

BES Parent Council May 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Christine Carlson, Jamie Breitzkreitz, Amber Skogstad, Lacey Bartholow, Angie Bachand, Judy Lefebvre, Victoria Kane

Amber called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Christine read the minutes from our March 26th meeting. Judy noted that in the previous minutes that the decision about bus fees was not approved yet by PH, as read. Christine adopted her minutes as being read, Amber second.

Principal's Report

Camp Warwa

- Had a great time
- 97 kids came, not all spent the night
- Shift it next year to the beginning of the year, possibly the 3rd week of September
- In September there is more selection as to what events they have and could have the whole camp to themselves
- Staff felt like it brought students more together as a group, and can see it as a good way to get to know the students better

2026/2027 School Year Planning

- Class configurations looking the same as last year
- 4 Kindergarten classes possibly 5
- 3 classes of every grade, except grade 2's
- There will be 2 grade 2 classes and a 2/3 split
- ½ French (will be split for half the day), ¾ French and 5/6 French

Staff Changes

- Mrs. Goertz and Mrs. Weaver are retiring this year
- Mrs. Waters is going on mat leave
- Megan Boulanger is off to RF Staples
- Mat leave 2/3 split
- IELT nexy year
- French Grade 1 0.5

CASA Classroom

- CASA will be here at Barrhead Elementary
- Start in the 2nd semester to allow more time for planning

Upcoming Events

- School wide field trips happening
- May 29 - Anything but a backpack day

- June 17 Talent show
- June 24 Assembly and last student day

School Fees

- Went through school fees and adjusted as necessary
- No group purchase of school supplies this year
- 2027/2028 will maybe do bulk school supply

Trustee's Report

Annual Satisfaction Survey

- Results for entire division should be on the PH's website under assurance reporting. Individual school's reports will be on their own website under Assurance Reporting
- Satisfaction survey is completed every Feb by staff, parents and students grades 4 to 6
- More than 1,700 students, 239 staff members and 546 parents completed the survey
- 92.3% of students said their school is safe and caring. Highest student result in the last 5 years
- 97.4% of staff agreed that teachers challenge students to do their best.
- Parent participation is up to 30.8% (26.7% in 2024/2025)

Indigenous Education Programing

- PH's received an report on Indigenous education in the division
- There is strong momentum in programming, community partnerships and student outcomes across the division.
- PH's serves approx. 653 self identified indigenous students
 - 159 Status
 - 111 Non-status
 - 372 Metis
 - 11 Inuit
- Indigenous liaisons supporting students and families, strengthening relationships with Elders and connecting communities to resources.
- ELECT (educators leading in cultural transformation)
- Kelly Ferguson developed a hands on Metis cultural learning program – Where's Waposh? - that brings in a Trapper's Tent experience, Michif language lessons and traditional activities to Early Learners (pre-K to Grad 4) across PH's
- Land based learning experience for high school credit is planned for May 27-29 at Lessard Lake. 31 students from 5 schools are planning to attend.
- 2026 Indigenous Graduation Celebration will be held on June 12, 2026 at BES in partnership with Rupersland Institute

Funds Allocation Formula

- Has to be redone as received more funding from the government
- \$60, 857,649 is PH's projected operational funding for 2026/2027 – an increase of approx. \$3.6 million
- Largest factor of this increase is additional grant funding to support the negotiated teacher salary increase
- PH's is moving towards site-based decision-making where principals and school leadership teams will build their own school budget within their overall funding envelope.
- This allows them to put funds where they see fit instead of receiving a prescribed staffing allocation and needing to move funds between categories

Student Enrollment

- Projected enrollment 3683 includes some from Vista Virtual 325 full time 3358 in community schools

Staffing Summary

- 25/26 school year there were 185.32 full time teachers
- 26/27 school year expected to have 179.23 full time teachers
- Councilors have been moved to student services budget

Budget Approval

- Budget approval deadline changed from May 31st to June 12th
- PH's meeting is June 10

Superintendent

- New Superintendent is Raime Drake
- PH's hired outside consultant to conduct interviews as there were a few applicants

Council of School Councils

- Trustee Kane suggested we attend Council of School Councils meetings
- Next one is scheduled for December 1 @ 6:00pm

CPF

- May 6 last meeting
- Roger Dalliere came in May – feedback was positive.
- Held French Immersion student for a day and 4 students signed up to attend
- Hot Dog Sale June 22 – last fundraiser
- Next Meeting is September 9 @ 6:00pm

Additions to the Agenda

Grants

- Lacey suggested we look into the Free to Play Grant – Community Foundations of Canada
- Includes outdoor free play equipment
- Westlock received the grant recently for outdoor equipment like snowshoes

Teacher Rep at Parent Council Meetings

- It was brought up that there has been no teacher rep at our meetings this past year
- We will look into having a Teacher Rep for next year

Next meeting is Wednesday Sept 16, 2026 @ 5:30pm

Amber adjourned the meeting at 6:34pm