

Prince of Wales School Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 8th, 2026



MEETING MINUTES

In-Person attendees: Devon Tamblyn, Miranda Wu, Kym Holt, Christy, Andrea Anderson, Samantha Teske, Marcia B, Jenn & Ryan Heagy.

Virtual attendees: Leah Kirk, Sarah McKenzie, G & J Aimer

Welcome to tonight's Council Meeting!

It is now (**6:30pm**) 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

Play 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 (Andrea A) and **Seconded** (Jenn H). ***Motion is carried.***

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

Motion (Samantha T) and **Seconded** (Kym H). ***Motion is carried.***

5. Grade 4 team presenting: (Carla Palmer, Kristine Smyth and Jeff Depew)

Literacy

- Point of view (writing in first person)
- Story board sketch/first person language

Student Engagement & Assessment Practices

- Teachers reported strong student motivation and engagement, supported by low-pressure, repeatable assessments (e.g., short math tests).
- Students are encouraged to improve at their own pace through opportunities to redo assessments and track progress.
- This approach reduces stress while maintaining accountability and fostering peer-driven motivation.
- The structure enables targeted support through small-group and pull-out instruction.

Experiential Learning in Science

- The current unit focuses on ecosystems, specifically the impact of river pollution on plants and animals.
- Instruction includes hands-on experiments (e.g., simulating water pollution) and perspective-based learning.
- Students select a plant or animal to analyze the effects of pollution on both the organism and the broader ecosystem.
- Emphasis is placed on inquiry, discussion, and multimodal learning (experiments, reading, videos).

Integrated & Interactive Learning

- Teachers are prioritizing hands-on, participatory learning across subjects.
- Students demonstrate strong enthusiasm and anticipation for interactive activities.

French Language Instruction

- Current focus is on body part vocabulary.
- Upcoming activity: tracing life-size body outlines and labeling in French.
- Approach integrates art, collaboration, and language learning beyond rote memorization.

Health Education (Grade 4)

- Sexual health curriculum is delivered in an age-appropriate, open, and responsive manner.
- An anonymous question box encourages student inquiry.
- Teachers aim to provide clear, accurate information while maintaining developmental appropriateness.

6. PRINCIPAL/STAFF REPORT: Administrative Update (Principal, Poppy Johnson & Assistant Principal, Kimberly Dawson)

Budget & Enrollment Planning

- Budget (RAM) release is delayed pending provincial funding decisions, resulting in a compressed timeline.
- The school is collecting parent intention data to improve enrollment accuracy.

- Enrollment fluctuations are anticipated due to nearby school openings and policy changes.
- Commitment to more data-informed staffing and class configuration decisions.

Class Organization & Staffing

- Current year supported by flexible staffing (part-time roles, leaves, administrative teaching) to maintain smaller class sizes.
- Future staffing will align more closely with confirmed enrollment.

Additional Provincial Funding (Classroom Complexity)

- School selected to receive:
 - 1 additional teacher
 - 2 educational assistants
- Immediate implementation includes hiring a teacher focused on literacy and numeracy intervention.
- Support will be delivered in targeted 6-week cycles based on assessment data.

Program & Student Supports

- Increased capacity for individualized and small-group intervention.
- Focus on early literacy and numeracy using screening data.
- Ongoing communication with families regarding supports and scheduling.

School Growth & Community Context

- Continued community growth expected to impact enrollment.
- Long-term population increases anticipated despite short-term variability.

Fundraising & Capital Project

- A grant of approximately \$123,000 has been secured, fully funding a new playground with minimal additional funds required.
- Reflects strong fundraising efforts and effective grant strategy.

School Activities & Engagement

- Upcoming dance residency funded through fundraising, with a student performance planned.
- Ongoing efforts to increase parent access and participation in school events.

7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Chair Report (Miranda W)

Roles & Responsibilities Document

- Committees provided feedback on the draft document, including wording changes and identified gaps.
- Revisions have been incorporated.
- The final document will be presented for review at the May 8 meeting.

