

Beaconsfield High School Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

Present were:

Parent Reps:

Lauren Broad
Vince Chiarelli
Ian Chuprun
Bryan Hamon
Nadia Iacino
Christian Knudsen
Margaret Morgan
Julianne Read

Parent Alternatives:

George Wilson

Regrets:

John Barbis
Mimi-Anna Tabaczuk

Student Rep.

Carys Campbell
Orciana Lautman

Administration:

Rachel Wilson

Staff Members:

Andrea Brown
Michael Stewart
Martin Brisebois
Rosemary Hill
Cynthia Lacombe
Krista Jemczyk

Other Invited Guests:

Commissioner Mike Besner – Ward 9

1. Administrative matters:

The Chairperson, Vince Chiarelli presiding.

Welcome was given by the Chairperson, who called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

1.1 Approval of the Agenda:

The BHS Budget was added.

The motion to accept the Agenda was made by Bryan Hamon, seconded by Ian Chuprun. Motion carried.

The acknowledgement of the Territory where BHS sits, was read.

1.1 Approval of the minutes of January 16, 2024:

The Motion to approve the Minutes of January 16, was made by Ian Chuprun, seconded by Nadia Lacino, motion passed unanimously.

2. Reports:

The chairperson mentioned that persons were asking whether there was someone at the school board who could give guidance with the proper pronunciation of the land acknowledgement. Principal Wilson said she will contact the Religious Learning Consultant to aid with this. She noted that the BHS should mention the acknowledgement and understand why it is being done. The Chairperson said he had written a text for BHS GB members to look at and see if it is adequate for our needs. He would like to have consultation on this.

Ms. Wilson noted that the Board is not yet equipped to teach others how to write the statement of acknowledgement for the territory.

2.1 Administration

BHS Administrative Report

Respectfully submitted by: Rachel Wilson

Jan. 16, 2024

- Transco Bus Strike continues.
- Thanks to Student Life for procuring some fun days during December Spirit Week
- Wonderful job salute to Mr. Legault, Ms. Lepage, and the Grade 11 music students for doing their traditional last day mini concert in the entranceway for all. It was festive, fun and a wonderful way to send everyone off.
- Thank you to Mr. Averbach for organizing the Winter Wonderland afternoon!
- Ms. Thornton sent off the Grad hoodies order form...awaiting the grad hoodies.
- Holiday baskets were collected and given out to families in need and On Rock.
- Jan. 9, presentation to grade 7 students about the properties and dangers of vaping.
- Jan.12 Grad Tubing event was a huge success!
- Jan. 16 presentations to entire school given by Kristy Snell, Indigenous journalist who is on sabbatical from CBC to teach at Concordia. How to pave the way with indigenous reporting.

2.2 Staff Report:

GB Staff Report - January 2024

Music

- The BHS Music Department Holiday Magic Concert was held on December 6th and 7th and enthralled its attendees.
- Staff and students were greeted with seasonal and festive music performed by the grade 11 band in the front lobby on the last day of school of 2023.

Student Life

- Different activities occurred during the week of December 11th for Spirit Week such as Candy Cane Grams, Bingo in the cafeteria, Cookie decorating, sale of hot chocolate, Holiday Hat Day, Crocs/Flops and Crazy Sock Day and more.
- Popcorn continued to be sold at recess on Wednesdays benefitting On Rock.

Drama

- The Improv team performed at Dorset, and had its annual Holiday Workshop with Secret Santa, dinner, and guest coaches on December 20.
- Forms went out for the annual trip to Stratford, and has currency filled 45 spots (still a few left).
- Charity Showcase (along with our Show Choir) coming up on February 1st!

Events

- In the afternoon of December 22nd, students had different stations that they could choose to go to for each period. Activities included playing volleyball or basketball, bench soccer, mini card-making, Holiday Kahoot, building gingerbread houses, board games, Mario Kart Tournament and more. Some students went on the ski trip.
- Our Grad students went Tubing on January 12th and had a great time.
- It was the turn of our grade 7 students to attend a workshop on vaping by a medical student in the auditorium on January 9th.
- Kristy Snell spoke to all grades about the importance of understanding the history and perspectives of indigenous communities and individuals, especially in journalism on January 16th.

2.3 Students report:

Presented by Orciana Lautman:

- Strike affected the exams, they were canceled.
- Music department - Two beautiful concerts for parents and family.
- Spirit week hosted by student life – activities including cookie decorating, bingo, crazy sock, festive hat and PJ Day.

