

# BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

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Date:	November 6, 2023
Time:	7:00 PM
Chair	Michelle Krywolt
Note-taker:	Tasha Murray
Attendance:	Bal Dhillon (Community School Coordinator), Effie Aadland (Principal), Janisha Haywood (Department Head – Student Services), Laurent Scaligine (Vice Principal), Lisa Moxon (Department Head – Social Studies), Lawna London (Home Economics), Maria Gunner (Member at Large), Mel Primeau (DPAC Rep), Michelle Krywolt (Chair), Mimi Lim (Vice Principal), Steve Cook (Teacher), Neelu (member at large), Tasha Murray (Secretary) and approximately 9 parents and 2 students

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The meeting was called to order 7:04 PM.

### INTRODUCTIONS

Tasha gave a land acknowledgement.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of October 16, 2023 meeting (Motion Mel/seconded Maria; no one opposed, motion carried). Minutes approved. Changes to the agenda:

- There will not be a meeting in December (next meeting January 15, 2024)
- Adding 'single occupancy washrooms' for discussion at the end of the meeting

### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Lawna London who teaches catering and culinary arts, and a grade 10 catering student, attended to request funds for an icemaker. As part of catering class, students plan, prepare and serve meals to the surrounding community. They also provide coffee and snacks when there are events or meetings held in the school. They hosted an Autumn Harvest dinner in October – turkey dinner + fixings. Budget allocations are discussed below.

### TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE – JANISHA HAYWOOD ON GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Janisha Haywood, Department Head of Student Services and one of 4 counsellors at the school, presented information on graduation requirements:

- Grad requirements haven't changed in previous years except for the required Indigenous focused requirement which can be met through a variety of course options including BC First Peoples 12, Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12, English First Peoples 10-12
- There are various pathways for students to meet math graduation requirements
- Numeracy assessment (grade 10) and literacy assessments (grade 10 and 12) are required for graduation.
- All students take French 8, don't need a language to graduate although some universities require an intro or language course in grade 11

#### Post-Secondary Requirements:

- BC college requirements: most accept students on first come first serve basis, so apply early to secure your spots; many colleges open applications in the fall
- College to university transfer: university transfer means you start studying at college, then transfer to university to complete your studies; universities will recognize the courses taken at college but look up courses you plan to take and what the university you plan to go to will accept (<https://www.bctransferguide.ca/>)
- University Admissions:
  - UBC: first round offers to scholarship/awards (early admission) December 1; regular admission deadline January 15; deadline to authorize UBC Access to grades January 31; UBC will broadly evaluate academic history; requires a personal profile (short essays)
  - SFU: December 15 major entrance scholarships application deadline; Jan 31 regular admission application deadline; Feb 28 deadline to submit all required documentation for admission; SFU's website has a [Compass Admission feature](#)

For online courses, students can only self-report the final grade. For SFU and UBC, online courses must have a final mark by the end of June (SFU now requires a course must be 50% complete by March 15).

The Provincial [StudentTranscripts Service](#) is an online platform for students to view their school marks, scholarships & transcripts, and to send transcripts (up to 25 for free). Students must register for a BC Government account (BCeID). [EducationPlannerBC](#) is where you can apply to one or more BC post-secondary institution. You must sign up for an account and then you are can complete an application profile and select which program you want to apply for.

A post-secondary fair will be held on November 22, 2023 from 9-10:45am in A Wing with representatives from several local institutions. Copies of Ms. Haywood's slides and additional links and information are available at the [Byrne Creek student services website](#).

## TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE LISA MOXON – HOW DO YOU PAY FOR UNIVERSITY

Lisa Moxon, Department Head – Social Studies, presented information on scholarships. In the 2023 graduating class two thirds of graduating students received scholarships or awards.

There are 4 types of scholarships:

1. School-based – usually not worth as much (amounts range from \$100-500), set up for various reasons by departments and community partners
2. Province/District
  - a. Dogwood (District) Scholarship (\$1250) – application required, concentration of 4 courses leading to a career in a particular area; 2.5 GPA average, Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident

- b. BC Achievement Scholarship (\$1250) – no application needed; awarded to top 8000 students in BC
  - c. BC Excellence Scholarship (\$5000) – school nominates one student; application required
  - d. Pathway to teacher education scholarship (\$5000) – application required, student applies directly to the Ministry
3. Private (examples: Beedie Luminaries, TD Canada Trust, REMAX Quest for Excellence)
  4. Entrance scholarships – each university has their own deadline (December 1 is common); mostly based on marks and questions as part of academic and personal profile; bursaries also offered based on need

**Notes:**

- Need to consider the timing and duration of scholarships – some are good for 5 years; some don't come in time for September start date
- There are many scholarship websites and resources
- Many scholarships require reference letters from adults that have seen students in action (should include specifics of what you did, how often you volunteered/worked, number of hours you contributed)
- Ms. Moxon maintains a Grade 12 Teams group to share information

Contact Ms. Moxon for a copy of the presentation; grade 12s were previously given the presentation.

