

Byrne Creek Virtual Community Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Attendance : Effie Aadland (Principal), Samantha Nelson (Chair), Sandra Medeiros (Vice Chair), Elena Generalova (Treasurer), Aniz Jiwani (MAL), Maria Gunner (MAL), Sara Labrash (Meeting Moderator & Teacher Representative), Bal Dhillon (Community Coordinator), Moreno Stefanon (Athletics Director), Barry Callister (Vice Principal), Laurent Scaligine (Vice Principal), online participants

Regrets: Sanjay Grover, Naz Jakir

Meeting called to order at 7:03

1. Introductions

Samantha Nelson led a round of introductions among the newly elected members of Community Council:

- Chair: Samantha Nelson (former Vice Chair, son at school)
- Vice Chair: Sandra Medeiros (former Member at Large, two daughters at school)
- Treasurer: Elena Generalova (a new member, a CPA, three sons at school)

2. Approval of Agenda

Samantha Nelson proposed a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting, which was seconded by Elena Generalova and approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of June 2020 Meeting:

Sandra Medeiros introduced a motion to approve the June 9, 2021 Community Council meeting minutes, which was seconded by Elena Generalova and approved.

4. Principal's Report (Effie Aadland):

Principal Effie Aadland welcomed all parents to the new academic year and introduced new executive staff joined: Vice Principal Barry Callister (a former biology and science teacher and VP at Moscrop) and Vice Principal Laurent Sealigine (sixteen years at Burnaby North, three years as VP).

Principal introduced Counsellors Aman Rai, Michelle Le Pool and Jeanne Davy and the Safe School Specialist Phil Dutton, Community Coordinator Bal Dhillon, Athletics Director Stefanon Moreno and Teacher Representative Sara LaBrash.

Principal spoke about a new Bell Schedule with flex time every morning and an extended flex hours on Friday and longer study blocks for projects and labs on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Principal reminded about the importance of health and safety protocols and thanks all students for compliance.

Principal told parents about Byrne Creek's HEART core values:

H – honesty
E – empathy
A – achievement
R – respect
T – teamwork

Dates to remember:

School Photos:	September 16, 2021
ProD Day:	September 24, 2021 (no school)
BARC:	September 28, 2021
Terry Fox Run:	September 29, 2021
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation:	September 30, 2021 (school closed)
Winter break begins:	December 20, 2021
Last day of school:	December 17, 2021
School reopens after winter break:	January 4, 2021

5. Community School Coordinator Report (Bal Dhillon)

Bal Dhillon reminded to parents that Byrne Creek is the only community school in Burnaby School district. He said that those parents and kids who came from Stride Community school should be more familiar with the concept and explained that a community school has a community coordinator, who must be a teacher, and a community room with supplies, which is always open for students even after school hours. Byrne Creek community school follows LOVE (leave out violence) principles, which violence prevention and offers after school clubs and programs to engage students, e.g. Leo Club, Athletics Clubs, Robotics Club etc. These after school programs are developed in response to the needs of a local community.

Bal spoke about challenges faced by after school programs during the last year due to Covid19 and planned community events for this year, including Thanksgiving dinner, which are still up in the air. Bal advised parents to check Byrne Creek web site and follow blogs for updates on community events.

6. Athletics Director Report (Moreno Stefanon)

Moreno Stefanon shared good news with parents about return of team sports, tournaments and athletic competitions this academic year. This Fall senior boys soccer will be offered to Grade 9-12 students, with tryouts scheduled for September 16, 2021 after school. In Winter basketball will be offered to Grade 9-12 students. Special opportunities were created for female athletes to engage in school sports, such as field hockey, girls basketball, in the hope that girls will be inspired by the success of Canadian female athletes at Tokyo summer Olympics. Students can find Athletic Director in room 104 and/or via email: moreno.stephanon@byrnabyschools.ca. Rugby Boys and Volleyball athletics clubs will be set up on Microsoft Teams to keep athletes organized.

A parent raised concern over safety of wrestling for 8 graders. Athletic Director assured the parent that all wrestling instructors received prior safety training and follow strict safety protocols. Another parent asked about school's potential use of a skating rink being built by the city next to Byrne Creek secondary, and if there any plans for an ice hockey team at the school. Athletics Director advised the parent that ice hockey is outside of BC School sports list, but Principal may explore potential partnerships with an ice rink for recreational after school use by students.

7. Teacher Representatives Report – Sara LaBrash

Sara LaBrash welcomed introduction of large study blocks on Wednesdays and Thursdays in Bell Schedules to accommodate the need for science labs and projects.

After school clubs (other than athletics) are coming soon, such as Leo Club, Global Issues club, Robotics Club, Performing Arts Clubs (Musical Theater and Drama production), Student Governments.

8. Chair's Report (Samantha Nelson)

Nothing to report, as this is too early in the school year. Samantha Nelson is working on the change is the Community Council account signing authority.

Unlike in a Parent Advisory Committee, you don't need to be a parent of a student enrolled at the school to be a member of Community Council.

Samantha gave credit to former Chair Naz Jakir, who has been Chair of Byrne Creek Community Council for several years, and is a go to person for many questions, such as scholarships, gaming grant applications, career life education etc.

A parent asked Chair about the role gaming money plays in funding of the community school activities. Samantha explained that every year the Byrne Creek Community Council applies for a Gaming grant, based on the number of students enrolled in the previous year, and BC Lottery Corporation transfers a gaming grant (\$20 per student) to the PAC/Community Council gaming account. Teachers and Clubs then apply for funding that should meet the Burnaby School District criteria, and PAC or Community Council evaluates and approves or rejects these funding requests.

The next Community Council meeting will be held on October 4, 2021.

9. Treasurer's Report (Elena Generalova)

Elena Generalova provided a treasurer report as at August 31, 2021 based on August 2021 Vancity statements pending access to online banking statements.

The balance in Byrne Creek PAC gaming account on August 31, 2021 was \$27,785.51. There was no activity in the gaming account since the June 2021 treasure report.

The balance in the PAC General account was \$1,620.11 on August 31, 2021 after \$75 were withdrawn on August 30, 2021 to pay for BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Board membership on August 31, 2021.

There are six outstanding cheques (in transit) written and signed by the former Chair and treasurer that have not been cleared yet. The treasurer will follow up on the status of these cheques once the change in the signing authority is complete.

The treasurer will provide September and October treasurer reports at the October 2021 PAC meeting.

10. DPAC Report (Samantha Nelson)

Nothing to report, as it is too early in the school year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.