

Lord Beaverbrook High School – School Council Meeting

Agenda – Tuesday January 21, 2025 at 6:30pm

Meeting held Online via Microsoft Teams

1. Call To Order

- a. Fourth LBHS School Council meeting for the 2024/2025 school year

2. Welcome and Introductions

a. Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of reconciliation, we would like to acknowledge that we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot confederacy, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Metis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

b. LBHS Procedural Items

All parents/guardians of LBHS students are automatically voting council members; we strive to have meaningful involvement by all members of our school community and to advise and consult with the Principal on matters relating to the school. This creates an opportunity to connect with school administration for a deeper understanding of school events, decisions and future planning. We are all here for student success! LBHS School Council is not a fundraising entity.

Housekeeping items: in-person attendees – please turn your cell phone on silent mode and on-line attendees - please remain muted and only unmute if you have questions or would like to share as part of the discussions; to vote on items this evening, turn your camera on and raise your hand

c. Introduction of guests & Executive Members

Attendance (on-line attendees): David S, Brenda P, Kathleen R, Leanne B, Jen S, Laura B, Andrea St., Andrea S, Brenda, Shawna A, Jessica P, Sabrina, Adhieu,

Executive present online: Principal – David S

Chair – Brenda P.

Secretary – Kathleen R.

Grade 11 rep – Brenda M.

Grade 12 rep – Leanne B.

Key Communications – Brenda P. / Leanne B.

Director-at-Large – Jenn S., Laura B., Shawna A.

Community Representative – (two positions vacant)

Volunteer Coordinator – Vacant

d. Verification of quorum

Principal and Chair are present, majority of attendees are parents and not school staff. We have quorum.

3. Review of Agenda, including addition of any items. Motion to accept – Laura B. Seconded by Jen S. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes Motion to accept – Jen S. Seconded by Laura B. Motion carried.

- a. November 19, 2024 (circulated in advance by email and posted on the school website)
- b. Business arising from minutes – no new business

5. Principal's Report – David Sparrow – meeting needed to move to an online platform because of exams for Chinook Learning students and construction as they transition Chinook Learning out of LBHS in preparations for next school year.

- a. Semester 1 – final exams & Success-in-Learning days are coming to a close; First day Semester 2 Tuesday January 28
 - Mr. Sparrow provided some feedback about non-diploma exams and lack of previously traditional final exams in grades 10 and 11, due to outcome based learning/assessing.

Officials from CBE are encouraging high schools to get away from traditional formal exams for non-diploma exams (OBA journey). Area Director approved the January schedule and that is why things might have looked a little different these past few weeks this year.

- Question about June exams, will they be the same as January? Answer – yes; the exam format and weeks will be the same especially for non-diploma exam classes. There will be more communication and it will be more intentional/obvious on D2L shells. In May/June the information going home will increase to clear up any questions about this end of semester time and when/where exams will be held. Mr. Sparrow believes the school/teachers need to help the kids' families know since they aren't allowed to post online. There is a hybrid approach for grades 10 and 11 as long as there are diploma exams (some testing in class and some at formal 'exam' times out of class). If there aren't formalized exam sittings, there are chances for students to prepare in classes ahead of grade 12. For example, in regular classes throughout the semester, students can learn 'how to write numerical responses' and how to pick out distractors that are often found in multiple choice exams – more practice day to day, of these needed skills.
 - Question - What to do with students during exam break? Do we send kids to school, if they need extra help and study time (structure and routine) since teachers say "we don't have to go"? Kids don't have to come to school, because it is high school. There are success in learning days and students can attend, have a conversation with teachers to see when to come. High School teachers jobs aren't just about supporting students as they do in lower grades. High school students are at an age where there is increased independence and they need to know what they need to know, what they ended up with in the class and they need to advocate to learn how to improve their own grades. This isn't the teacher's responsibility and the parents/students need to communicate with the teachers. [Parent asking question thought that staff should be there and available to help improve the learning]. Mr. Sparrow encouraged parents and students to reach out to the teachers to find out about learning needs, when they are available to support learning. Put some responsibility on students. From a couple of parents the messaging some teachers were giving students was that these weeks were a holiday or 'time off'. Mr. Sparrow reassured parents that teachers are available until January 24th to assist their students to learn the most for those classes as possible. Mr. Sparrow will discuss these concerns/messaging further with staff.
- b. LBHS Open House – Thursday January 23 (self-guided tours 6-8pm / student-led tours 6:30-7:15pm). Everyone is welcome to join.
 - c. January 27th there will be grade 9 tours at the school, before semester 2 starts.
 - d. Transportation update – additional bussing resources from City of Calgary? No extra buses added. The 716 route (New Brighton) added an articulated bus. This is a constant discussion. The service level hasn't increased in volume. There has been more help from Transportation that has had behaviour issues (Transit officer and videos are given for Bullying and to control vaping). Some problematic routes and behaviours have been squashed. Copperfield will be joining LBHS so there will be some more express routes. LBHS has been asking for proactive bussing and for the city to be more responsive from day 1 as there will be 900 grade 10 students next year.
 - e. Personal Mobile Devices / Social Media policies finalized – Feedback at the beginning of the year was positive and more engagement. Update now? There is no statistical data, but has been positive feedback from teachers, as students are keeping phones away. Teachers are in control of policy in classroom and are bringing cellphones out if they need it for research, Kahoots, etc. Bathrooms – texting to meet at stairwell no longer exists. There are exemptions for regulation, quiet music, translation. Very few intense progressive discipline incidents due to this since this was a law.
 - f. School Trips Spring of 2025 (Sailing, Bamfield). There will be a bottle drive to support the Bamfield Trip fundraising, more on this to come!
 - g. Graduation – requests to learn about it. Grad committee will be touring Jack Simpson Gym at U of C to see the new site as that is where the ceremony will be held since LBHS has a larger graduating class. Ceremony on one day (afternoon time) and the dinner at BMO centre will be another night, as timing is too tight. No need for tickets at the ceremony as there is room to bring as many guests as you want. Check the school website for