## **COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR'S REPORT – BAL DILLON**

Bal presented some health and community data from questions in the YDI (Youth Development Instrument). YDI is a self-report questionnaire that measures the health and well-being of Grade 11 (16-17 years of age) students in British Columbia (BC). 57% of students were born inside Canada, 43% outside of Canada. Data indicate mental health struggles for many students. Recurring themes are in alignment within the school and in the community. Other data will be presented at future meetings.

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – EFFIE AADLAND**

Aashana Arora was awarded the 2023 Governor General's Bronze Academic Medal for Byrne Creek Community School. Provincial sports tournaments are happening now and into next week for cross country, aquatics, and field hockey. This wraps the fall season, and the winter sports season starts soon.

At a recent district meeting, everyone was in support of a school name change (Byrne is named after a former Indian agent and represents racist and anti-Indigenous practices). There is no policy currently in place for school name changes, but it is now a Board priority. Admin staff will keep us updated about a committee being created soon; it is expected to be a long process. The District process may be separate from the City of Burnaby's work to update the name in the community.

The Halloween Carnival was held on October 31, 2023 when students from our family of elementary schools visited. There was a Remembrance Day Assembly on November 10. November 21 report cards will be available in MyEducation BC; grade 8s and 9s are using proficiency reporting. Please contact admin staff or your student's teachers with any questions.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT & TREASURER'S REPORT – MICHELLE KRYWOLT & SAM NELSON**

The Council has received BC Community Gaming Grant funds and is tasked with allocating the funds to clubs and projects happening at the school. Teachers must submit requests. The Council Executives drafted a proposed budget for requested projects, presented in a spreadsheet. Decisions are made based on where the funds can

make the most impact to support the most requests. Some requests are not eligible due to funding criteria. There were 33 requests from teachers and approximately \$24,000 to spend, leaving a small amount for contingency. Michelle and Sam presented the budget. There were no questions related to the proposals and 2 changes made to the drafts circulated at the meeting. A motion was made to approve the proposed budget (Motion Maria/second Melissa; no one opposed, motion carried). The appendix below shows the final budget allocations.

As of October 1, the Council bank accounts status:

- General account \$2560 (still waiting for 2 scholarship cheques from June to clear)
- Gaming account \$7,942 (notification on Oct 4 of this year's gaming grant of \$20,600; still waiting for grad expenses from last year and one more scholarship cheque to clear)

## **DPAC REPORT**

No one was able to attend the last DPAC meeting as it was held at the same time as the last BCCC meeting. Mel is attending the November 20 meeting. Maria attended the last District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee (DAC), with member from all community schools in the Burnaby School District.

## **PARENT QUESTIONS & COMMENTS**

Single occupancy washrooms: Some students refuse to use the washrooms because groups of students skipping classes and congregating in the washrooms, making it uncomfortable for others. Two washrooms are currently available for single use (one in student services, one in upper A wing, both available to any staff/student). At the District level, there is currently discussion happening around washroom renovations. In the new Burnaby North Secondary School building, washrooms are designed to be gender neutral where stalls have top to bottom walls and doors and hand wash stations in a separate area. When we see how this works in practice, this may become an option in other washrooms.

Donations to the school: [SchoolCash Online](#) can be used to make donations (select your school, tax receipt is issued right away).

Teacher wish lists: Is there a better way to match teach/classroom need with services/resources available in the school community? Administration have put the offer out to staff for requests for resources, but haven't received any direct feedback. It was suggested to add this as a standing agenda item to staff meetings, so teachers can make requests they may have at the time.

Meeting ended at 8:30 PM.

## **NEXT MEETING**

January 15, 2023 on Zoom.

*Questions, Comments, Thoughts or Suggestions?*

*Email the Byrne Creek Community Council*

[bynecreekcc@gmail.com](mailto:bynecreekcc@gmail.com)