

# BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

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Date:	October 6, 2026
Time:	7:00 PM
Acting Chair	Michelle Krywolt
Note-taker:	Tasha Murray
Attendance:	Bal Dhillon (Community School Coordinator), Ben Paré (Principal), Janet Salvador (Member at Large), Manvinder Kaur (DPAC representative), Michelle Krywolt (Chair), Michael Tanaka (Member at Large), Mimi Lim (Vice Principal), Steve Cook (Teacher), Tasha Murray (Secretary), 2 students, 20 parents/family members in person, and 10 people virtually for staff presentation
Regrets	Sam Nelson (Treasurer)

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

### INTRODUCTIONS

A round of introductions was completed for Council Executives and staff present.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Motion to amend the agenda to move the guest presentation to first on the agenda (motion Manvinder/seconded Michelle/approved). Motion made to approve the June 2025 minutes (motion Michelle/seconded Michael/approved). Motion made to approve the September 2025 minutes (motion Michael/seconded Michelle/approved). Minutes from previous months are available on the [Community Council webpage on the school website](#).

### STUDENT GUESTS – VUK & MIÁRA

Vuk (President) and Miára (Electronics Department Representative) presented on the Robotics Club, which includes about 30 students who apply math and STEM skills in hands-on projects. The club is open to all students regardless of classes taken and is needs-blind, with no fees— all expenses are covered. Supported by teacher sponsor Mr. Cook, the team competes in the FIRST Robotics Competition, an international event that inspires youth to pursue STEM leadership. Last year, the team achieved outstanding results, placing 2nd in B.C. and 14th out of 50 teams at the Canadian Pacific Regional.

## **STAFF PRESENTATION – GRADE 12 PARENT INFORMATION PRESENTATION – MS JAMES & MS GILLAM (ONLINE)**

Byrne Creek counselling staff presented information on graduation requirements:

- Minimum of 80 credits required for graduation (20 courses) in grades 10 to 12; 7 elective courses (4 courses must be at the grade 12 level)
- Between grade 10 and 12 students must take an Indigenous focused course (e.g. BC First Peoples, English First Peoples 10-12)
- Numeracy assessment (grade 10) and literacy assessments (grade 10 and 12) are required for graduation
- There are various English Language Learner pathways
- There are various pathways for students with intellectual disabilities

Counsellors are working with grade 12 students for diploma verifications, to make sure they have all the requirements for graduation.

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 if choice will accept ([www.bctransferguide.ca](http://www.bctransferguide.ca))
- University Admissions:
  - UBC (Vancouver): first round offers for scholarship/awards (early admission) December 1 (November 15 for International students); regular admission deadline January 15; all courses need to be completed by June 30 (including online courses); quite competitive and need quite strong grades especially for English and math; look at different faculties for specific criteria; requires a personal profile (short essays to demonstrate who students are)
  - SFU: December 15 major entrance scholarships application deadline; Jan 31 regular admission application deadline; May 1 deadline to accept offer of admission; June 3- deadline to complete all in-person and online courses for admission; official grades only are accepted (no self-reporting)
  - Looking to apply outside of BC? Research each individual institution's admission requirements and application deadlines
  - Out of country admission requirements: students who want to apply to a USA university must create a [Common App](#) profile
  - Accessing transcripts: The Provincial [Student Transcripts 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 used to apply for one or more of most BC post-secondary institution. You must sign up for an account and then you can complete an application profile and select which program you want to apply for. Check university sites for out-of-Province schools

Grade 12 students need to check their school e-mail often and check the status of post-secondary applications regularly. Counsellors are happy to help with anything! Ms. Moxon is the staff person at the school responsible for supporting student scholarship applications. She will be holding an info session at flex this week for grade 12 students.

Grad activities and important dates:

- Group grad photo Oct 21

- Individual grad photos with Artona Oct 26-Nov 1
- Winter formal date TBD
- Grad cruise TBD
- Grade ceremony at SFU 6:30 Sunday, May 24 (\$105)
- Grad dinner and dance @ Pinnacle Hotel in Vancouver (June 23 @ 6PM, \$135)
- Grad hoodies in the process of being ordered – one order in fall and another one in the spring (\$64)
- Communication with students through Teams and e-mails

Each grade has a Teams app connected through e-mail. This presentation is posted there, along with other grad info.

## **COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR –BAL DHILLON**

A few upcoming community school initiatives:

- Partnering with SUCCESS for post-secondary Education Pathways Forum on Nov 6 from 4:30-6PM; Career highlights, academic options, scholarship tips, resources fair; Grades 10, 11 and 12 students plus families can attend
- Coats for kids – winter jacket program; Oct 16 in the afternoon; any student who needs a winter coat will not be turned away; accepting clothing donations (good condition, not torn, dirty; bring to community room)

## **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT – BEN PARÉ**

3 items:

- The November meeting will likely feature Lisa Moxon to speak on scholarships, with options for parents to join in person and online; goal to engage more parents
- Student-led conferences on Wed, Oct 22; letter out to all families on Friday and then online sign-up will open on Oct 14; families are always welcome to reach out to your student’s teachers for meeting; child doesn’t have to come to conferences, but they can
- There are issues at other schools in the district with people from the community come in quietly with a tool and snipping bike/scooter locks; at Byrne, the rack is right outside the office; best solution is having a high quality lock; dollar store locks are not adequate; thefts can happen everywhere; students can’t bring scooters inside the building

## **TREASURER’S REPORT – MICHELLE KRYWOLT FOR SAM NELSON**

2 accounts:

- General account – operating account \$1307.16; no activity the last month; used for office supplies, smaller purchases
- Gaming account –received the annual gaming grant on Oct 3; \$22,260; carry-over from previous year; current balance \$31,385.90; Ben sent message to staff about grant requests for clubs, field trips, equipment, etc. for the current school year, due Oct 17; Council Executives will meet with Ben; proposed spending will be voted on at November Council meeting

## **DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DPAC) REPORT – MANVINDER KAUR**

September meeting – new committee, some people stepped down, new members have joined; no new business; school board strategic presentation.

## **PARENT QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Request for clarification on how we enter the driveway from the outside, arrows/roundabout; staff will look at signage; recommend avoiding the parking lot at 9AM and 3PM.

Question about how to coach kids to use AI; teachers trying to set up guidelines. This was suggested as a parent education topic – the ethical use of AI and how to use it correctly.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on November 3, 2025. Meeting adjourned 8:16 PM.

*Questions, Comments, Thoughts or Suggestions?*

*Email the Byrne Creek Community Council*

*[byrnecreekcc@gmail.com](mailto:byrnecreekcc@gmail.com)*