- October 21, 2023 – Your Future Career and Post-Secondary Fair
- October 25, 2023 – Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (5:00pm-7:30pm)
- October 25, 2023 – AP Information Evening in the Library (6:30pm)
- October 26, 2023 – Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences (5:00pm-7:30pm)
- October 26, 2023 – Grad Meeting in the South Gym (6:30pm)
- November 4-12, 2023 – November Break (No School)

8. Committee of School Councils (COSC) Report – Mrs. Kropp

ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY

The meeting started with the election of the COSC Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary for the 2023-24 school year. The positions are as follows:

- *Chair:* Kendra Roemer, Mills Haven Elementary
- *Vice-Chair:* Dallas Kirtz, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary
- *Secretary:* Chelsea Pretzlaw, Ardrossan Elementary

The new role of COSC Technician was also created to assist with hybrid delivery of meetings. The COSC Technician will let participants into the meeting, monitor the chat and ensure audio is working properly.

- *COSC Technician:* Aileen Bozic, SCA Secondary

2023-24 COSC MEETINGS: Dates and time

Meeting dates for 2023-24:

- Nov. 1, 2023
- Jan. 10, 2024
- Feb. 7, 2024
- March 6, 2024
- April 3, 2024
- May 1, 2024
- Meeting times: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Meeting format: hybrid—both in person and virtual. During bad weather, meetings may take place entirely virtual.

ALBERTA SCHOOL COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION

[Alberta School Councils' Association](#) (ASCA) is the provincial organization for families on school council. Below may be of interest to COSC members:

- The ASCA website offers various resources for school council members designed to enhance school council effectiveness and parent engagement.
- Particularly useful is the “[School Council Resource Guide](#),” which steps members through the purpose and role of a school council.
- Accessing an ASCA membership is as simple as sending an email to [Emma Small](#) that your school council—including your school council name—wants a membership to ASCA for the 2023-24 school year. EIPS will take care of registering your school council and covering the costs. As requested, the Board of Trustees and EIPS senior administration will investigate having ASCA memberships for all school councils as opposed to on request.
- Accessing the Members-only section of the ASCA website:
 - If your school council had an ASCA membership last year and you’ve requested a membership for this year:
 - **(Chair)** You should be able to **log in with your username and password from last year**. Your username will be the email ASCA has on record. If you’ve forgotten your password, send an email directly to support@albertaschoolcouncils.ca. They can help you reset it.
 - If your school council did not have an ASCA membership last year:
 - You’ll receive an email prompting you to log in and create a password.
 - If you haven’t received this email, or may have deleted it by mistake, complete the [Update School Council Contact form](#) on the ASCA website. This will trigger the next step in the process.
- ASCA is also piloting a project called Walk Alongside Alberta. Stay tuned for more details.

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: October

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students’ mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency and more. [Learn more](#)

SCHOOL COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT GRANT

Alberta Education is providing school councils with a \$500 School Council Engagement Grant. Those school councils interested in accessing funding must meet [grant criteria](#), which essentially means opportunities that help build capacity and strengthen engagement. To administer the 2023-24 grant, EIPS first needs to collect contact information from school councils in the Division. **(Chair)** **Have one member from your school council complete this [contact form](#) by Monday, October 23.** More information about applying for the grant will be shared in the November COSC meeting package.

BOARD REPORT

EIPS has a new Board Chair, Cathy Allen. Chair Allen reported on the board retreat where they review board evaluations and establish the work plan for the year identifying areas of strength

and opportunities for growth. She referenced the mandate letters from the departments of the government that mentioned education including education, advanced education, children and family services, and mental health and addiction. Chair Allen also discussed a meeting with MLA Kazawski and the attending the AB Student Transportation Advisory Council.

EIPS THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Superintendent Sandra Stoddard discussed the [EIPS Three-Year Engagement Plan](#). The discussion outlined five projects the Division is undertaking to identify areas where the Division can improve operations to best serve students, including programming and school capacity considerations. This includes the work done around [relocating the 7-12 french immersion program from Ardrossan to a new location](#). A recommendation report will be given to the board at the Oct.19 board meeting, the package will be released to the public on Oct. 16 and can be found at that time on the district website under board packages. In referring to the Systems Program Review, Superintendent Stoddard highlighted the many [Specialized System Programs](#) the Division offers. The board is reviewing the system programs to align feeder schools with demographic and growth patterns. Superintendent Stoddard also discussed balancing Senior High utilization. Once some decisions have been made regarding French Immersion there will be action to engage families in order to create balance in high school attendance across the district. Watch for more information to come via the district website and EIPS communications.

NEW CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Associate Superintendent Ryan Marshall spoke about resources the Division has created for the new curriculum and the assessment tools being used for the school year. He included information on the [Partners 4 Science program](#), which encourages hands-on science learning through interactive kits.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Alberta Education Focus Group

On **October 30**, Alberta Education will host a focus group to collect insight from parents about updates to the old [My Child's Learning: A Parent Resource](#) website into a brand new space hosted on new.LearnAlberta.ca. The focus group will meet from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom. The Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) has been asked to identify 10-12 parents from metro, urban and rural school divisions, representing students from kindergarten to Grade 12 to participate in this focus group. [Complete this application form](#) if you'd like to be considered for the group.

ASCA Membership

For any school councils that haven't expressed interest in an ASCA membership, there's still time. Accessing an ASCA membership is as simple as sending an email to [Emma Small](#) that your school council—including your school council name and email address—wants a membership to

ASCA for the 2023-24 school year. EIPS will take care of registering your school council and covering the costs. (Chair) Express your interest by **October 31**.

School Council Engagement Grant: Contact form

A reminder to school councils, Alberta Education is providing councils with a \$500 School Council Engagement Grant. Those school councils interested in accessing funding must meet [grant criteria](#), which essentially means opportunities that help build capacity and strengthen engagement. To administer the 2023-24 grant, EIPS first needs to collect contact information from school councils in the Division. Have one member from your school council **complete this contact form by Monday, October 23**(Chair). More information about applying for the grant will be shared in the November COSC meeting package.

9. September and October Minutes will be approved at our November meeting

10. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm

Next Meeting: November 28, 2023 at 6:00pm in the Bev Facey Library

Upcoming Meetings: January 16, February 20, March 19, April 16, May 21

Minutes prepared by Tiko Bielecki.