

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2024

Bruderheim Elementary Library

Amber-Lynn O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

In attendance:

Amber-Lynn O'Brien	Natalia Bouzane	Victoria McDonald
Cierra Menzies	Dan Bouzane	Lindsey Mercer
Tracy Innes	Melanie Buckley	Miranda Braun
Andy Styles	Lynsay Atchison	
Ashley Carter	Elizabeth Hummel	

Approval of last Meeting Minutes:

Previous Meeting minutes were approved by Cierra Menzies and seconded by Tracy Innes.

Elections of School Council positions – Secretary, Fundraising Chair, and Treasurer.

1. Secretary Position:

- Tracy Innes volunteered for the position of Secretary.
- Cierra Menzies and Lynsay Atchison nominated her.
- All committee representatives were in favour of the nomination.
- Congratulations Tracy!

2. Fundraising Chair Position:

- Miranda Braun volunteered for the position of Fundraising Chair.
- Amber-Lynn O'Brien and Lynsay Atchison nominated her.

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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- All committee representatives were in favour of the nomination.
 - Congratulations Miranda!

3. Treasurer Position:

- Victoria McDonald and Elizabeth Hummel volunteered to co-represent the Treasurer position.
- Amber-Lynn O'Brien and Tracy Innes nominated them.
- All committee representatives were in favour of the nomination.
- Congratulations to Victoria McDonald and Elizabeth Hummel on their election as Co-Treasurers!

Andy Styles suggested we go around the room and introduce ourselves, as we had a few new faces.

Amber-Lynn O'Brien holds the Chair position and is returning from last year. She has two children attending our school. Our Chair hopes to cultivate a friendly, open, honest, and respectful environment that is welcoming to all. Amber is dedicated to creating a thriving environment that encourages more participation from our members and families in our community.

Andy Styles holds the Vice Chair position and is returning from last year. He has two children, one of whom is currently attending our school.

Ashley Carter is a representative for the Town of Bruderheim.

Natalia and Dan Bouzane have two children who are currently attending our school.

Mrs. Buckley is our New Principal.

Lynsay Atchison is the grade 5/6 Teacher with two children attending our school.

Elizabeth Hummel has two children who are currently attending our school.

Victoria McDonald has two children attending our school and now holds the position of Co-Treasurer.

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lyndsey Mercer has two children attending our school and now holds the position of Co-Treasurer.

Miranda Braun works for our hot lunch program, cooking in the School kitchen and transporting food prepared in the Lamont Elementary School kitchen. Miranda has two children attending our school and now holds the position of Fundraising Chair.

Cierra Menzies has one child who is currently attending our school.

Tracy Innes has two children; one is currently attending our school and now holds the secretary position.

Business arising from the meeting minutes:

Playground sand: Andy noted that the sand purchased for the yellow park was delivered over the summer and placed in the park to bring the soft material level up to code to prevent injuries according to regulations. This sand costs \$2,200.00. Amber will confirm that the payment has been processed from our accounts. However, it was also noted that the sand in the new Blue Park has settled in some areas, clearly below the recommended levels for safety.

Mrs. Buckley will call Playquest (the original installers of the new park) to see if there is any warranty to cover the cost of releveling the sand. It was asked, and Mrs. Buckley confirmed that EIPS will send out inspectors at least once yearly to inspect items like the playground and the safety of equipment and soft materials.

Amber-Lynn, I would like to put to rest rumours that began to circulate last year that the Bruderheim School is on the Do Not Repair list with EIPS. This is not true. Recently, the school's roof has been repaired, many interior rooms have been painted, and new doors have been hung.

Old Business Resolved.

New Business:

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Miranda- The Hot Lunch program would like to request a new residential stove for the kitchen in Bruderheim School. The stove was purchased in 2015 and is regularly used by the Hot Lunch program and the teachers and staff for student activities. (There is no second stove in the staff room. There is only one stove on site.) This stove is no longer preheating properly or holding a consistent temperature. This is a concern when cooking raw meat like chicken.

Miranda brought in a few quotes from Home Depot in Fort Saskatchewan. They range from \$850.00 to \$995.00. Again, Hot Lunch is requesting a residential-grade Stove and oven. (The school does not have the infrastructure for a commercial-grade stove, either.) The Fridge, Freezer and Dishwasher are all in good working order.

Ashley suggested we could request funds from the Town of Bruderheim to help or potentially cover the cost.

Andy moves to purchase a new stove using potential funds from the Town of Bruderheim and the FOODS account, which currently holds \$2,223.25. Cierra seconds this motion. All members present are in favour.

Trustee Report:

The Trustee, Colleen, sends their regret no report at this time.

Principals Report:

- Really Positive start to the new school year.
- Current enrollment is 110 students
- We will continue with the Tiger Traits with students and look forward to handing out many “Roars” this year.
- Assemblies will be held each month on early dismissal days. All parents are welcome to attend school assemblies. The loose itinerary for assemblies will be 20 minutes in the beginning to make any announcements or guest speakers. Then, children will be in groups of 7-8, all grades integrated, and they will work on the monthly Tiger traits theme.

