

Bradner Elementary School

Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2025

In Attendance

Erica Wall, Grace Janzen, Jocelyn Radom, Elva Lottenbach, Melissa Crump, Jill Azanza, Danica Neufeldt

January Minutes

- Motion to accept January minutes M/S: Erica/Grace - carried

Principal's Report

School continues to be busy

Kindergarten/next year registrations – starts the ball rolling for next school year

K reg down significantly from last year. School has been in contact with all known families that have upcoming Kindergarten kids.

Currently only 12 grade 5s, 9 in grade 4 – a bit of an anomaly

Author came to speak to kids – students were engaged

First aid drills in classrooms, other safety drills reviewed – district wide initiative.

Snow day – most kids were equipped for snow. Some funds were used to purchase mitts/hat etc for students in need.

Handball complete, basketball is on now

No staff responsible for soccer club, parents are in attendance

Valentine's Day – a nice tradition

Parent/Teacher Conferences – looking for parent feedback on online booking system. Teachers message on seesaw to remind parents to book and to offer help. PT conferences are in place of interim reports.

School Photographers are pedaling their services.

Class photos will be sent home today.

Lunar New Year was fun. Teachers really rise to a challenge quickly at Bradner! There was only 2 weeks' notice for Lunar New Year celebrations. Did a small parade in the gym, each class created their own dragons.

Reflections:

Lori is in her 5th month at Bradner!

Originally thought it was a 2 wk placement, extended by 2 weeks, then became an ongoing. Lori loved the observation aspect when she first came – a small country school. Teachers put in so much work to maintain activity levels for students at our small school. All teachers are involved in everything.

Same thoughts with PAC – amount of work we do blows Lori away! Small group of parents with a lot of power.

Loves the close-knit school community. Loves that the primary teachers have taught all the kids. Our students have so many adults that care about them in Bradner Elementary.

After November her thinking changed and she had a mindset of being the Principal rather than temporary and has embraced the roll more. Dealing with more complex issues as the months roll by.

Pros of small school – lots of trust and connections. Cons – everyone knows everything, which can have negative impacts.

There is a District policy for addressing concerns – sometimes too many people know the information. It is important for parents to speak for themselves and address the problem of their own child before speaking about it with the community at large. Best case is to talk to the teacher first, then principal, then superintendent, then district trustees.

Lines can get blurred when parents are friends with staff. The close-knit community is a way of life here but presents challenges – concerns need to be addressed through the proper channels and with professionalism.

Lori is here until March 31. Plan in place after that, but the plan could change. The district aims for consistency for the principal position.

Treasurer's Report

Bank Balances:

Chequing: \$11,658.81

Gaming: \$7,471.49

Savings: \$30,0009.95

Hot Lunch Sales: \$1,726.50

Hot Lunch Expenses (cinnamon buns): (\$393.60)

May Day Vendor Fee Sales: \$320.00

Soccer Club Sales: \$475.00

Baking Club Sales: \$200.00

Baking Club Expenses: (\$114.41)

Profit: \$85.59

Bingo Sales: \$2,631 (\$2,043 cash, \$420 pizza, \$168 square)

Bingo Expenses: (\$531.96) (\$194.69 concession, \$327 pizza, \$10 license)

Bingo Profit: \$2,099.04 (2024 profit \$900)

This round of coffee fundraising made approx. \$200

DPAC Report:

Elva attended

Main topics:

Numeracy and literacy in schools – Abbotsford schools are testing slightly above provincial rates

Indigenous learning talks.

Lots of questions from a parent surrounding literacy & numeracy, no real answers provided from DPAC.

Discussion about explicit materials found at Rick Hansen.

Some issues surrounding French Immersion & catchments

Voting & New Business

- May Day Prep – Champs is processing \$10K for Bradner to go to the Playground fund. Diana is working with Christine Ens on this. We will need to use May Day fund for May Day expenses.
 - Keyholder needed on May Day
 - Custodian required with gym reservation
- Greenhouse Update – Lori has permission from the district to go ahead with the build. Install is included – some question around logistics and if there is any site prep. Ongoing cost is also a concern.
 - What is the longer-term plan for when there are no staff or teachers interested in taking on anything garden related?
 - Maybe a connection or opportunity to partner with Brader Church.

- Greenhouse location? 12' wide x ??
 - Ongoing maintenance plan and cost. Garden club?
- Bingo Night Recap
 - Courtney Walter called Bingo and did a great job
 - 3 winners per card worked well
 - Great money maker
 - Fun night for families
 - License was purchased. Some discussion about the rules of the license and if our event abided by those rules.
- Movie Night – April 4?
 - Week after spring break, Friday night.
 - Movie: survey to Division 1 to choose. Options?
 - Paddington, Moana 2,
 - Will need custodian here, Lori will be on vacation (or finished at Bradner)
 - Elva doesn't want to do popcorn – it's too messy
- Flower show helpers for April 13, evening
 - Jocelyn,
 - Volunteers opportunity is on the spreadsheet and will be mentioned on WhatsApp group.

Other Business

- Hot Lunch
 - Could use another helper for next week (India's Most Wanted)
 - Will ask on WhatsApp
 - Any suggestions for next term?
 - Red Robin was a hit
 - Hot Dogs on Sports Day – June 19
- After School Activities Update
 - Baking Club
 - One day of club has occurred
 - Plan to use May 5 bake day for May Day baking – kids can pick recipes to make
 - Melissa tries to do recipes that kids wouldn't do at home normally
 - Some other activities are also happening during club – aprons, recipes
 - Soccer
 - Everything is going well first week. Kids had fun and the Coach did a lot of fun games.
 - Next week Elva will help more, probably will be outside
 - 19 kids are attending
 - Maypole dates
 - Starting April 15, Tuesday's & Friday's 3:05 to 4:15, 10 practices
 - Grades 2-5 are welcome
 - Grade 6 & 7 alumni are also welcome!
 - Elyse will check dates with school office
 - Sarah Yoder can help again
 - Send form out before Spring Break
 - Singing Club
 - Starting Feb 27, Thursdays after school
 - Grades 3/4/5
 - Can send notice again through parent bulletin – share again all the activities happening

- Mother's Day Fundraiser?
 - Is Megan doing the SO Luxury fundraiser?
 - Not a lot of interest from attendees of this meeting
 - Maybe a night out/home party rather than sending out a flyer?
 - Just Breathe cold plunge spa on Myrtle
 - Bookings of up to 12
 - Ladies night? Sell tickets.
 - Venue allows you to bring your own food
- Year-end all school field trip ideas:
 - Melissa has a connection to an Aldergrove school PAC and asked about joining up for year end trip to Otter Co-Op pool. Will get back to us.
 - MRC. Contained, can we book the entire facility?
 - Teachers are the organizers
 - Lori will bring it up at Tuesday staff meeting.
- Grade 5 field trip
 - Cultus Lake waterslides and pizza (June 23)
 - Both teachers will attend
 - This is a school field trip, not PAC related. No parents needed to chaperone.
- Request for a few more spirit days
 - Lori will bring up at Tuesday staff meeting

Round Table

- Next Meeting Date Proposed: April 4, 1:15pm
 - Set up movie night after meeting