

# MINUTES

## Bellerose School Council

February 23, 2016 | Meeting called to order at 19:06

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### IN ATTENDANCE

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Beth Elliott, Esther Jager, Cathie Sarafinchan, Sandra Marsh, Altie Smit, Sandra Baird, Alana Bishop, Tony Boratyne, Sandra Tough, Nick Sorenson, Elliot Saive, Cheryl Dumont, Jyoti Mangat.

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### 2. AGENDA

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Motion to accept the Agenda. Approved.

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### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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Motion to accept the minutes from January 26, 2016. Approved.

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### 4. PRESENTATION BY LEADERSHIP STUDENTS

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Nick Sorenson and Elliot Saive give a presentation on the student seminar from December 9<sup>th</sup> 2015. One of the goals of the school council and leadership students is to build and foster the Bellerose community. Due to the annual change in student population the school atmosphere differs from year to year. This school year had a difficult start and it was decided to organize a seminar and facilitate discussions between students to address the problems. Students are the experts and provide the best assessment. The result was some hard data on pressing matters to students that are used as input for a plan to enhance the Bellerose community. The council makes a tour to see one of the ideas that has already been implemented: improving the bathrooms by repainting the walls with murals. An upcoming new event is a DJ competition. The winner will perform at the Bikeathon.

The Bikeathon is organized by a committee of approx. 30 students. They are responsible for everything from deco to cleaning to public relations. They own the event with help of staff. This year 800 students in 78 teams will participate as well as a team from the Alberta Cancer Foundation, one of the receiving charities. By students going door to door for funding it has become a community event for St. Albert. The bikeathon was invented at Bellerose and inspired at least 10 other schools to organize similar events for various charities.

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### 5. PRESENTATION BY TEACHER

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Jeff Beaton gives the council a presentation on Bull Dawg Films. A new course for students who want to explore documentary film making.

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### 5. REPORTS

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#### a. Teacher Representative

Is not present.

#### b. Principal Report

Jyoti Mangat praises the Mary Poppins musical production. The biggest production to date with 70 students participating in front and behind the scenes received fantastic reviews. The matinee for kids was a big success.

The superintendent visited Bellerose on February 18<sup>th</sup> accompanied by several school principals. Some of them were enthusiastically greeted by former students when walking through the halls.

### c. Trustee Report

Cheryl Dumont reports on a number of subjects regarding/discussed by the board:

- upcoming tour of schools and school sites with MLA's Marie Renaud and Trevor Horne on March 4th
- Student Accommodation Policy and accompanying regulations to help manage the large student numbers while waiting for two new schools to open
- need for a new high school
- support for LGBTQ students
- Mentorship program for new teachers to build a professional learning community.

More information can be found on <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/> .

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## 6. OTHER BUSINESS

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### a Parents Empowering Parents

This organization provides education, programs and support for individuals and families dealing with or concerned about substance abuse/addiction. Their web site contains a power point about their work ([www.pepsociety.ca](http://www.pepsociety.ca)). After the discussion during January's council meeting Sandra Baird contacted them with the request for an informational meeting. The purpose is to educate adults to educate students and to maximize effect the meeting will be open to the public. Sherwood Park and Millwoods already have parent support groups who meet on a regular basis.

### b Dr Alex Russel presentation at the Arden Theatre, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

A clinical psychologist and co-author of the book, *Drop the Worry Ball: How to Parent in the Age of Entitlement*, who will be speaking to parents on raising children in today's society. Bellerose's school council receives 25 tickets that will be distributed on a first come first serve basis.

### C March meeting date

Before the meeting with PEP on March 14<sup>th</sup> from 18:30 to 19:00.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2016 18:30 hour

Meeting adjourned 21:07