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

- A special assembly will be held on September 20th at 2:00 p.m. for the Terry Fox Walk/Run event. Again, all parents are welcome to attend and participate.
- September is Truth and Reconciliation Day. An activity is planned to create Truth Stones with the students and place them in the Learning Space.
- EIPS was allotted 1.6 Million in funding this year. Bruderheim Elementary has been allotted \$ 46,766 in funding this year.
 - Part of this funding will be used to increase Mrs. Hoekman's hours, and Mrs. Syrrett will increase from 4.5 to full-time hours.
- Class distribution and class size this year:
- Kindergarten = 6 Students.
- Grade 1 = 22 Students.
- Grade 2 = 18 Students.
- Grade 3 = 17 Students.
- Grade 4/5 split = 22 Students.
- Grade 5/6 split = 25 Students.
 - Again, our funding is appreciated. Some schools in our district have class sizes up to 43 Students.
- We are using a new school bus company, Yellow Rooster.
- October will see Swimming lessons start for grades 1 -6. The transportation and harbour pool costs for this event are \$1,600.00.
- Also, please check out our social media. Bruderheim School is on Instagram and Facebook. You can check here for events and information, and we will celebrate our students on this platform.
- Weekly communication will continue with S'more posted on the school's website and emails to families every Friday.

End of Principal Report.

Amber-Lynn mentioned the swimming events coming up. Last year, we applied to the Town of Bruderheim for a grant to subsidize the transportation cost and used parent council funds to further subsidize this cost. In the past, we have also utilized funds to help families in need to

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ensure that all children who want to participate in the swimming lessons can do so, no matter their financial circumstances.

Andy made a motion to subsidize Bruderheim students' swimming lessons and transportation.

Tracy Seconds this motion. All members present in favour.

Andy, we have new students this year. The Parent council wants to ensure that all new students receive a School T-shirt. We are proud of our school spirit and do not want anyone to feel excluded.

Amber-Lynn – I would like to suggest a pancake breakfast for the students from the parent council.

Mrs. Buckley spoke with the Lions Club earlier, and they, too, would like to contribute to a pancake breakfast. The Lions Club made notes about potentially providing the pancake batter, sausages, etc., as well as volunteers. Perhaps the fire hall could loan us their big griddle or other miscellaneous supplies they use for their fundraising pancake breakfast. October is fire prevention month; could it tie in with a talk to the students?

October 7 or 21 are dates Mrs. Buckley notes would be appropriate for this event.

Amber will contact the Lions Club and the Firehall with these dates in mind.

Lindsey—Friends of Bruderheim... are they still in operation? Are they currently fundraising for upgrades to the parks? Amber spoke with Mr. Armbruster and was informed that neither park has needed upgrades or repairs for some time. Mrs. Buckley said that our parks were made from wood in the past and needed specific maintenance. These materials' life span was much shorter than the materials we are now using in our parks.

Andy, I contacted EIPS regarding the tarmac in our playground. It is getting rundown. There are pockets and dips that, of course, collect water and are generally wearing down. EIPS will look at funding for repairing or replacing parts of the tarmac next year.

On the topic of the tarmac, Andy received donations from Fort Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation of stencils they no longer use. There are many stencils, some of which include hopscotch, 4 square, paw prints, and, most importantly, tiger prints. We will need volunteers to

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

help us paint the stencils onto the tarmac. Dave from the Town of Bruderheim said industrial paint they have on hand could be donated for this purpose.

Mrs. Buckley will mark out areas that could be used for different stencils.

Cierra and Natalia volunteered to paint – we would like a call out to parents for more volunteers.

Lindsey—Fundraising: What fundraisers have we allotted for this year? Do we need more? What companies or seasons are we considering?

Amber-Lynn – We will do Calahoo meats again to be delivered for the May Long weekend.

- Christmas store at the Christmas concert, let's look at doing something more refined like ordering Amazon products.
- Andy noted the BMSA is not doing Mom's Pantry this year, and we know this can be a good fundraiser. Perhaps we should look at picking that up this year?

Ashley Town of Bruderheim Report:

- Youth Centre opens September 17 and 24th at 3:30pm
- The next Town Council meeting is September 18th at 7:30pm at the Fire Hall
- Truth and Reconciliation Day- Sept 30th
- The arena will begin putting in the ice for the season in October 2024.
- Deutschland Days are October 5, 2024
- Oct 5th- Deutschland Days
 - Pancake Breakfast
 - Craft Market
 - Petting Zoo
 - Supper and Dance Tickets available on Eventbrite
 - Fireworks
- More Information can be found on the town website: [Bruderheim](#)

End of Town of Bruderheim Report.

BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Financial Report:

Given by Amber-Lynn O'Brien

- Current account balance of \$6,387.88 in the main account
 - Note that playground sand (\$2,200.00) may not yet be paid for.
- The current account balance in the Foods accounts is \$2,223.25.

End of Financial Report

Next meeting TBA: Tuesday Oct 1 @ 5:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 pm.