BES Parent Council September 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Christine Carlson, Victoria Kane, Karli Zeldenrust, Jessica Nanninga, Angie Bachand, Stacy Loitz, Caroline Roszko, Amber Skogstad, Jamie Breitkreitz, Nicole Braun, Andrea Wierenga

Amber called the meeting order at 5:30pm

Introductions done

Christine read the meeting minutes from our May 20, 2026. She adopted minutes as being read. Stacy seconds

Trustee Report

New Superintendent

- Raime Drake came on as Pembina Hills Superintendent September 16, 2026
- She has been doing a wonderful job so far
- She along with other trustees and school leaders started the year on Goose Lake and was a wonderful way to start off the school year

Board Changes

- Judy Lefebrve is the new Chair
- David Truckey is the new Vice-Chair

Policy Changes

- Regulation to remove politics and ideology from classrooms and amend the Education Act
    - Legislative amendments: Repealing/replacing "welcoming, caring, respectful..."language with "a safe and caring environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours."
    - Effective September 1, December 1st is when everything has to be implemented

- New Student Code of Conduct Statement prohibiting students from engaging in violence and reinforcing students' roles in assisting in preventing violence
    - Effective September 1st, December 1st is when it has to be implemented
- Remaining legislative guidelines changes include:
    - Ensuring diverse student viewpoints
    - Ensuring impartial education programming
    - Refraining from issuing statements of taking positions on political, social, or ideological matters
    - Protecting employees from being compelled to participate or express statements on conscientious, political, social or ideological beliefs

    - Ensuring courses, programs of study and instructional materials encourage a range of perspectives
    - Meaningful parental involvement in their child's learning and non-instructional school activities
    - Delivery of courses/programs of study is continuously monitored
    - Teach courses/programs of study with focus on academic rigor
    - Trustees seeking nomination in a federal election or by-election to take a leave of absence without pay
    - Oversight of superintendent contracts
    - Ensuring literacy/numeracy intervention supports
    - Digital administration of provincial assessments
    - Removal of requirements for approval of external parties using or providing teaching and learning resources that deal primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality to provide religious instruction
    - Compelling the disposition of real property deemed underused
- These regulations will be implemented December 1, 2026 once finalized
- Timeline extensions for provisions related to flag displays, the national anthem and school building/naming will be shared further into Fall 2026.

Key Updates

- Updated Ministerial Orders: Orders covering the Teaching Quality Standard, Leadership Quality Standard, Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard, School Literacy Materials, Personal Mobile Devices/Social Media and Education Services Agreement have been updated to reflect the new legislative focus on a safe and caring environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours.
- Real property transfer provisions are scheduled to take effect on Sept 1, 2026 with further regulatory details following in early Fall 2026
- Full details of revisions for each policy can be found in PH's Board Agenda
    - Policy 02 Role of the Board (legislative changes)
    - Policy 03 Role of the Trustee (legislative changes)
    - Policy 04 Trustee Code of Conduct (legislative changes)
    - Policy 05 Role of the Chair (operation changes)
    - Policy 06 Role of the Vice Chair (operational changes)
    - Policy 08 Committees of the Board (operational changes)
    - Policy 08 Appendix A – Committees of the Board (operational changes)
    - Policy 08 Appendix B – Audit Committee (operational changes)
    - Policy 11 Delegation of Authority (legislative changes)
    - Policy 12 Role of the Superintendent (operational and legislative changes)
    - Policy 15 Grade Configuration and School Closures (legislative changes)

- Policy 16 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel (operational changes)
- Policy 19 Safe and Caring Learning and Working Environments (legislative changes)

CPF

- Michael asked Victoria to attend another MLA breakfast in November to discuss French Immersion Programs in schools

Principals Report

School Population

- Down 3 or 4 kids from last year
- Had 97 Grade 6's leave and only 77 Kindergarten kids register
- Class sizes are getting a bit big now

French Immersion

- Split the ½ French class apart in the mornings

Staffing

- Staff gone: Megan Boulanger, Maegan Lynch, Laura Goertz, Shelley Weaver and Dellanie Waters (Mat leave)
- Additions:
  - Cassy Fisher - 2/3 split for mat leave
  - Amy Wilkinson for grade 1 until January then Taryn Westerlund will take over
  - Catherine Watson in IELT position
  - Marie-Claire Deom – 1 French
  - Madame Alyssa – French Monitor
- Trying to get another Inclusive Ed Teacher, Mr. Ferster will take a bit more on, as there have been no applicants so far. Possibly going to try to get more EA's trained to help out until the position is filled

Schedule Change

- Schedule has been changed to meet instructional hours
- Removed extra field trips, i.e.: not as many free swims.
- Field trip has to enrich the curriculum

Technology

- Asked staff to re-evaluate use of technology in the classroom
- No more screens while students eat lunch
- Reduce digital reading, example: Epic

Upcoming events

- Sept 17 Rodeo assembly

- September 23/24 School pictures
- September 24/25 Camp Warwa
- September 28 Terry Fox
- September 29 Orange Shirt Day
- Oct 7/8 Goal setting night (Parents & Teachers)
- October 29 Grade 6's to Legislature
- October 27-29 Jujitsu – Local Jujitsu club wants to come in and teach the kids during all the gym classes

Parent Reading Group

- How can we help our students with their literacy scores? And how can parents help teachers in the classroom?
- Angie thought to get parents helping in the classroom, they could read with kids.
- Parents would get trained in how to read with kids.
- Would need help with scheduling
- Will have more info at the next meeting

Meeting Dates

- Is it possible to book all meeting ahead of time so Raime can schedule to attend one

CPF

- September 28 is their AGM
- Planning a fall fundraiser TBD at the AGM

Updates/Business from Minute

School Logo and Apparel

- There is a new Administrative Procedure on logo/mascot changes
- It is put on hold for now

Open House

- Went well but maybe there was less students
- Staff feel they had better turnout than previous year

ASCA Funds

- Need to spend the $500 from ASCA
- BCHS wants Zebra to possibly come out and talk
- Zebra provides safe online safety and exploitation awareness resources to help families protect children on the Internet.
- Victoria suggested maybe ICE (Internet Child Exploitation) unit would come and do something - RCMP Northern Alberta Child Exploitation Unit

addressing child exploitation and sextortion a sobering reminder of the critical safety issues of facing our youth in digital spaces
- We will look into a few different options and discuss at next meeting

Council of School Council Meeting
- Council of school Councils meeting December 1, 2026

Additions to the Agenda
BCHS Incident
- Incident happened at the high school last week (September 8-11)
- While BCHS was put on a "hold and secure", BES was having recess and outside. Parent was wondering why wasn't the elementary put on the hold and secure?
- The RCMP had it under control and felt that BES wasn't a threat at that time
- PH's still needs to have a debrief on the situation, but right now it is an open investigation with the RCMP
- Maybe more communication between parents and a message be sent out that the elementary school is ok? Instead of parents getting messages from other parents and then panicking as they have not heard anything from BES

Amber adjourned the meeting at 6:21pm

'Next meeting is November 21, 2026 @ 5:30pm in the BES Staff Room