

# BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

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Date:	April 13, 2026
Time:	7:00 PM
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), Michael Tanaka (Member at Large), Michelle Krywolt (Chair), Sam Nelson (Treasurer), Steve Cook (Robotics Club Teacher Sponsor), Tasha Murray (Secretary), And 11 parents/community members
Regrets	None

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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. Michelle provided a land acknowledgement.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Motion made to approve the meeting agenda (motion Sam/seconded Manvinder/approved). February minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

### STUDENT GUESTS – ROBOTICS TEAM (5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES)

Creekside Robotics is a free and inclusive program that is open to all Byrne Creek students, with 30 students currently participating. The team performed very well in the FIRST Robotics Competition, ranking first in British Columbia for average match points and driver control, and second in the province for autonomous points, while also placing in the top 10 overall at competition.

Students work collaboratively by forming alliances with other teams, where they build communication and strategic thinking skills by quickly assessing strengths, weaknesses, and matchups prior to each round. The student representatives demonstrated this year's robot, which is designed to collect and launch balls. Photos of the competition and the team's achievements were also shared.

### COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR –BAL DHILLON

New student goals are set every 3 years. A student forum has been held 1-4 years ago (but not last year) for grades 8-11 (a few grade 12s) to give feedback on school goals. Similar opportunities are provided for teachers. In previous years, students were hand-selected for the student forum, considering ELL, students with chronic absenteeism and a wide spectrum of students involved in various clubs.

This year a student forum will be held and students were randomly selected. Bal passed around the questions that will be asked at the forum this Friday, including themes on:

- Student support – For example, what school services make you feel supported? Are There any services you wish the school offered?
- Belonging and school climate – For example, what would you tell a new student about making friends and feeling included at Byrne Creek.
- Equity & representation

Meeting attendees were encouraged to let their students know they are welcome to attend (talk to Ms. Haywood for more information). A parent forum is booked for May 21 from 6-8PM and will include dinner, childcare, and translation. All parents invited to attend. Attendees were invited to suggest topics and themes to be discussed.

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – BEN PARÉ**

Good news stories:

- Math department recorded a higher number of students participate in math Waterloo contest (55); 6-7 students placed in top 25% across Canada, receiving distinction
- Byrne students performed at Edmonds Community School for Eid
- Nowruz, Persian New Year, celebration happened at school – treats, dance, celebration
- 16 students went to Greece over spring break
- Superintendent visited Byrne one morning

School plan:

- In September 2025, had 1041 total students, including approx. 250 ELL students, 70 fee-paying international students, 155 students with designations (over 10%), 31 Indigenous students, students from 76 different countries, and 65 different home languages.
- What are we doing well? Students at Brye Creek are completing their courses at a very high rate of 97%
- Advanced Placement (AP) programs have grown significantly the past 5 years with over 100 exams written this past May (which can lead to getting credit as university); added an AP Diaspora Studies class
- What are we not doing well? Observational data indicate that some students are not experiencing as much success as they should; e.g. Indigenous, ELL or formerly ELL students, are not graduating at the same level as their peers; given systemic racism, we wonder what barriers our BIPOC students continue to face at Byrne and how we can remove those barriers.
- Goal: how to improve educational outcomes for all kids, particularly for those who face barriers – BIPOC, learners with disabilities and diverse abilities, students currently and formerly in case, LGBTQIA2S+ learners, ELL learners, students with overlapping or intersecting social identities
- What are we doing:
  - Universal Designs for Learning (UDL) – lunch and learns, focus on meaningful inclusion, professional development for staff
  - SEL and well being – food programs, parent nights, wellness week, student and parent forums
  - Literacy and numeracy – SLR team, Leyton co-teaching

Attendees and parents were invited to provide feedback on strengths of the plan, where more work could be done, and any other feedback.

School fees for 2026-2027 were presented; everything is staying the same, except dinner/dance will be increasing. If as a parent, if your child is not being appreciated for who they are, or treated respectfully or kindly, or are not happy, please tell someone at the school.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT – MICHELLE KRYWOLT**

An official invitation for the parent forum will come in the next few weeks. It is the start of a conversation about what is going well, what needs to be improved, and an opportunity to provide feedback to school, going deeper than at council meetings. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend, please spread the word.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT –SAM NELSON**

Balances in the current accounts:

- General account – just over \$1400 balance
- Gaming account –just over \$28,000 balance

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

There will be budget discussion on April 15; input is open for all families.

### **PARENT QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Inquiry about yearbook costs: \$50 early bird, \$60 late fee.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on May 4, 2026. Meeting adjourned 8:22 P.M.

*Questions, Comments, Thoughts or Suggestions?*

*Email the Byrne Creek Community Council*

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