

**Belfast School Council Meeting**  
**October 24th, 2016 6:30pm**  
**Library Learning Commons – Belfast School**

- 1. Call to Order** at 6:59pm
- 2. Approval for Previous Meeting Minutes** Amber approves
- 3. Chair Report**
  - **ACSC membership Purchased** Alberta Council of School Council Membership was paid for by our District; so we saved \$50
  - **JDRF walk moving ahead** (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) May-ish
  - **Webpage under construction**
- 4. School Report (30 min)**
  - **School Development**
  - **Budget**
  - **PAT Results**
  - **Community Engagement (from CBE)**
  - **Activity**

**School Report - October 2016**

**School Development Plan - Clapping for Assessment Demonstration**

Ms. Holford led a demonstration of how Formative Assessment works to improve learning. The activity had 4 volunteers to illustrate how clear criteria, feedback, goal setting and repeated opportunities to learn greatly improve student performance. Formative Assessment is the focus of our School Development Plan for 2016 - 17. More information about details of our SDP will be presented at the November meeting.

**PAT Results**

Ms. Holford and Ms. El-Guebaly presented slides describing how our Grade 6's performed on Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's) in the spring of last year. She highlighted the complexity of this particular cohort of grade 6's compared to the province, previous year and the current year and explained. She further explained how the statistical impact of several children not writing the exam has made interpreting the results difficult. In order to meaningfully provide direction for school improvement, scores for PAT's were reported only for students who actually wrote the exams. The following observations were offered:

- Belfast students demonstrated very good achievement in Language Arts, with better results in Reading than in Writing
- In reading, acceptable scores and excellence scores were higher than the provincial average
- In writing, we score better in Narrative than in Expository writing and use of vocabulary is a strength.
- Math - scores were within 4% of the province though there was a wider spread in the excellence category. Students scored consistently across all 4 mathematical strands.
- Science - the most significant gap between the province and Belfast students 10% lower than the provincial average.
  - Most significant difficulty “identifying”/“recalling”
- Social Studies - within 4% of the provincial marks
  - Questions based on recall and other lower level thinking skills our students tended to do poorly on (names, dates, facts)
  - Questions based on higher order thinking skills (evaluation, analysis, synthesis of ideas) our students tended to do well on, often better than the provincial average.

### **Budget**

CBE Resource Allocation Budgets came out last week. Our budget has room to purchase additional school personnel. Ms. Holford reviewed plans for utilizing the additional funds. An additional 0.4 teaching position will be created. It is hoped that we will be able to find a music teacher who will also support release time for Learning Leaders. Two Learning leader positions will be created and filled with existing staff members. Our bookkeeper, Irene Foote, will be retained one day a week to support our new Administrative Secretary in the office as she adapts to her role. Finally, a 20 hour EA position is being considered to support special needs learners in our school.

### **Community Engagement - Impacted Schools**

Information about the process of deciding about future accommodations in Area 2 schools was shared. This information will be further explored October 25th at a Community Engagement meeting for parents at Colonel MacLeod School at 6:30 pm. Belfast parents are encouraged to attend as decisions made may impact some of our students down the road. The timeline for staff and community engagement was presented as well as the 3 scenarios being considered by the board. Ms. Holford and Ms. El-Guebaly will be attending the meeting tomorrow night as well.

- Dance on Friday October 28, 6-7:30pm. Proceeds will go to our We Care club, they almost have enough \$ for the school in Haiti
- Shirts for Rockin Tale of Snow-white. Can pick any color, samples of the colors in the office. Same material as last order (athletic)

- **Reports from Committees (20 min)**

- **Kindergarten Representatives - Mandi Henn/Caitlyn Dillman (5 min)**

- Mrs. White says the kids loved the bat unit.
    - Encourage Kindergarten parents to check the class website for updates, especially for the Friday schedule.

- **Volunteer Coordinator - Amber Anderson (5 min)** nothing to report

- **Key Communicator - Chelsey Masini (5 min)** next meeting is on November 19 and is on Mental Health. There are also Wednesday Webinars. Robbie will look at the next one.

- **Fundraising society - Lori Kariga (5 min)**

- **Unfinished Business for Decision and Action (5 min)**

- Volunteer link is now working. Please sign up
    - Coffee & conversation may change days of the week. Lori evaluating their frequency
    - playground equipment is ordered, spring delivery.

## **7. Wrap up and Discussion (5 min)**

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  - Coffee & conversation may change days of the week. Lori evaluating their frequency
  - playground equipment is ordered, spring delivery.

## **8. Calendar**

**October 28 Friday - Family dance 6:00-7:30pm**

**Oct 31 costume parade @10:00am**

**Nov 7 dental screenings K-2**

**Nov 8 RETAKES and possibly class photos**

**Nov 10 Remembrance Day celebration@ 10:00am**

**Nov 18 Kindergartens to Telus Spark**

**Nov 24 (evening) & Nov 25 parent/teacher conferences (no school Nov 25)**

**Meeting Adjourned 8:39pm**

**Next Meeting November 28**

## Belfast School Council Attendance List

Date:

Oct 24, 2016

Name	Email Address
Lori Kariga	Karigaboys@gmail.com
Jodi Garagan	jodigaragan@hotmail.com
Amber Anderson-Godfrey	amberganderson@hotmail.com
Mandi Henn	mandi.henn@gmail.com
Laurie Breithkrenz	laurie_bee@icloud.com
Glow Portridge	Glowportridge@yahoo.ca
Lisa Makinen	lmakinen@fedex.com
Sara Thompson	thompson.saram@yahoo.ca
KIM WATKINSON	KIMBERLYWATKINSON@yahoo.ca
Cheryl Dueck	cheryldueck@gmail.com
Wendy Couronne	wlcouronne@hotmail.com
Lee Dillman	leedillman@gmail.com
DARCY FAUTEUX	darcy.fauteux@metronews.ca
Ronda Besett	ronda.besett@gmail.com
Janet Guehly	janetguehly@che.ab.ca
Lori HOLFORD	l.holford@che.ab.ca
Chelsey Masini	chelsey.l.masini@gmail.com
Michelle MacPhee	machausee@shaw.ca
Gaby Voltz	john.gaby@telus.net
Robbie-Lynn Nichol	rl.nichol@gmail.com
Taktha Sandford	flawlessbooks@gmail.com
Beth Reinhart	b-reinhart@hotmail.com
Robert Reinhart	r.reinhart23@gmail.com
Corrine Lewis	