more Graduation information to be posted soon (approximately end of May). It is estimated that tickets for the dinner portion will be about \$100 or a little more than last year, nothing confirmed yet. A question was asked if there are any known students who can't afford to go to grad? After some clarifying information about the role of Council versus a Society, Mr. Sparrow confirmed that the staff and school will be supporting students in learning and if there is a need they will find a way to help them attend the graduation ceremony. There is a very involved teacher graduation committee, they know the kids well. They watch out for them. Known charities are: Cinderella Project as well. Mr. Sparrow would allow students to come to the ceremony and fees need to be paid, they take care of the kids.

- h. Sports – on pause due to exam break
- i. Wellness Committee for student wellness – how is that going? There are two wellness focused groups: Principal Advisory Council and Student Advisory Council to provide student voice to learn what students think will help improve overall atmosphere and wellness. There is a grade 12 graduation crest contest (brought up by this committee). This will be printed at school and a History display where the shield will be displayed will be started. The involvement in clubs has grown. Yearbook club has 45 kids in it. Grad committee is huge. GSA is huge. Brave Dogs for Indigenous students is a place to help them feel they belong and honour their voices. A Therapy dog came to school on January 17th and was well received.
- j. Teachers were trained in mental health literacy at the end of November and PD was provided by AHS. Teachers were given tools to help students.
- k. Celebration to Mr. Waters who was the winner of the Dyson Vacuum! Thank you to the parent who donated it as a prize in December!
- l. Other -security breach PowerSchool – most schools in North America use PowerSchool and no known information about possible breach was available at the time of our meeting. It will be in the news if there was an impact on CBE specifically.

6. Focus Item – Engagement at LBHS

- a. Increase meeting participation/engagement
- b. Fundraising communication for all school groups and trades fee-for-service
- c. ASCE Grant \$500 / Collaboration with feeder schools
 - Guest Speaker, Connie Jakab, confirmed
 - When/Where: Tuesday February 18 at 6:30pm in-person LBHS Auditorium
 - Auditorium booked to accommodate a large audience
 - Extend invitation to parents/guardians, LBHS staff, feeder schools (via Administration feeder school contacts (Admin Team) and feeder school School Councils (LBHS School Council), other?
 - Set up pre-registration link in communication materials (collaborate with teacher Mr. Ryan Morozoff)
 - Topics Connie Jakab plans to cover:
 - Why normal methods we use to help our kids with anxiety, depression, ADHD and opposition don't work
 - The 5 Steps to the Bravely Connected Method
 - How to take care of yourself while you're working through issues with your child

Bio: Connie Jakab is a Speaker, Author, and founder of Bravely Connected Schools. She has been working in mental health and resilience for over 25 years in schools, researching how to bring students falling through the cracks closer. She is also the author of the Bring Them Closer series for parents and educators, and the North American Consultant for Loving Our Students On Purpose Philosophy, bringing a culture of connection, responsibility, and joy to schools. Connie has enjoyed working with districts such as the Surrey School Board to bring a sustainable approach to social/emotional learning and wellness in schools.