Parent Engagement Night – April 30 (6:30–8:00 PM)

- Current registration is low (approximately 7–9 participants).
- Event: *Hip Hop Yoga* with Angie Lo.
- Promotion efforts:
 - Weekly updates
 - Direct and informal outreach
- Additional promotion requested to increase participation.

Classroom Supply Support

- Teacher input on preferred supplies (e.g., gift cards) is nearly complete.
- Purchases will be finalized shortly for prompt distribution.

Staff Appreciation Week – May 11–14

- Planning underway with focus on:
 - Equitable recognition across all staff
 - Manageable implementation
- Donation-based model (prizes, food, beverages).
- Signup Genius to be shared with the school community.

Committee Opportunities

- Staff Appreciation Team (seeking volunteers)
- Incentive: Fill a vacant council role and receive two front-row seats to a spring performance (also open to current executives).
- Contact: powcouncil@gmail.com

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer (Andrea)

- Minimal financial activity since last meeting.
- Bank fees (March & April): ~\$8.75.
- \$10 reallocated to grad fundraising.
- Grant balance: approximately \$947.

Volunteer Coordinators (Leah & Jessica)

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- Bee House Building (April 20, 12:15–2:30 PM)
 - Room 9 in-school field trip
 - 3 volunteers needed
- Healthy Hunger Fun Lunch (April 22, May 6, May 20 – 11:00 AM)
 - 5 volunteers per date for sorting and delivery
- Science Room Organization (May 4–8)
 - 3–4 volunteers needed
 - Flexible scheduling; group start suggested May 4 at 9:00 AM
- Growing Smiles Plant Fundraiser (May 12–15)
 - Volunteers needed for delivery, sorting, and distribution shifts
 - Adjustments planned:
 - Shorter turnaround time

- Consider evening pickups
 - Improved communication before signup
- Staff Appreciation Week (May 11–14)
 - Details and signup forthcoming
- Stampede Breakfast (May 21)
 - 8 volunteers needed

Events & Programs (Christy) *10/15 minutes

- Recent fundraising (including 50/50) generated approximately \$1,200, exceeding historical averages.
- Planning ongoing for parent engagement events with a focus on wellness-aligned refreshments.
- Monthly staff appreciation initiatives have been well received.
- School spirit activities (e.g., themed dress-up days) are being planned.
- Stampede Breakfast:
 - Anticipated high attendance
 - Capacity and logistics under review
 - Positioned as a key community-building event

Key Communicator (Kym)

- Representatives attended citywide and regional council/trustee engagement meetings (Wards 11–14).
- Key focus: parent engagement and volunteer participation.

Key Takeaways:

- Use grade-level communication channels (e.g., group chats).
- Increase visibility of fundraising impact.
- Use simple feedback tools (polls, voting).
- Leverage shared resources for fundraising and grants.

Local Opportunities:

- Improve communication about how funds benefit students.
- Expand use of visual and social media strategies.

Next Steps:

- Attend upcoming meetings (including May session).
- Explore adapting successful strategies locally.

Book Fair (Marcia & Samantha) *5 minutes

- Total sales: approximately \$5,400 (90% of \$6,000 goal).
 - Net sales: ~\$5,140.
 - The school earned ~\$514 (10%) in product credit.
 - Lower attendance attributed to long weekend and competing events.
 - A flexible, lower-risk model was intentionally selected.
- Fish Tank Fundraiser
- Generated approximately \$225–\$250 (avg. ~\$237).
 - Lower revenue likely due to reduced event traffic.

9. UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

- AGM May 7th 2026
- Next Meeting: June 3rd 2026

10. IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- April 22 – Fun Lunch & Backwards Day

- April 23 – Hip Hop Dance Performance
- April 24 – No School
- April 30 – Parent Engagement Night (6:30–8:00 PM)
- June 23 – Year-End Event (Park 96)
- June 24 – Grade 5 & 6 Celebration

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at (8:04pm)

The next meeting is on May 7th at 6:30 p.m.

Motion (Samantha Teske) Seconded (Kym Holt). *Motion is carried.*

There will be a Friends of Parkland way meeting after adjournment