2.4 Parent Committee representative:
Christian Knudsen reporting.

- The meeting was canceled in December. Nothing to report.

2.5 The Commissioner's Report:

- Various consultations coming up.
- Transco bus strike: BHS has nine buses with Transco. Mr. Besner received questions via email as to why the same routes are always affected, why can not the school board take the route from another company and share the pain with others?

Mr. Besner shared with the GB that companies bid for route and it is not possible for BHS transport to take over three routes from Transco or switch routes around. He noted that parents received a letter from the School Board regarding reimbursements, that is, \$7 per day for students and if parents owe the School Board money this will be deducted from the reimbursement parent would have received.

Mrs. Wilson asked if this included school fees? Mr. Besner said yes, funding would be used to pay school fees if child(ren) fees were outstanding.

2.6 Home and School

- Mrs. Wilson noted that a meeting was being planned and the committee is working on teachers' staff appreciation week. Parent workshop is coming up soon.

2.7 Community Representative:
Ian Chaprun reporting:

- Vince noted he has not received any contact from the community representative.
- Ian said Rob sends his regrets. He could not attend the meeting but will communicate with Vince.

3 **Business Arising**

- Nothing on the Agenda.

4 **New Business**

4.1 Principal Criteria Consultation

- Vince will look at the previous letters to the School Board which seems to be the same. He will change the dates and names of people who responded. It is on the share in word format. If there is anything that needs to be updated, he advised the GB to inform him. If not, he will get the Board's approval, date it and send it off.
- Ian asked if this was a yearly exercise? Rachel said this is an exercise that has to be done every year.
- The Commissioner said that there is a recommendation that no more than one member of the administrative team be changed in a school year. Almost every meeting, there are administrative staff changes. Several administrators have gone back to teaching, many administrators retiring and the school board are having a tough time to get retirees to come back. This is an issue at every school.
- Vince stated that the letter will be deferred to the next meeting (February) after which it will be formulated and submitted by March 15th.

4.2 The BHS Budget

Principal Wilson presenting.

- The \$850,362.00 BHS allocation is based on government subventions. Last year was underbudget. The board keeps all but 15%. Total surplus 15%/ deficit = \$4,679.00.

4.3 The Lester B Pearson School Board Budget Consultation:

- The Chairman said the response is due by March 28. He asked the principal what his role is concerning the budget. The principal suggested that everyone look at it this month then peruse the past ones. She noted that the board has a clear indication of what they want to spend their money on. If there is anything to prioritize then we could indicate.
- Nadia asked if this is the one that can be submitted online? Principal Wilson affirmed; it was the one.
- The Chairperson stated it will be tabled for next month's meeting.

5 Field trips, Activities, Fundraisers.

5.1 Field Trips:

- April 22nd – 25th, Grade 9 – USA – 52 students, 4 adults – events- cost per student \$1, 050.00. Central Park, Top of Rock Observation Deck,

Madison Square Gardens, Highline, Chelsea Market, Yankee Stadium, 911 Museum, American Museum of Natural History.

Motion to approve the field trips as presented. Motion by Christian Knudsen, seconded by Lauren Broad. Motion passed unanimously.

5.2 Activities:

- Feb. 5th – race and racism education – all grade levels – University professor and speaker working with students.
- Feb. 16th – Kiss me Theatre - part of sex education curriculum – grade 9 students – auditorium.
- Feb 23rd, Valentine dance - \$10 per students – all grades.

Motion to approve the Activities as presented. Motion by George Wilson, seconded by Andrea Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

5.3 Fundraisers:

- Feb. 12th, yearly Dodge ball game – grades 9, 10 & 11 students. They will play against the teachers. This to raise funds for the homeless and refugees. \$1 per student to participate and watch. Dress up.

Motion to approve the fundraiser as presented. Motion by Bryan Hamon, seconded by Christian Knudsen. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Correspondence:

- The policy on school day care was struck as it does not relate to BHS.

7. Question Period

The Chair said, The Principal Criteria and the Budget Consultation will be added as business arising for the next meeting. These will be placed in the Agenda.

8. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm was done by Rosemary Hill and seconded by George Wilson.

**Next meeting for the BHS Governing Board will be held
on February 6, 2024 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom.**