7. Save the Date!

- a. Guest Presentation – Supporting Student Wellness in Grief by Linita Mathew
 - Wednesday January 22 from 7-8pm at Wilma Hansen School Learning Commons
 - This session will define student grief, discuss the effect of trauma on the brain and learning, and provide parents with examples of how they can support youth in times of grief
- b. Guest Presentation – Connie Jakabs
 - Tuesday February 18 from 6:30-7:30pm at LBHS Auditorium

- Don't miss this parent night where you will learn the Bravely Connected Method that is CHANGING THE GAME for parents being able to help their children through anxiety, depression, opposition, & ADHD

c. Free CBE Health & Wellness Series - Webinars

- Pre-recorded sessions:
 - "Adolescent Brain Development and Navigating Parent-Teen Relationships
 - "Screen Time: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly"
 - "Understanding Autism & ADHD to Promote Long-Term Success"
 - "Focused and Engaged: Finding Balance through Self-Regulation
 - "Sleeping Your Way to Better Mental Health"
 - "Behavioural Challenges of School Aged Children"

Click this link to view pre-recorded sessions <https://cbe.ab.ca/about-us/school-culture-and-environment/health-and-wellness-in-school/Pages/child-and-youth-well-being-family-and-caregiver-series.aspx>

d. Upcoming Job & Trade Fairs:

- Wednesday February 19, 2025 from 6:00 to 8:00pm @ Central Memorial
- Wednesday March 19, 2025 from 6:00 to 8:00pm @ Notre Dame

8. Music Parents Rep (could not attend as they had their meeting at the same night)

Music Parents Report

At our December 5 Christmas Concert, we enjoyed a wonderful evening of music performed by our Junior and Senior Jazz, Concert and Symphonic bands. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening a success-- our fantastic band directors Mr. Campbell and Mr. Thackrey, LBHS admin and staff, raffle prize donors, parents, and, of course, our talented music students!

Upcoming Events:

- All four bands are registered for the Alberta International Band Festival. It will take place at U of C the week after Family Day in February.
- We're planning to host a concert with our feeder schools again this March. This is a fun event that we hope gets Grade 9 students excited about joining our band program in the fall.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

We will be running a number of fundraisers during Semester 2. Watch the school website for dates and details!

9. Grade 10, 11, 12 Parent Reps (Matt I.- not present, Brenda M., Leanne B) Given the opportunity to share. No update for grade 11. Nothing to update in grade 12 either.

10. COSC/ASCA Update

- ASCA Workshop (90 minutes online) – Monday February 24 – open to one executive member from each school council
- Next Community of School Council meeting – Wednesday April 23
- Invitation from Trustees to consider running for a School Trustee position

https://cbe.ab.ca/get-involved/school-councils/cbe-connections/Pages/default.aspx?utm_source=School-Messenger&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=School-Messenger-Connections-Jan-2025

11. New Business – none

12. Elections

All parents/guardians are members of School Council and are eligible to run for any executive position. Nominations with a seconder can be accepted from the floor. Motions are approved with a 70% vote. Motions are made by show of hands.

- Vacant positions: Volunteer Coordinator, Community Members (2 positions) / Other School Council Members (up to 3 students elected by students or appointed by the Principal, representative Acadia Community Association appointed by ACA, representative Acadia Recreation Centre appointed by ARC)

13. **Next Meeting of LBHS School Council:** Tuesday February 18 at 6:30pm – Special Guest Speaker Connie Jakabs (in lieu of formal meeting)



The graphic features a portrait of Connie Jakab on the left, a dotted circle around the text 'SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER', and event details on the right.

**SPECIAL
GUEST SPEAKER**

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Don't miss this parent night where you will learn the Bravely Connected Method that is **CHANGING THE GAME** for parents being able to help their children through anxiety, depression, opposition, and ADHD.

FEB 18TH 6:30PM
Lord Beaverbrook High

Connie Jakab
BRAVELY CONNECTED FOUNDER



Adjourn motion to adjourn – Andrea S and seconded by Brenda. Motion carried. Time we adjourned was 7:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by Kathleen R (secretary), reviewed by Brenda P (chair) and to be approved with any changes at the next LBHS School Council meeting.