

# Prince of Wales School Council Meeting Thursday, February 19th, 2026



## MEETING MINUTES

**In-Person attendees:** Miranda, Jenn H, Ryan H, Samantha, Amanda, Christy, Brittany, Ms. Konno, Mrs. Howat, and Ms. Bronn, K. Dawson, Andrea A, Jessica

**Virtual attendees:** Andrea L., Devon T.

Welcome to tonight's Council Meeting!

It is now ( **6:34 p.m.** ) and I would like to call this meeting to order. Thank you for taking the time to join us tonight in person and virtually. There will be a Friends of Parkland way meeting after adjournment.

## **2. WELCOME, LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Played recording of Land Acknowledgement.

The Calgary Board of Education acknowledges the traditional territories and oral practices of the Treaty 7 Nations, including the Siksikaitsitapi (Sig-sig-kaits-sits-a-pi), comprised of the Siksika (Sig-si-gah), the Kainai (Guy-nah), the Piikani (Bee-gah-nee), and the Amskapi Piikani (Ahm-skah-pee Bee-gah-nee) Nations. We acknowledge the Tsuut'ina (Soot-tenna) Nation, the Îyârhe Nakoda (Ae-yar-hay Na-koh-da), comprised of the Chiniki (Chin-ih-kee), Bearspaw, and Goodstoney Nations, the Métis Nation within Alberta, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of southern Alberta.

We want to welcome everyone here tonight! As a parent of a student here at PoW, you are automatically a voting member of this School Council. Here we discuss what's happening in the school and how we can advise and support our learning community.

For those attending on Teams, Ryan will be your tech support tonight. Please remain muted, but you are welcome to keep your cameras on if you wish. If you have questions or comments, feel free to use the chat to notify Ryan and he'll unmute you when able so you can share. We will post links in the chat throughout the evening if needed.

## **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda for this evening has been posted to the School website.  
(Go to: *Get Involved* → *School Council* → *Meeting Agendas & Minutes*)

**Motion** (Samantha) and **Seconded** (Andrea A.). ***Motion is carried.***

## **4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

January's meeting minutes have been posted on the School website.  
(Go to: *Get Involved* → *School Council* → *Meeting Agendas & Minutes*)

**Motion** ( Jenn H.) and **Seconded** (Brittany). ***Motion is carried.***

## **5. Grade 2 team presenting: (Ms. Konno, Mrs. Howat, and Ms. Bronn)**

### **Math**

- Currently focused on 2-digit subtraction and addition - start with subtracting to build confidence
- Base 10 blocks are used as it's easy for kids to visualize and it provides physical touch
- Math games are used to make sure the foundation is there

### **Literacy**

- Use a learning framework from the Literacy Institute in Florida.
- A new lesson is applied every day
- Reading and writing sentences and working on vowel sounds
- Look at reading, writing, spelling to get a baseline: Beavers = slower pace, Bears = a little faster and the students that are advanced are Bobcats

### **Field Trips**

- Teacher's Pet is coming in to lead an in-house field trip
- Looking at the life cycle of a bee and using building materials to make a bee house
- Also planning to go Granary Road to look at crop lifecycles and investigate the life stages of frogs
- Grade 2 assembly; "Pi Day" which is a math concept on March 13. Donate money to the playground - dollars allocated to individual teachers and the teacher that receives the most money gets a pie in the face

## **6. PRINCIPAL/STAFF REPORT: Administrative Update (Principal, Poppy Johnson & Assistant Principal, Kimberly Dawson) \*30/45 minutes**

### **2026 School Planning update**

- Drives the work that's done at the school
- Through data collection (surveys, with students, parents, report cards, student assessments) all informs where we feel we should focus our efforts
- Informs Instructional Strategies, decisions on what items to purchase to support learning in the chosen area of focus
- PD Plan is focused on improving academic achievement in reading: decoding skills (Grades 1-3) and (Grades 4-6) is improved vocabulary
- Success is measured by looking at the government-mandated assessments and the outcomes from those assessments as well as frequent student check-ins
- Also look at EAL progress as well (English as second language)
- We display the learning outcomes for all students to see so they are clear on what they are working toward (framed as "I Can" statements and anchored to a growth mindset)
- Another part of the goal focuses on Truth & Reconciliation and DEI; this looks like multiple entry points and flexibility in lessons so they are accessible for everyone; also put a focus on ensuring multiple cultures content is included in all areas
- The Planning Updates run in three year cycles so you can focus on the same goal for an extended time - we are in year 2 of the plan

- Our school received ~\$2 Million dollars in 2025/2026 budget (75% goes to staffing and remaining goes toward operational pieces and resources)
- Current enrolment is ~330 student and we were expecting 368 enrolment
- With the low enrolment and the Teacher's Strike we had to flex some on the budget around how it is being spent

### **Round-Table Discussion on School Development Plan**

- It's inclusive
- It's nice to see the additional EAs
- Do a good job of focusing on the areas that impact many grades
- Consistency in the literacy program is nice
- The diversity and flexibility that's applied to varying learning levels (as required) is done very well
- Questions about if Outdoor School would continue for Grade 4s (no, it won't)
- April 1st is the Parent/Meeting for outdoor school for this year

## **7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

### **Chair Report (Miranda W) \*10 minutes**

- Parent Engagement Grant Money of \$500 (to support the councils in fulfilling legislated responsibilities in the education system and enhancing parental involvement and engagement.) Christy and Andrea have come prepared with options from their contacts:

