

Lord Beaverbrook High School – School Council Meeting
Minutes – Tuesday April 15, 2025 at 6:30pm
Meeting held ONLY Online via Microsoft Teams

1. Call To Order

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: 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): Shawna A., Lara, Jen S., Andrea S., Jaki S., Holly Y., Cali P., Brenda M., Marianela, David J., Mohammad F., Krista K, Leanne B.

Principal – David Sparrow

Chair – Brenda P.

Vice-Chair – David J.

Secretary – Kathleen R.

Grade 11 rep – Brenda M.

Grade 12 rep – Leanne B.

Music Parents Association Rep – Jennifer B. (not in attendance but sends her regards)

Key Communications – Brenda P. / Leanne B.

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

Community Representative – Corry P. (two positions vacant)

Volunteer Coordinator - Vacant

d. Verification of quorum

Principal and Chair (or acting representatives) are present, majority of attendees are parents (not school staff)

3. Review of Agenda, including addition of any items (motion to accept) Motioned by Shawna. Seconded Jen S. Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (motion to accept) Motioned by Shawna. Seconded by Holly. Motion carried.

- a. January 21, 2025 (circulated in advance by email and posted on the school website); no meeting minutes for February 18, 2025 (guest speaker in lieu of formal meeting) and no meeting minutes March 18, 2025 (March meeting postponed to April 15, 2025)

- b. Business arising from minutes

5. Principal's Report - Thank you for accommodating this online meeting for various reasons.

a. Semester 2 – well underway! Invitation to a meeting in May, before graduation. Update on results of planning survey, send to parents in February regarding fees. April 10th, got their budget. Admin was downtown planning for next year. It is status quo for now, until there is an increase which will always be welcomed. Likely will be up 4 more teachers for next year. Will be hiring a Shop Program teacher. Gr 10 -

750, Gr 11 - 750, Gr 12- 625. Projected next year, 2083 students to be on the safe side then make adjustments in August. He doesn't like to surplus or let go of teachers, so Mr. Sparrow takes this approach.

b. Grad 2025

- Graduation Ceremony – Wednesday May 28 @ University of Calgary Jack Simpson Gymnasium. Graduates are expected to arrive at 12:30pm to line up in alphabetical order. Ceremony begins at 2pm. This year the ceremony is held at U of C because of graduating class size (the good news is -no one needs tickets, you can bring as many as you want to attend!) Additional information:

<https://lordbeaverbrook.cbe.ab.ca/documents/0a3e2c2f-5a90-42aa-a05e7add8c54f173/Ceremony%20Info%20Page%202025.pdf>

- Graduation Banquet & Dance – Thursday May 29 at 5pm to 11pm @ BMO Centre

<https://lordbeaverbrook.cbe.ab.ca/documents/db7bd0c4-0bd1-4356-ac5c5620c78ee946/Banquet%20%26%20Dance%20Info%20Page%202025.pdf>

The theme is a surprise and grad committee is working on the plans. Principal advisory committee - 2 emblems/crests have been chosen, there will be a grad carnival and practice with a giant banner that will be signed by students and put this in Legacy Hall!

c. School Trips Spring of 2025: Both trips went ahead in the past few weeks!

-March 31 - April 4th - Bamfield research trip was very successful. This was planned by Mr. Mussie.

- April 7-11th - The sailing trip to the Gulf Islands off BC - The first picture circulated around was a group of orcas swimming around the boat, what a treat! A great way to start the trip! All the sailors came back in one piece.

-Exciting plans are already underway for trips next year - Bamfield, Sailing Trip and a new trip to the Yukon! Mr. Mussie is planning a trip for students to visit the Yukon to participate in an Arctic research station with Indigenous learning and in partnership with U of C.

d. Sports: both boys and girls rugby, jr and sr boys soccer, girls field hockey, track is starting. Girls doubles are in the championships! Tonight, all three administrators are out supervising sports and they are excited to be outside in this gorgeous weather.

Upcoming events:

-multicultural celebration week - students at school and a craft fair they will put on!

-Drama production -Little Women, tickets will be on sale soon

-Dance show is coming up too!

- All parents are welcome to see the talents of students in performing arts!

e. Student Advisory Council: addressed with parent questions

f. Wellness Committee: addressed with parent questions

g. Summer school registration begins April 14, 2025

h. Scholarships: www.educationmatters.ca/ (deadline May 1 or May 30 depending on scholarship)

i. Other - Questions from Parents:

- ? - Can we have an update on the Wellness committee and Student Advisory Committee? Answer - student committee met today, April 15th. This committee is about honouring student voice for wellness and

is trying to increase the sense of belonging for students and to make it more welcoming. The goal was to have more spirit and to be proud of belonging! Some ways they are achieving this are: the Legacy Hallway, the banner and a gr 12 student made a beautiful, colourful, dynamic and street graffiti style art will be hung quickly by the doors that go out to 90th Ave (near Culinary by vending machines) and this is where the bus entrance is. This will be a nice and vibrant welcome to LBHS that reflects a modern point of view done by students.

Lots of student surveys, parent accountability surveys as well. Admin is looking to see results of the surveys. Bathroom seems to be better than last year. Not the same issues of volume to discipline for vaping etc. So it feels better and less intimidating to use the washrooms now. He wants 'Change partners' input and to work together. Indigenous Workers have helped with students that needed some extra attention. Honours Society, there for those that are high achievers and like to get involved. The goal is to make efforts to better engage those students in the 'middle' not engaged, not behaviours. Mr. Sparrow feels that the atmosphere of the school feels more positive. The Shop just made 10 benches to put around the school for students to hang out on!

