

**BEAR RIVER HIGH SCHOOL  
SITE COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES  
Thursday, September 30, 2021  
Zoom Meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chris Roberts, Ryan Potts, Jeremy Kerr, Kristin Duffy,  
Rachel West, Terra Nofsinger, Sandra Helmuth, Jessie Genovese, Missy Lorenzo, Carolyn Harwood

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Natalie Herr, Mary Satori

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Principal Roberts at 3:46 p.m.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Moved by Rachel West, Second by Jeremy Kerr to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion approved.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** Rachel West moved, and Kristin Duffy seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2021, Site Council meeting.  
Motion approved.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

1. Invitation to members of the public to address the School Site Council with issues that are not on the agenda.

## **REPORTS**

1. **Student** - Ryan Potts, ASB Treasurer, reported the following: things are going well; we just had our Football Homecoming week which included movie night, powder puff game, and the Homecoming Dance which all were very well attended. Leadership has been working hard planning and making these events happen for their classmates. Students have done well following COVID rules. We have been able to have sporting events such as football and volleyball games. Students received their lockers this last week. Next week leadership will focus on athletic events and community service projects.

Chris added how proud our staff is of our Leadership Students and the sense of normalcy they have been able to bring to our campus since the very beginning of the school year. The leadership activities have been great. Our powder puff game was extremely well attended and we had close to 400 students attend our Homecoming Dance, which is amazing.

**2. Principal**  
**a. COVID**  
**i. Protocol**  
**ii. Restrictions**

Chris announced he has sent out notices of what our COVID protocol is on campus. All of the protocols and restrictions our district has in place are directed to us by the Nevada County Department of Public Health. They take their directions from the California Department of Public Health, who take their direction from the CDC, which is the federal institution who oversees public health for our country. Chris explained that The Nevada County Health Department can be as stringent as the California Department of Public Health, but can't be looser than they are, but can be stricter than they are, if they chose to be. Nevada County seems to be more stringent than the other counties in our state with regards to masking, close contact and close contact tracing and more stringent with that than the California Department of Public Health guidelines.

**b. Start of the school year**

Chris said he chooses to look at the glass as half full, and he thinks about all of the things we have this year that we did not have last year such as: we started school with students on campus; students are attending school five days per week, we are having athletic events, Homecoming events, rallies; we are slowly trying to get back to normal. He reported he and Cathy Peterson, our Assistant Principal, visited every classroom the last few weeks and laid out their expectations to the students and the school rules Bear River has in place. They spoke about the culture of our school and what they expect from the students at Bear River High School. They also spoke about the things we have now, that we did not have last year. Chris does recognize there still is frustration about what we still can't do, but we do have optimism and hope with the things we are able to do.

Chris also shared that our first D & F list, which comes out after the end of our first quarter, was so much smaller this year than last year at this time. We are extremely happy about that and the progression of our students. Jeremy added it is so much easier to help students with remediation now that students are on campus. He now has a better opportunity to work one on one with students. Also, since students are attending school five days per week now, they are much farther ahead with their curriculum than they were last year at this time. Plus, having students in class allows for teacher-student relationships, which helps with classroom management. Sandra commented that the students are excited to be back in the classroom and be with their teachers and peers; the classroom participation now is astounding. She has students asking to come in to her flex time to get extra help. She is very happy to have the students back in the classroom; it has made a big difference.

Terra expressed concern over students that may be new to Bear River, or who are just quiet and shy, and did not attend Magnolia, having trouble making new friends and being a part of a friend group at Bear River. Chris said he realizes that is a big concern and asked Ryan what the student perspective is on that topic and what leadership tries to do to help mitigate that situation. Ryan has seen this problem on campus. Leadership students, as individuals or groups, are available to help students - he said maybe a lot of students do not know that, but they will try to make it known that students just need to reach out and ask for help from our leadership students. Terra suggested that teachers partner with the leadership students with this process, since teachers usually know the students that may not have developed friendships. Also, many students may not feel comfortable reaching out to another student for help.

Terra mentioned that we have had students graduate since the pandemic has hit and she wonders if there are things Bear River, our district, or the state has been able to provide for these students to help them with the transition? She feels many of the students who have graduated during the pandemic are not ready to take the next steps. Chris replied our new bell schedule, which offers an advisory class and flex time is a really good way to help students get caught up academically, social-emotionally and socially as well. It is an opportunity to get our students ready for that next step of their life. Chris suggested that parents reach out to other parents and form their own support groups as a possible avenue to accommodate their young adults' needs.

Kristin asked how parents can express their concerns to our Nevada County Health Department regarding how they are overstepping with their restrictions. Chris was clear that student and staff safety is the number one priority at Bear River. Discussion was held on the COVID restrictions in our county and how it affects our students and staff at Bear River. Chris suggested if parents have concerns with our county's COVID guidelines that they contact Doctor Scott Kellerman at Nevada County Health Department, perhaps in writing, and maybe include student perspectives on the subject. Chris said he will try to have a representative from the Nevada County Department at our next Site Council meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Summer School Success
2. Bell Schedule
3. 2021 Graduation

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Election of new officers
2. Advisory/Flex Times
3. 4x8 Schedule for 2022-23 School Year

**CONFIRM NEXT MEETING: Nov 18, 2021**

**ADJOURNMENT at 4:48 p.m.**