#### **Andrea: (Angie Lo)**

1) **yin/yang yoga** - start out with yin yoga which is gentle, long held stretching and then move to yang yoga which is faster movement for strength and endurance

2) **hip hop yoga** - fun and energetic poses set to the beat of hip hop music

#### **Christy: (Roberta Shaw)**

- We could do another watercolor class but a specific topic like landscapes/skies or flowers etc.
- Geli-plate printmaking is another option (messy but very fun and you don't need to be artistic to succeed)
- Stamp carving class using erasers and lino tools.
- Needle felting class where we learn to felt a heart would be fun. (I'm happy to send images over if you need a visual to help decide)

### **Roles and Responsibilities review:**

We will now take a few minutes to review the roles and wording we are suggesting we add, change or remove. If you have anything that you think your role or committee needs or doesn't need that is not stated please let us know so changes can be made. For those council members that are not here tonight I will reach out directly to make sure their wording is reviewed with them. We need to just keep it simple so people don't feel overwhelmed when looking at a role.

#### **Other:**

- Year Book photos and write up needs to be submitted to the Yearbook team by spring break (March 20th). I was thinking we could do the same thing that we did last year and council members can submit a personal statement on what council or being a volunteer at POW means to them.
- Staff Appreciation will be May 11-14 (If your interested in helping out with planning for staff please let me know)
- Rebecca Manes will be replacing Hannah in the Fun Lunch Committee role next year.
- If you're interested in joining the Grade 4 committee please let me know as we are hoping to do something special for the grade 4 students at their park 96 day (Miranda, Christy and Jessica)
- Committee Opportunities: Staff Appreciation Team,
  - New Incentive: Fill a vacant council role and receive two front-row seats to *one* spring performance. Also extended to current active council executives.

Email us anytime at: [powcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:powcouncil@gmail.com) if you are interested and want more details about these roles.

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Treasurer (Andrea) \*10 minutes

- Brief update on budget

### Volunteer Coordinators (Leah & Jessica) \*5 minutes

- Healthy Hunger Sorting: <https://bit.ly/HealthyHunger2025>
- Movie Night volunteers

### Events & Programs (Christy) \*10/15 minutes

- Movie night update/volunteer needs/evening plan and logistics
- March bottle drive support

### Key Communicator (Kym) \*5/10 minutes

- COSC Meeting - Jan 21, 2026
  - School council handbook - updated with playground fundraising information (<https://cbe.ab.ca/FormsManuals/School-Council-Handbook.pdf>)
  - CBE Board of Trustees will pay the cost of ASCA Memberships for any CBE schools that are interested (form: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/membership/request-for-membership>)

### Breakout Session: Top Themes by Question:

- **What is important to your school community?**
  - 1. Funding, Fundraising & Resource Inequities
  - 2. Parent Engagement, Communication & Volunteerism
  - 3. Student Well Being, Safety & Inclusion
  - 4. Learning Conditions: Class Sizes, Staffing & Programming
  - 5. Facilities, Playgrounds & Outdoor Learning Spaces
- **What creates community at your school?**
  - 1. Events, Celebrations & Shared Experiences
  - 2. Supporting Students, Families & Staff
  - 3. Collaboration Between Parents, Staff & Administration

- 4. Student Belonging, Leadership & Cross-Grade Connections-Grade Connections
- 5. Communication, Accessibility & Welcoming Environments

**- What are the most important topics for your school council?**

- 1. Funding, Resource Allocation & Financial Stewardship
- 2. Parent Engagement, Volunteer Recruitment & Council Participation
- 3. Communication & Transparency Across the School Community
- 4. Student Safety, Well Being & School Culture
- 5. Learning Environments: Class Sizes, Supports & Educational Quality

**Informal discussion:**

- Some schools discussed using YYC Food Trucks for events like welcome back bbqs. Received positive feedback from parents
- One school used Kernels popcorn (large bags) ordered from Healthy Hunger for their movie night. It was much quicker and they repacked the popcorn for the movie night in 12 minutes. They had also tried theatre popcorn, but preferred Kernels.
- Some schools set up their meetings so that when an issue is raised, it isn't voted on until the next meeting (unless urgent). This gives time for people to gather info and get questions answered. This school doesn't have teaching groups present at meetings and uses celebrations of learning instead of grade updates. They run their 2 meetings back to back and typically only take an hour for both.
- Teacher appreciation: one school mentioned that they have been able to get platters from Sobeys at cost
- Volunteers: offering different times for people to volunteer
- Trustees will attend school council meetings when invited
- Next COSC Meeting: Wed, April 8th (same night as POW school council meeting)

**Book Fair (Marcia & Samantha) \*5 minutes**

- We will send out the sign up genius in March to recruit volunteers
- Books arrive March 16
- Book fair will be open to families March 19-20th
- We are hoping to have our biggest and best book fair yet and the fish tank will be returning

**9. UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES:**

- March (No meeting)

**10. IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**

- Wednesday, February 25th Pink Shirt Day
- Thursday, February 26th Family Movie Night (6pm doors open)
- Friday, February 27th No School
- Newsletter will go out in early March

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at (8:24 p.m.)

The next meeting is on April 8th at 6:30 p.m.

**Motion (Devon T.) Seconded (Samantha). *Motion is carried.***

**\*There will be a Friends of Parkland way meeting after adjournment\***