-Comment from a parent that wellness initiatives seem to be working as this parent's child now attends school more and isn't late as much so that speaks volumes. Mr. Sparrow is a strong believer in fostering positive relationships and non-punitive. He has worked hard to change the way educators change the way they interact with mutual respect, they are learning, and the tone for staff has been a huge positive change. Administration plays a part, but it also comes from inside and that teachers have the permission to positively interact.

- ? - When will results from student survey will be tallied and communicated with Parents? Most comes in School Results Report that will be published in the Fall (SDP - school development plan and wellness). The government will release these results in the summer and will be looked at in the Fall. Next month will be a fee report and any new data will be shared.

-Good news - Ms. Finley is busy working in a space as big as 2 conference rooms deep has begun visual timetable planning for next year! She has been 'locked away' getting things sorted for next year. So this is good news! Transportation policy and processes were looked at and to bridge barriers to resolve transportation issues.

- ? - Please dispel rumours - Happy but at LBHS' loss there are some retirements: Mr. Hicks will retire after 33 years at LBHS and he will likely travel. Mr. Hicks' shoes are big to fill with student recognition endeavours that he has done for so many years. Mr. Cooke - Social Studies Learning Leader will be retiring but will take a dive into a level of professional golfing, he also has had a positive impact and will be missed. Ms. Bondar is also retiring and will spend time with her family; she too will be missed. These extraordinary educators have all made a positive impact and will be missed!

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 -were able to use for Connie Jakob, there was a bit of a hiccup with the grant and they gave a credit card with \$1000 not \$500, likely because previous year guest speaker couldn't get paid with credit card and it was taken care of alternatively. They were supposed to refund LBHS business office and in the meantime the remaining \$500 is in good hands, that is grant money.

7. Save the Date!

- a. Guest Presentation – Social Media Presentation by Jo Phillips
 - ☐ Parent Workshop on Thursday May 1 from 6-7:30 pm at Wilma Hansen School Learning Commons
 - ☐ Bridge the gap between your understanding and your child's online world – Get real insights, ask better questions, and learn practical tools for positive conversations – Support your child to feel confident, competent, and safe on social media
- b. Free CBE Health & Wellness Series - Webinars
 - ☐ Pre-recorded sessions:
 - o "Adolescent Brain Development and Navigating Parent-Teen Relationships
 - o "Screen Time: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly"
 - o "Understanding Autism & ADHD to Promote Long-Term Success"
 - o "Focused and Engaged: Finding Balance through Self-Regulation"

- o "Sleeping Your Way to Better Mental Health"
- o "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>

8. Music Parents Rep (Jennifer B):

- Unfortunately, our March feeder school concert was cancelled due to the CUPE labour action.
- This is a busy week for band! On Wednesday, April 16, the LBHS bands will be joining Willow Park School for their spring concert at the Bella Concert Hall on the MRU campus. On Thursday, April 17, Mr. Thackrey's Tour Jazz group will be participating in an all-day workshop at the MRU Conservatory.
- Spring tour is coming up quickly. Participating students will be in Whistler, BC from May 1-4 to take part in the Con Brio Music Festival.
- Our spring concert will be held on Tuesday, June 3 at Knox United Church. More details to come.
- Our final fundraiser for this school year is underway. We are selling gorgeous spring plants from Growing Smiles. There are both indoor and outdoor plants available. Please order online at <https://lbmpa.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>. Orders are due May 8 at 11:59pm. Plants will be delivered to the school on May 23 (time TBD).

9. Grade 10, 11, 12 Parent Reps (Matt I., Brenda M., Leanne B) - no update at this time

10. COSC/ASCA Update

- a. Next Community of School Council virtual meeting – Wednesday April 23, 2025

11. CBE Volunteer Opportunities

- a. Audit & Risk Committee – applications close May 31, 2025

<https://cbe.ab.ca/news-centre/Pages/volunteer-help-steward-our-resources-2024.aspx>

12. New Business - no new business

13. 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.

- Please consider nominating yourself or someone you know for positions of Executive - Chair, Secretary, as these parents will be moving along with their children who are graduating. Possible positions are also representatives for Grade 10, 11 and 12 (Brenda M could do either grade 10 and 12 next year) and possible other positions will be available.
- If you are interested in a position you can send your intentions to Brenda P, current Chair, so we can have elections at the next meeting in May. There will be another election in the Fall to include the new students' families. This typically takes place in September or October's meeting
- Brenda - has been wearing 2 hats this past while, as she is our Chair and Liaison with COSC meetings. When considering these positions in the future, overall the time commitment (COSC 3 times a year with 2 hours each, a template for agenda helps, and plan, updating news etc - she spends at least 1 hour to 2 hours a month prior to our monthly meetings plus the Council meetings each month. Secretary - time commitment is similar to 30 minutes prior, each monthly meeting and then about an hour editing the minutes afterwards.
- The roles and duties are listed on LBHS website > get involved > school council.
- If you are interested, you can privately message Brenda and she is willing to answer any potential questions you might have.

-Also Vacant are some Community positions -currently Corrie Pepper was a former parent, then stayed on Council as a community partner to Liaison.

14. Next Hybrid Meeting of LBHS School Council: Tuesday May 20 at 6:30pm. Last one for the 2024/2025 school year!

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn at 7:20pm: Motioned by David. Seconded by Krista. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted: minutes prepared by Kathleen R (Secretary) and reviewed by Brenda P (Chair)